

# nightlight News

May 22, 2015



## Gearing up for Ride For Refuge

On October 3rd, nightlight will be participating in Ride for Refuge. The event, organized by BlueSea Philanthropy (the same group that organizes Coldest Night of the Year), is a charity bike ride/walk being run across North America to raise money for charities that work with the displaced, vulnerable and exploited. nightlight will be the host charity for both Kingston and Belleville. Other charities will also be sending teams to raise money for their causes as well.

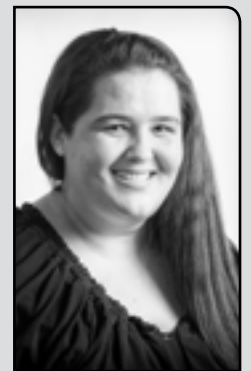
Putting on an event like this requires a great deal of help from our friends. Early in the process, we'll need to recruit an event coordinator for each individual city's event, as well as event day volunteers to do tasks like registration, the welcome team, the food team, route marshals, and more.

In addition, we'll be looking for team captains to begin recruiting team members early in the process so we can quickly recruit participants and donors after labour day. October 3rd will sneak up very quickly once we're back in our fall routines.

If you're interested in helping out in any capacity with the event, please contact nightlight Canada Event Coordinator Amberly White at [events@nightlightcanada.com](mailto:events@nightlightcanada.com) or 613.827.8011. ■

*Participants in Ride For Refuge. Join us Oct. 3 as we ride (or walk) to raise money for nightlight.*

## Meet Our new Events Co- ordinator



nightlight Canada welcomes Amberly White to the team as our Events Coordinator. Amberly brings a wealth of professional events planning experience to her new roll. She'll be working to organize our fundraising events like Coldest Night of the Year and Ride For Refuge.

If you'd like to get involved in either event, you can contact her at 613.827.8011 or [events@nightlightcanada.com](mailto:events@nightlightcanada.com) ■



## Why should I be friends with 'the other'?

It's no secret that friendships come more easily when we have a great deal in common with people. It's no wonder, then, that our lives are often filled with people who are a lot like us. They may have the same interests, be from the same race or ethnic background, or belong to the same socio-economic group. This can lead to rewarding friendships, but if everyone we know is like us, is that a problem?

When we only know people like us, there's a danger that our assumptions about others are based on stereo-type, prejudice or ideology rather than on the lives of real people. This can lead people to think things like, "the poor are just lazy," or "middle-class Christians are self-righteous and selfish." We can hold these ideas as unassailable truths even if we've never met the kind of people we're making these sweeping assumptions about.

Friendship with people unlike us is sometimes the only way I can see the blind spots in my own worldview. Spending time with those on the margins is not merely an opportunity to give to them, it's also a chance to receive: As I get to know them, I may find God opens my eyes to what their lives are *really* like, radically altering my perspective on what my own life *really* looks like. I may see my possessions, my relationships, or my church, and all other things I often take for granted in a whole new light. Of course, sometimes I might just gain a new friend, someone a little different than myself with whom I enjoy spending some time.

If you'd like to meet 'the other' why not drop in to nightlight during its operating hours (see sidebar for hours)? Check us out and get to know someone. A visit can be a great way to see if nightlight is the kind of place where you'd like to spend more time. If you find you'd like to join the team, speak to the Executive Director at the centre you visit, otherwise, feel free to come in any time and enjoy a free cup of coffee. ■

## A trip to the country



On June 27, we're inviting the whole nightlight community from both Kingston and Belleville on a day trip to Wellington in Prince Edward County.

For many of our guests, getting out of the city is almost impossible, so a day out in the countryside is a rare treat. What's more, is that volunteers and guests from the two drop in centres rarely meet, so the day presents an opportunity for the two groups to forge new relationships.

To stage this kind of event requires a great deal of work and generosity. We'd like to thank the Kuipers family for letting us use their farm, and all the churches, organizations and individuals who have donated to make this event possible. ■

# nightlight

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### nightlight Belleville

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Open: Mon., Tues., Fri. 6:30 - 9:30 pm

### nightlight Kingston

666 Princess St., Kingston ON

Open: Mon., Wed., Thurs. 6:00 - 9:00 pm