



Here is one good reason
that your church supports
Operation Manna:

Matthew



DIACONAL MINISTRIES
CANADA

OPERATION
MANNA

— A program of Diaconal Ministries Canada —

When you look at Matthew,

do you wonder if his life reflects the statistics and stereotypes of Aboriginal youth?

The truth is...

16-year old Matthew *has* struggled with alcohol and drugs; he *does* come from a difficult family situation; and he has friends that encourage him to make poor choices.

But that is not the whole story.



Matthew is an image-bearer of God,

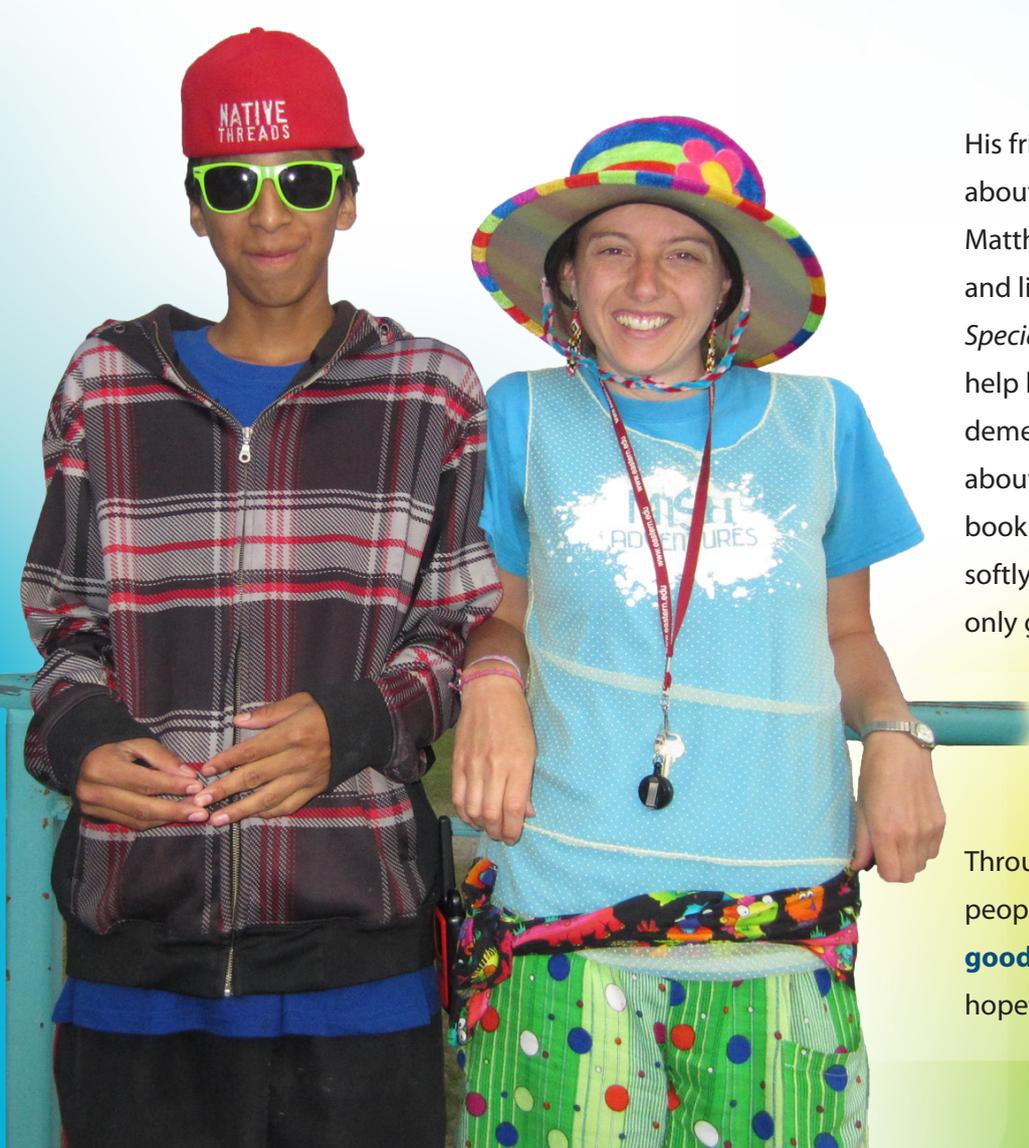
beautiful and resilient. Because of supportive relationships and, in part, because of your support through Operation Manna, Matthew is able to **dream “good dreams,”** full of hope and determination for a different kind of future.



Camp Mish

Matthew attended Camp Mish, in the First Nations community of Mishkeegogamang. His potential was clear, and Matthew was chosen to attend the Operation Manna-funded, Junior Leadership Program. Returning to Camp Mish, Matthew was eager to lead. He took charge of a group of rambunctious 7-10 year old boys. He decided the boys would listen to him, and they did.

