



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
Sep. 23 Mark Vosper	

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Sep 22: Patricia Cruz Angels There for You (https://atfy.ca)	Sep 29: Vineetha Nakka Understanding and Responding to Epilepsy	Oct 13: DG Carol Tichelman
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OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S ZOOM MEETING:

Pres. Clint Callison presided.

Guests (apart from our speaker):

Jesse Sidhu, from the Haney Club

Speaker Gary Thandi -

Founder and executive director of Moving Forward Family Services

About Gary:



Gary Thandi was born and raised on Vancouver Island, and moved to the mainland in 2000. He obtained his degree in social work, and was a probation officer for seven years. Persons on probation had anger management problems and would often lash out at their partners. He found, however, that the spouses or partners of these persons on probation would contact him stating that they

would like to not only help their partner overcome their problems but also wanted themselves to know how to manage their own anger and relationship issues, and reached out to Gary for help. The probation service did not permit probation officers to work with anyone other than the person who was on probation, and Gary noted that these various services were not integrated, and that the person on probation and their spouse or partner would have to go to separate service providers which was not only inefficient but often not helpful.

Approximately 13 years ago Gary left the probation service, got his Masters degree in social work, and worked as a counsellor for the non-profit sector and certain hospitals. He again found a shortage of available and affordable services and decided to establish an innovative non-profit agency called Moving Forward Family Services that provides counselling to anyone who needs it in the Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley regions.

About Moving Forward Family Services (MFFS) - as per its website <https://mffs.ca/> :

Our Mission: Our Mission and purpose at *Moving Forward Family Services* is to provide affordable counselling services in a safe and ethical environment with a client-centered, anti-racist and anti-oppressive approach.



Our Vision: Our vision at *Moving Forward Family Services Society* is to bridge the gaps in services by eliminating counselling wait lists, deconstructing barriers in accessing affordable counselling and developing strong relationships within the community. Services are provided by insured and highly qualified, fully supervised Registered Clinical Counsellors, Registered Social Workers with Masters Degrees, and interns from accredited Masters of Counselling Psychology, Masters of Social Work, Degree or Diploma programs.

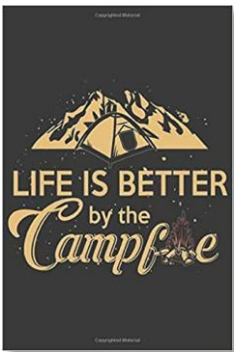
Partnerships: We currently have 30+ community partners, with that number growing each year. Our partners include elementary schools, non-profits, community organizations, private medical practices, government, and universities. The majority of our operating space is donated. We work with our community, for our community.

MFFS is a mentorship agency – providing counselling and social work practice opportunities to interns and new graduates beginning private practice. We receive funding for clinical supervision (supervisors who support interns and new graduates) and these supervisors in turn oversees an agency that has over 125 part-time counsellors, social workers and interns on post-secondary practicums, providing support to some of our most vulnerable communities. Community support also comes by way of donated space. This unique model allows the agency to offer timely, affordable (including free for those with no income) counselling and support without being bound by restrictions based on gender, age, geography or presenting issues. It also allows MFFS to complement

existing services (as opposed to competing with them for the same pools of traditional funding) thus reducing pressures on these services. MFFS is committed to building and contributing to healthy, healing communities.

Our services are intended for those who cannot afford typical private therapy rates and are not eligible for public services. Please note that our counsellors/social workers are typically newer graduates or interns on school practicums therefore if you are looking for experienced (for example 5-plus years) you should instead contact private therapists or direct service providers within the public sector, such as Fraser Health or Vancouver Coastal Health Mental Health and Addiction Services, Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) Child and Youth Mental Health, School District Counsellors or non-profit agencies in your community that are funded by Health Authorities, Schools Districts or MCFD.

Happy and Sad dollars:



Happy and sad dollars were given by those who attended, and by those who missed, the fun weekend and good fellowship at the clubs camping weekend at Cultus Lake Thousand Trails RV Resort.

Adrienne Dale especially wanted to recognize and thank **Matt DeBruyn** for his great contribution to organizing this (what is now an) annual event.

50/50 online draw:

To advertise for ticket sales, posters will be completed by the end of this week, and a newspaper ad is being placed. Anyone in our club can purchase tickets whether or not they are club directors. It was suggested that all members should purchase their tickets early to demonstrate that the pot is increasing, which should encourage ticket sales. All club members will be emailed further information and the link to the online events.

President's quote for the day:



To which we can add:

(A fool and his money can throw a heck of a party at Camp).

Submitted by Laurie Anderson