

## Neighbourhood Ministry report for Sept 26<sup>th</sup>

I (Rhona) met Suzi at 4<sup>th</sup> and Highbury. Suzi was both the indoor team lead and an outdoor team volunteer so she brought 18 packages from St Philip's with her. It was her first time going out on a street visit so it was great to have her with me. The other exciting thing was that it was the first time that we were able to hand out clothing and supplies other than packages since we resumed our street visits. Since we had very few of those items in stock I had gone shopping at 2<sup>nd</sup> hand stores for clothes and sleeping bags. We also brought garbage bags to hand out for people to use to keep their belongings dry. Those proved to be very popular.

At our first stop we saw M, T and A. They all took packages and M took a fleece and a sleeping bag. M and A also took "one size fits all" gloves. Those are very popular but unfortunately we only had two pairs to give out. Then we went to see B who is camped out at St Helen's. He was very chatty and told us about his brother who he sees once a month. He took a sleeping pad and a fleece.

At 4<sup>th</sup> and Vine we saw T and P. Both were happy to take packets. Suzi bought a book of poetry from P. At the park by the Granville bus loop we saw A who had quite an elaborate camp set up. He took a sleeping bag and a jacket. He was quite upset as his camp had recently been cleared out by the park rangers and he had lost his ID. Unfortunately, we weren't able to advise him on how he might go about replacing it.

Next we saw J at the school board park, F outside the Macs at Broadway and Hemlock and B in the alley beside the MdDonald's. We had a nice chat with B who took a tarp. Then we went to Maple and Broadway which is a new spot to us where we always find a number of people. We saw J, D, M and J. They all took packets and D took a fleece and a tarp. J took a jacket which he was very excited to get. He would have also liked a tarp but unfortunately we didn't have another one.

The final two people we saw were S at Broadway and Balaclava and I outside Shoppers on Dunbar. Later Suzi gave a package to D who plays his guitar outside the liquor store on 41<sup>st</sup> and East Boulevard.

Overall it was a great day and we gave out all of our packages and most of our clothing and camping supplies. These latter items were especially appreciated.