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August 2022

Summer in Full Swing

Summer is flying by and I hope that you are all enjoying the sunshine and outdoor activities with your families. Summer is flying by for us at the Mission as well. We have survived our sixth bout of COVID and had to close our doors to new intakes for a bit, but we are back in business. We, like everyone else, are struggling for staff and staff shortages were also a part of having to reduce our hours some. If you know anyone who would like to work full-time, part-time, one day a week, etc., please reach out and let us know. We can fit you in at the Men's Mission, Women & Children's Home, or the Thrift Store. We are open 24/7 365 at two of the facilities, so we have a lot of shifts to cover.

Community partnerships remain strong and we so appreciate individuals and organizations that care about the homeless in our community. Black Hills Community Bank sponsored their 13th Annual Diaper Drive for us during the month of June. Look for their story and picture in our next newsletter – we are excited to tell you their story.

A special shout out this month goes to M.G. Oil/Corner Pantry for sponsoring their 13th annual Homeless But Not Hopeless Golf Tournament. M.G. Oil and their vendors came together and had a great day of golfing, camaraderie, and capped it off with a barbeque at the beautiful Red Rocks golf course. We are grateful to Dave, Tanner and Tammy for all they do to help support the homeless!

Have a wonderful rest of the summer and stay safe during the rally!

Peace, Lysa



Robert Gets a Window to the World

I love this story that came from Amber Clarke, SSVF Case Manager and Teena Conrad, SSVF Program Manager. Robert was so appreciative to have a window – such a simple thing we all take for granted.

“Robert came to us broken and scared, with an eviction notice in hand. He had recently lost his job and had zero income. Robert was concerned he would lose his very small living quarters. His rental allowed him room for a cot, dresser, and a few personal belongings, as he shared a kitchen and bathroom with 5 other tenants.



SSVF Case worker Amber Clarke met with him, enrolled him in the SSVF Program, and supplied him with a phone, hygiene items and backpack. Within a few days he was caught up on his rent and avoided eviction.

The support from his case worker gave him the security to deal with many personal struggles, having lost a loved one, and struggling to maintain employment due to his physical limitations. After many conversations with Robert, he expressed his wish to move into a bigger place, where he would have his own kitchen and bathroom. Amber helped him through the process of applying for public housing, knowing this would be the best option for him in long-term housing. SSVF walked alongside Robert for almost a year, waiting for him to come to the top of the list for his own apartment in public housing. During this time Robert was able to start healing and find part-time work.

Robert finally came to the top of the housing list. The housing unit was ideal for him, within walking distance of his work, and his rent was based on his income. When Robert went to sign his lease, he was nervous about moving into a new place, until he was given a tour. The first thing he said when he entered his apartment was “Oh Wow! I love this! Look at that window!” Previously he only had a very small window, used for ventilation, that he could not see out of. Robert was so excited and commented that he was going to get a recliner so that he could sit in front of his window and read.

Amber helped move his belongings to his new place. He was provided with a brand-new bed. Previously he had a cot, which was falling apart. SSVF also provided a move-in basket which contained cleaning supplies, linens and basic kitchen items donated by our many supporters.

Robert moved into his new place the 1st of July and contacted Amber after the 4th of July weekend to let her know he was doing great. He stated that he was able to sit in front of his big living room window and watch the fireworks.

Robert is thrilled with his new place. He feels secure and in a better place both mentally and financially. He plans to volunteer at the Cornerstone Thrift Store to earn a recliner. He looks forward to giving back and doing his part in furnishing his new home.”

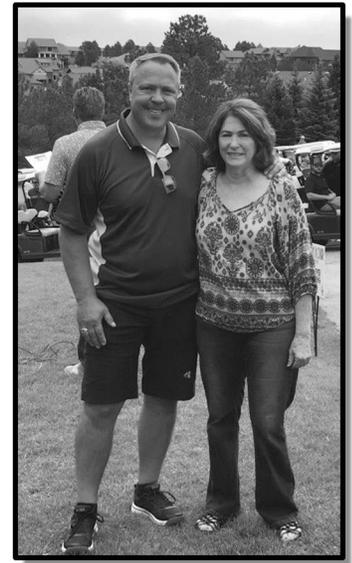


MG Oil/Corner Pantry – A Great Friend for Many Years!

