



NORTHREACH

NORTHREACH SOCIETY 2020 ANNUAL FUNDRAISER: DRAGS AND BAGS

Friday, May 1, 2020

7:00 PM

Better Than Fred's

Tickets: \$75

Dear Valued Supporter/Sponsor:

This year, Northreach Society is proud to present their fourth annual Drags and Bags Event at Better Than Fred's. The event will continue to be one of the most unique and wildly fun fundraisers in Grande Prairie with a traditional Drag Show performance by Haus of Rivers. Haus of Rivers is a three-queen show hailing all the way from Halifax. It will be a unique evening that leaves guests educated and entertained - all in the name of supporting the Grande Prairie Northreach Society. Guest Speakers will be **Karine Meador MD CCFP (AM), Inner City Health and Wellness Program and Addiction Recovery and Community Health (ARCH) Team** speaking on the community-based harm reduction approach. **Assistant Executive Director Johnathon Fortune** will be speaking on Northreach's new programs and successes. A variety of iconic handbags including Coach, Michael Kors, Kate Spade, Johnny Was, Tori Burch and Frye will be up for grabs. We've kept sponsorship opportunities simple and affordable to encourage individuals and businesses to support this event in an effort to raise funds and awareness for Northreach Society.

For More Information Please Contact: Tina Nelson (780)814-3559 christinalesley@hotmail.com

Doors Open at 6:30 PM for handbag viewing and Better than Fred's BBQ buffet at 7:30.





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Northreach Drags & Bags Sponsorship Opportunities

\$250 or \$500 Cash Donations

If cash donation is combined with table purchase, you receive priority seating

Name in program

Charitable Tax Receipt

\$2500 Sponsor

20 Party Pit Tickets together at a reserved table

Individual or Company name on table

Individual or Company logo in the program

Individual or Company logo displayed on Northreach website and social media

Emcee acknowledgement at the beginning and end of the evening

\$1500 Sponsor

10 Tickets together at a reserved table

Individual or Company name on table

Individual or Company name or business in the program

Individual or Company Name displayed on Northreach website and social media

\$750 Sponsor

6 Tickets together at a reserved table.

Individual or Business name on table

Individual or Company name in the program

\$500 Sponsor

4 Tickets together at a reserved table.

Individual or Company name in the program

Individual or Business name on table

All table tickets include Better Than Fred's famous BBQ buffet dinner.





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WHO IS NORTHREACH SOCIETY?

HOW DO THEY SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY?

Northreach is proudly a grassroots organization. Through bottom-up, rather than top-down decision making, Northreach is considered more natural or spontaneous than traditional power structures. Northreach takes what is happening on the front lines and makes changes to address what they are seeing. As an AIDS Service Organization, they recognize everyone is at risk of an HIV infection. Their programs and services have expanded; helping to address the social determinants of health. Northreach aims to decrease infection rates and provide necessary support to individuals often living in chronic poverty.

Northreach is committed to reducing the risks and harmful effects associated with substance use and addictive behaviours; for the person, the community and society without requiring abstinence. Northreach focuses on the strengths and capacities of everyone - rather than their limitations and provides the necessary support and information to help clients reduce their substance use, safely.

Northreach accepts that some drug use is inevitable, and that some level of drug use in society is normal. A harm reduction approach, they believe, gives opportunity for flexibility and goes hand in hand with the “client centred” approach. Their evidence-based programming is more effective at addressing the harms of addiction than others.

The services below highlight Northreach’s successes and what you will be supporting:

- **HIV Education and Outreach:** this program provides education to schools, community organizations, the medical community and the general population on sexually transmitted and blood borne infections (STBBIs) while providing outreach services. In 2019, Northreach educated 2934 individuals. Harm reduction supply distribution and disposal is also a key component of this program.
- **LGBTQ2S+ Youth and Parent Support:** this program provides Gender and Sexual Diversity education to schools, community organizations and the general population. Support is provided to LGBTQ2S+ youth in the community through one-on-one appointments and a weekly youth drop-in. Parents of LGBTQ2S+ youth are supported biweekly through a support group. Support is provided to teachers and service providers who require a greater understanding of how to be an ally. In 2019, the Youth Mentor provided Gender and Sexual Diversity education to 659 participants.





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- **Take Home Naloxone:** this program is an opiate overdose reversal program that has saved a life 359 times in 2019. 801 lives have been saved since 2015. Naloxone is a life-saving opiate antagonist. Training and kits are provided throughout the community by our Registered Nurse.
- **Healthcare Navigation:** this program assists individuals who require supports in accessing primary and acute healthcare ensuring everyone is treated with respect and equity. Medical advocacy and navigation was performed 393 times in 2019 by our healthcare team. This includes HIV and Hepatitis C care, addiction treatment and general health practitioner appointments among others.
- **Street Outreach:** this program assists individuals who are experiencing chronic or episodic homelessness in connecting to support networks and increase access to housing. Northreach's Street Outreach team averages approx. 2000 contacts with street involved individuals per month. Outreach is part of the City of Grande Prairie Homelessness Initiative.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:** this program assists individuals requiring sustained housing supports. Individuals in this program often experience a complexity of mental health/addiction needs; therefore, support is required to maintain housing. Permanent Supportive Housing is part of the City of Grande Prairie homelessness initiative.
- **Indigenous Opioid Response Program:** Responds to the unique needs of indigenous people using a holistic, community centred harm reduction approach. The aim is to increase culturally safe spaces and supporting individuals using substances for an increase and wellbeing.
- **Women's Maternal Health Program:** Northreach's newest outreach program, connecting street-involved pregnant women to pre- and post- natal supports. Northreach has supported women in Grande Prairie 354 times.





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- **Supervised Mobile Consumption Site:** a health service facility where a person can consume illicit substances, which they have pre-obtained, in a hygienic safe space. Sterile supplies are provided, and healthcare professionals (LPN/RN/paramedics) supervise all consumption. In 2019 Northreach's SCS had 8640 visits, reversed 142 overdoses and only called EMS 4 times. A major component of Northreach Supervised Consumption Services is connecting individuals to various health and community services. In 2019, Northreach made 699 external referrals including: 149 to medical services, 50 to opioid dependency programs, 76 to housing supports, 57 to financial supports and 51 to detoxification programs.

Northreach Society would like to thank you for your consideration in supporting the 2020 Drags and Bags event. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call (780) 538-3388.

Sincerely,

Melissa Byers
Executive Director
director@hivnorth.org

