

CHEKISHING MEMORIES



JOURNAL
SNAPSHOTS
SUMMER 2021



Youth Unlimited™
YFC TORONTO

INTRODUCTION



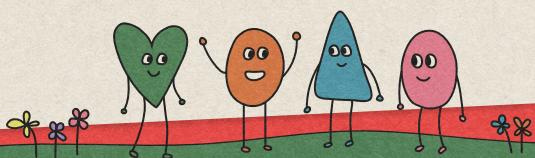
For these last couple of years, I've had the privilege of being a part of Youth Unlimited's Summer Snapshots. It is such a blessing that I've been given opportunities to step up to the front lines of our work to capture how God is working through our staff and volunteers. I have met so many people over these years, and have witnessed lives being transformed through the love and care that godly communities can provide. These communities have transformed my heart, and have inspired the theme for this 2021's Summer Snapshots: Cherishing Memories.

I don't know about you, but these last two years have been filled with so many ups and downs; like a carousel, spinning round and round, and going up and down. Something I've been going through recently is recovering from a skateboarding accident, where I fractured my skull and was bleeding in my brain. As I was going through this it felt like I was riding the carousel on my own. The people in my life were

beginning to blur just like all the lights and other decorations. It was in these moments of fear and loneliness when God showed me what was actually going on. He showed me that even though we're on our own horses, we are still on the ride together. There might be moments when we look around and notice that our eyes aren't lining up with someone else's, but it's in those exact moments where we need to continue to fight for our relationships - to recall memories that bring us together, and keep moving forward.

In the spirit of sharing memories, we decided to create a scrapbook for all of you to enjoy. These next few pages are devoted to four individuals that served in their community. **Our hope is that you experience these memories with us and see transformed lives, transforming our city.**

- Rafael Gonzales



JADEN

Lakeshore Soccer League



The coach leads a team talk with the players. These team talks include ice breaker questions and a Bible verse, along with a set of related questions. These talks create a low stress environment where the players can learn about gospel themes of peace, service, and compassion. - Aug 20

"Serving this summer as part of the soccer league has been a great learning experience" - July 30



July 22

"I wanted to serve at the Lakeshore Soccer League to get my first working experience and to improve my leadership and communication skills."

"Over these past two months, I think that God was trying to teach me how to help/work with the community. I plan to take many of the things that I learned this summer and apply them to my school, extracurriculars, and service hours that I will complete over the next two years."

JADEN'S SUNNY SKIES SOCCER SCOUT



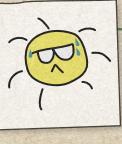
w1



w2



w3



w4



w5

MARCIA

Seeds of Hope

July 23

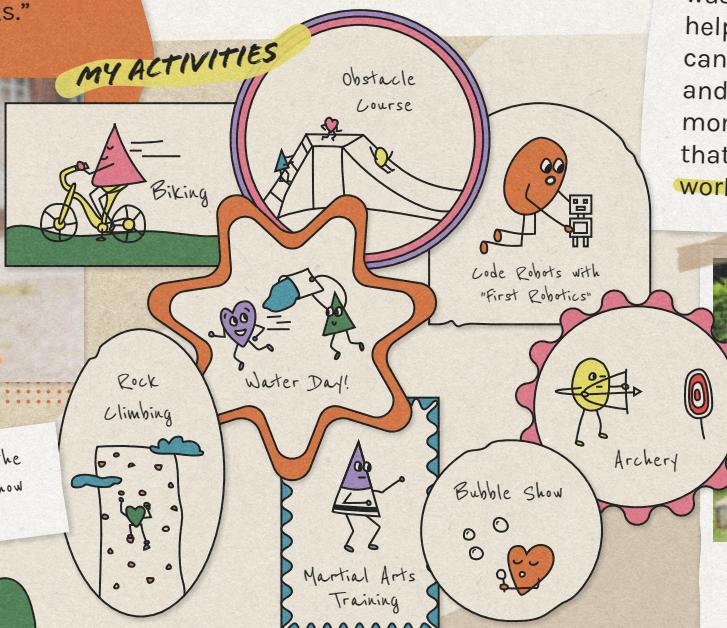
"I wanted to allow myself to be used by God to serve the kids at Seeds of Hope. Also, over the pandemic, I developed a strong passion for seeing children grow in healthy, godly environments."



"God has been working to change the campers' perspective on life and how they relate to others." - Aug 6

August 13

"Today I received a reward and one of the campers proudly shouted, "That's my small group leader!" It melted my heart."