On June 24th MG Oil/Corner Pantry hosted their 13th annual “Homeless But Not Hopeless” golf tournament at Red Rocks golf course. It is so amazing that they have been doing this great event for 13 years! The golf course was full of golfers, the weather was good, the meal was great, and it was fun to see friends again. It was just a great day! At the end of the day the event raised \$44,000+. Over the 13 years they have raised over \$278,000 for the guests of Cornerstone. How amazing is that!

We want to thank everyone at MG Oil/Corner Pantry for their dedication to Cornerstone all these years, for all their hard work in making this event such a success (special thanks to Tammy Young, Tanner and Brittany Pruess). Thanks also to Red Rocks for the great meal and hospitality, the volunteers who donate their time, and the golfers who always make it a fun party. The funds from this event help provide food, shelter, clothing and case management to our guests – things we could not do without the support of good friends like MG Oil/Corner Pantry!

We are humbled by the fact that so many wonderful people have been making this great event happen for 13 years! THANK YOU!



Dave Kulish, MG Oil General Manager & Lysa Allison, Cornerstone Executive Director welcome the golfers.



Brittany & Tanner Pruess, Tammy Young - The hard workers that pulled the event together!



The golfers get ready to take off.

Black Hills Community Bank put on a 5K to help raise money for their annual Diaper Drive which benefits the babies of Cornerstone!



2022
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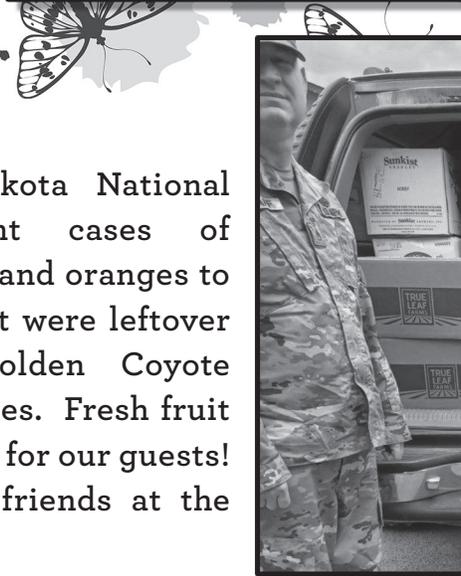
Bryan Mickley,
Black Hills Community Bank

Esther Newbrough,
Black Hills Corp., Retired

Sam Fischer, Financial Analyst
(Board Liaison, non-voting)



Volunteers from Fountain Springs Love Your Neighbor Week did some painting at the Cornerstone Apartments. They did a great job and we certainly appreciated their help!



The South Dakota National Guard brought cases of lettuce, apples, and oranges to our kitchen that were leftover from their Golden Coyote training exercises. Fresh fruit is always a treat for our guests! We thank our friends at the National Guard!

Needs List:

MEN'S MISSION - 30 Main St.

KITCHEN: Canned fruits and vegetables, elbow mac., milk, coffee, oatmeal, pancake mix, cream of mushroom or chicken soup, cereal, egg noodles.

MISSION: Foot powder, towels, twin-sized blankets, twin-sized sheets, reading glasses, bottled water for sack lunches, personal hygiene items for men & women, backpacks.

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME - 301 Fox Run Drive

Coffee, eggs, milk, cereal, sandwich bread, butter, sugar, laundry soap, dish soap, kleenex, clorox wipes, personal hygiene items.

CORNERSTONE THRIFT STORE - 401 - 11th Street

Beds, furniture, small appliances, kitchen items, home décor.

VETERANS - 30 Main St.

Shoes, boots, sugar, creamer, antiperspirant, lotion, backpacks, coffee.

APARTMENTS - 1220 East Blvd.

Dish soap, household cleaners, toilet paper, laundry soap.

ADOPT A FAMILY

Gas cards, oil changes, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, household items.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CORNERSTONE RESCUE MISSION

(The enclosed envelope is for your convenience. We are serving more people every day. Your help is appreciated!)