

Member's Statement

March 17, 2005

Mountain of Heroes Foundation

Dave Rodney (MLA, Calgary-Lougheed): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share an Albertan good-news story. The Calgary-based Mountain of Heroes Foundation recently held their inaugural awards gala dinner. Five local citizens were honoured.

Christianna Wood-Roddick, who initiated "Christianna's cause" at the tender age of 10. After the tragic death of her mother a year ago Christianna has raised \$35,000 for the Aventa program, which her mother founded. Aventa is an AADAC funded group that attends to the addiction treatment of women.

Eva Davis, a concentration camps survivor, has raised two successful sons, run a small business, and taught tolerance to a whole new generation, partially through the gift of song.

Kevin Mark was on his way to the NHL in 1982 before he was paralyzed from the neck down during a hockey game. He's now an accomplished engineer and a distinguished speaker who has personally raised over \$300,000 for the Calgary Handi-Bus Association.

As a youth Pat Nixon was aimless and living on the street. He's gone on to become the executive director for the Mustard Seed Street Ministry, which not only provides food and lodging for the homeless but also supplies employment training to get its clients off the street.

Finally, Dr. Harvey Rabin founded the southern cystic fibrosis adult clinic at the Foothills Hospital in 1979, and he continues to run it today although he is not paid for his time spent as clinic director.

Mr. Speaker, my wife, Jennifer, and I founded the foundation a few years ago, and we thank our board members: Nicki Perkins, a CF survivor who chaired the awards event; her husband, Dean Perkins; Colleen and Dave Zeller; and Wayne Logan.

We shared a wonderful evening with our heroes, our sponsors, the public, and the media. Proceeds from the event were dedicated to fund the research of Dr. Mody, a Calgary scientist who is doing world-class work on cystic fibrosis.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to share this good-news story.