August 28

"God had definitely taken me out of my comfort zone and showed me that my salvation is not for my enjoyment, but to serve those around me. So many times I was reminded that God is with us, to help us when we are afraid and that we can trust Him! I will take these lessons and hopefully remember them for moments when God calls me to a task that seems big. **It is all Him, He who works in me to will and to act.**"

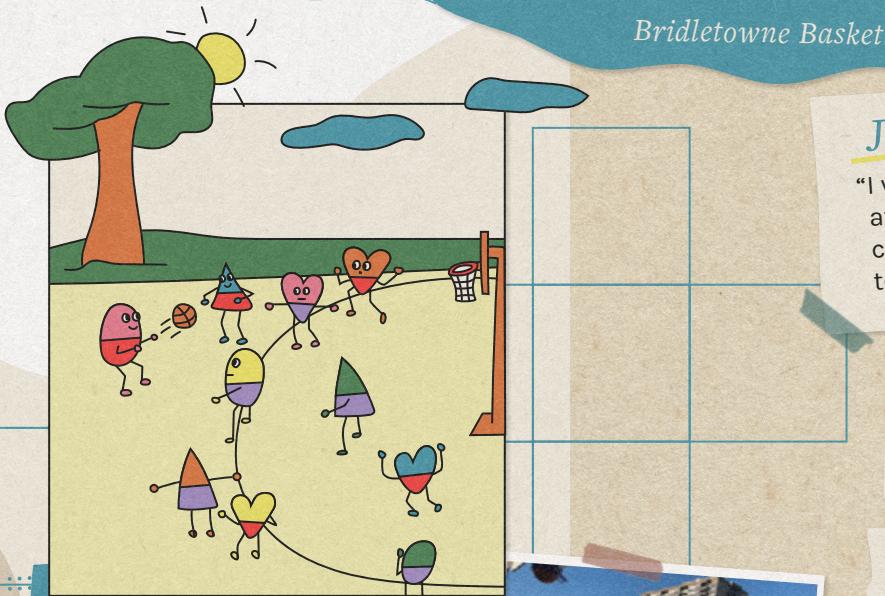


AUG 28

"This experience was amazing! I didn't want to say goodbye."

MOHAMMAD

Bridletowne Basketball



We had an amazing basketball tournament where people in the community played 5-on-5 against a few people that Dave B brought from Uxbridge.



July 27

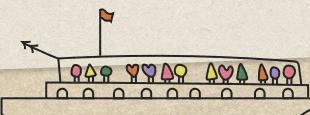
"I wanted to serve at [YU's basketball program at] First Alliance Church because I just loved coming to FAC as a kid and wanted to give back to the people after me."

July 28

"Today we went to Centre Island to work on some team skills and it ended up being really fun and nice to have a team all laugh together."

August 4

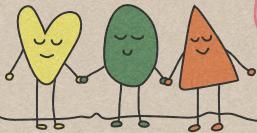
"My supervisor was actually talking to everyone about his life and it was nice to get to know him better. He talked about his life growing up and what caught my attention was that I could relate on some levels. It got me interested to hear more about his life to see if we have any other similarities."





CHLOE

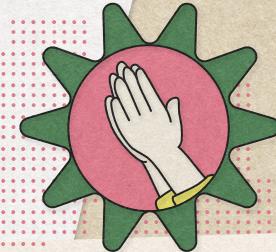
Rahab Ministry



July 26

"I wanted to serve at Rahab because of the holistic approach that Rahab Ministry takes towards women who are leaving the sex trade or transitioning out of sex trafficking."

"The enduring community that we cultivate with each woman we befriend is so unlike anything I'd seen before. It's a gift to be part of!"



This week I'm so thankful for the wonderful group of people that make up the Rahab team! - Aug 14

August 14

"This week I'm feeling thankful for rest. When I first started working at Rahab, I was discontented with the seemingly uneventful weeks where nothing new happened. But I've learned very quickly to accept and be thankful for those times. Because more often than not.... they're followed by a busy week full of surprises!"

August 23

"God has been showing me that ministry isn't complicated...it's as simple as being a friend, and loving people the way Jesus does. It's refreshing to remember these things, isn't it?"



CHERISHING TRANSFORMATIVE MOMENTS



One of my highlights every year is visiting our summer ministry programs – being outdoors, hearing laughter, seeing joyful play, and watching meaningful mentoring relationships unfold. I cherish these times as they ground me in our purpose, which is all about whole life transformation as young people experience the loving kindness of God through our staff team, summer students, volunteers, one another, and their surroundings. What a gift it is to serve the precious youth of our city!

The memories of our summer just past were cherished all the more this year after all that our young people have been through with the pandemic we continue to navigate together. The **sense of belonging, connectedness, purpose, and hope** that comes from re-engaging in person and in regular



programming has been instrumental over these past months and we know the fall will be another significant transition for the youth we serve.

As ever, your partnership with Youth Unlimited to come alongside our young people throughout this fall is vitally important so we can together see transformed youth transforming our city. We are hopeful to continue our in-person programming and, regardless, remain committed to walking with our young people through this pandemic, and the everyday challenges of life faced by these youth, their families, and their communities. Join us in transforming young lives as we create cherished memories!

Gratefully,
SCOTT MOORE
Executive Director





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