

Working to Solve Homelessness:

JUSTWORK: Economic Initiative



*"A healthy community
where people are
meaningfully and
gainfully employed and
business practices
embrace an ethical,
social mandate."*

Physical disabilities, mental illness, homelessness and addictions are among the barriers preventing some from finding appropriate, steady employment. Rather, persons facing such barriers are often marked as unemployable.

For people facing multiple barriers to the traditional workforce, JustWork fosters dignified, gainful work opportunities through the development of social enterprises. Because social enterprises are hybrid organizations focused on both social and economic outcomes, they can offer:

- Safe places of employment with more flexible work hours and job expectations.
- Work experience and skill development enabling a transition to more regular job situations.

JustWork seeks to develop and support social enterprises because many individuals need something more than is offered by typical employment programs. We believe social enterprises offer that "something more" as they:

- Allow individuals who are often deep in poverty to generate income without resorting to the informal economy (e.g. binning, panhandling, etc.)
- Support the development of perspectives, life skills, and positive relationships in a work setting
- Foster hope for new ways of living and being

JustWork emerged from the life and ministry of Grandview Calvary Baptist Church in the Grandview-Woodlands neighbourhood of Vancouver, British Columbia.

Source: <http://www.justwork.ca/>

Homelessness, together we can solve it.
Visit: stophomelessness.ca