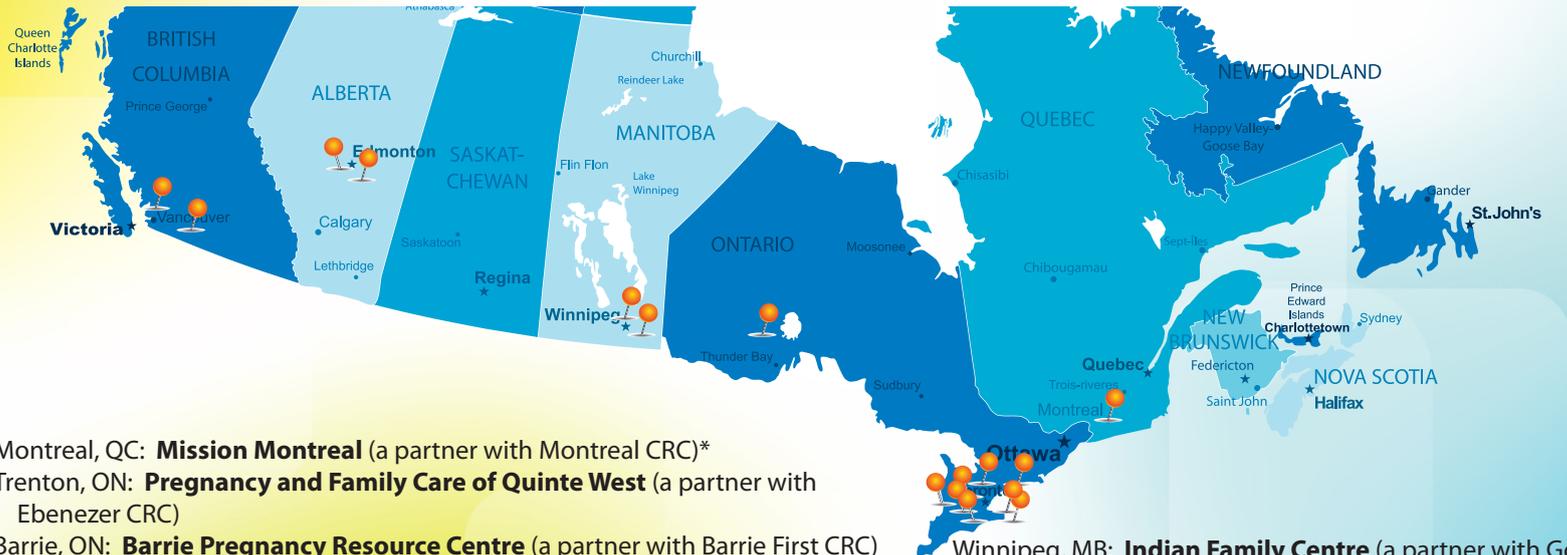
Since then, Matthew has been trying to make positive choices. His mentors, including young adults from the CRC, believe in him. It might be easier to cut class, but Matthew chooses to walk an hour in -30 degree weather to go to school. It might be easier to hang out with friends and do drugs, but Matthew chooses to spend weekends with Camp Mish counsellors.



His friend, Heather Kooiman (left) from Smithville CRC, tells about one particular evening that made a difference to Matthew. The camp director invited the youth to lie down and listen to a bedtime story, Max Lucado's book *You are Special*. Matthew laughed and told her that it wouldn't help him to fall asleep. Yet, as she read the story, Matthew's demeanor changed. It was obvious that he was thinking about the connection of the story to his own life. As the book closed, the room remained quiet. Then Matthew softly said, "Well, now I'll only have good dreams tonight, only good dreams."

Through your **support of Operation Manna**, people across Canada like Matthew will be able to **dream good dreams**, experiencing God's love and a more hopeful future.

Operation Manna Partners across Canada



Montreal, QC: **Mission Montreal** (a partner with Montreal CRC)*

Trenton, ON: **Pregnancy and Family Care of Quinte West** (a partner with Ebenezer CRC)

Barrie, ON: **Barrie Pregnancy Resource Centre** (a partner with Barrie First CRC)

Toronto, ON: **French Homework Club** (a ministry of Friendship Community Church)

Hamilton, ON: **Home With A Heart** (a ministry of Immanuel CRC)

Simcoe, ON: **Norfolk Pregnancy Centre** (a partner with Immanuel CRC)

Smithville, ON: **West Lincoln Life Centre** (a partner with Smithville CRC)

Thorold, ON: **Community Connections** (a ministry of The Village Church)

Mount Forest, ON: **Ramoth House** (a partner with Drayton CRC)

Mishkeegogamang, ON: **Camp Mish** (a partner with Smithville CRC)

Winnipeg, MB: **Hope Centre Ministries** (a partner with Covenant CRC)

Winnipeg, MB: **Indian Family Centre** (a partner with Good News Fellowship)

Edmonton, AB: **Families Living Well Society** (a partner with West End CRC)

Edmonton, AB: **Mosaic Centre** (a partner with Trinity CRC)

Abbotsford, BC: **Life Recovery** (a partner with Trinity CRC)

Vancouver, BC: **Mission Possible** (a partner with Yaletown Downtown Friends)

Servicelink connects volunteers from across Canada with opportunities to serve close to home and abroad.

*Other partners include Christian Direction, Classis Eastern Canada, Home Missions, World Missions

What is Operation Manna?

Operation Manna is a program that provides coaching, support and grants for community ministry.

All CRCs across Canada are eligible to apply; the amount of support available for ministries is directly proportional to the amount CRCs give through the Operation Manna offering.

How can you partner with Operation Manna?

Give.

Your gift enables Diaconal Ministries Canada, through Operation Manna, to support CRCs, partnering with them in ministry, to show love to their neighbours.

Volunteer.

Be part of ministry in your local community. Connect with an Operation Manna ministry near you. Get to know your neighbours.

Apply for funding, and receive support and coaching, too.

The Operation Manna program is for your church. And it is not just about receiving a grant. Through Operation Manna, experienced DMC staff provide coaching and support for ministries connected to the church: learn how to grow your ministry, recruit volunteers, network, and develop a ministry plan.

Not sure where to start? DMC staff expertise and a grant will help your church to get to know its neighbours through a Community Opportunity Scan.

More at **www.diaconalministries.com**



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