



*The Heartbeat of The Mission*

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## The Times are Changing

My uncle started his computer software company around the same time Microsoft was still little more than a fledgling company. Through him we were often exposed to the “hottest” technology the ‘80s and early ‘90s could hope to offer. When I was 6 years old we had our first home computer and I could print a banner on a dot matrix with the best of them!

Although I grew up with this rapidly developing technology, it has never been my forte. I still fight with my cellphone and I sometimes long for the days when sending mail meant putting pen to paper and affixing a stamp. Still, as hesitant as I might be, I have to consider the overwhelming benefits of technology. My deployment to Afghanistan was made easier by the ability to see the faces of my family each night before bed. When preparing a sermon I could access hundreds of academic and theological resources at the push of a button instead of paging through book after book. Let’s face it, thanks to Google there is practically no question a person can’t find the answer to something in seconds flat.

Cornerstone Rescue Mission is moving along with the times in our own way. Through use of technology we are able to track our clients’ histories and find out what services have been provided for them at the push of a button. We are able to keep our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSFV) staff connected across the entire state through online meetings and video conferencing.

Technology has also made it easier than ever to support the work and ministry of Cornerstone Rescue Mission. Through our website you can find information on all of our programs, see the latest fundraiser events, and learn where needs are in various parts of the organization. You can also donate to Cornerstone online through our website. Amazon.com has a program called “Amazon Smile” through which online shoppers can opt to have a portion of their purchase amount donated to Cornerstone Rescue Mission at no extra charge.

I would encourage you to check out the links below for further information. Thank you for all you do to support the ministry of Cornerstone Rescue Mission. It is through your prayers, time, and financial support that we are able to continue to serve the needs of those God has placed in our care.

Online Giving and Cornerstone Website [www.cornerstonemission.org/give.html](http://www.cornerstonemission.org/give.html)

Amazon Smile Program <https://smile.amazon.com>

God Bless,  
*Tom Golden*  
Associate Director

# Statewide Supportive Services for Veteran Families

In October 2012 Cornerstone received the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program grant (SSVF) covering western South Dakota. In October 2013 this grant was expanded to cover the entire state of South Dakota. The SSVF grant is designed to help low-income veterans who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. The following stories come from Cornerstone's statewide SSVF staff pictured here.



“The first week of April, I was called to the Veterans Administration (VA) by one of their homeless outreach social workers to meet a family in crisis. I met Bruce\* and his wife as well as their 7-year-old son.

Their two older children remained in the car, which the family had been living in for the past two weeks. Working together with the VA, we were able to arrange a motel for the family to stay at for six days, until he was approved for an income-based home near Sioux Falls. SSVF funds were utilized to pay his application fees, security deposit, and first month rent, and his family was able to move into the home before these funds arrived.

After being housed, Bruce was able to focus on his resumed medical care at the VA and felt more confident in advocating for higher intensity care with the assistance of his case manager. His wife was connected to community mental health services and resumed treatment for her anxiety. She was able to return to working full time in May. With continued rental assistance from SSVF funds, the family was able to open a savings account and an emergency fund. The children were enrolled in school and all three children finished out the school year on time.

In June, Bruce learned that he would need surgery to repair his lung. He struggled with this news and had intermittent thoughts of suicide. He was connected to the Veteran's Crisis Line (1-800-273-TALK Vets, press 1), but preferred to speak to someone he knew, so he continued to call his SSVF case manager. Together they were able to create a safety plan for him, assessing his safety on a daily basis, and he was successful in maintaining it. He later told his case manager, 'You saved my life when we talked last week.'

Bruce was hospitalized to manage his pain as he waited for surgery in the middle of June. His wife then began to utilize the crisis agreement he had previously established as a means to control her own anxiety as well as cope with her husband's health. She also continued to work and plan for the family to travel with Bruce to Minneapolis for surgery. The family was awarded their fourth month of rental assistance days before they all traveled to Minneapolis for his surgery. Bruce's surgery was on July 2 and, per his wife, the doctors are happy with his recovery so far.”

The SSVF program helped this family through a very difficult time all the way to a successful outcome.

Another story from the Aberdeen area:

“Jake\* is a veteran who left Las Vegas due to increasing crime in that area. He left with no more than he could carry on the bus, and made his way east, winding up here in South Dakota. A good man does not stay down for long; after two days in a transitional living house he reached out to SSVF for assistance. In less than three weeks he was able to find a job and housing with just a little help from the SSVF case manager. He has even begun preparing for the upcoming winter with the purchase of work clothes fit for working outside in the cold. Jake is very grateful for Cornerstone's SSVF program.”

Both of the SSVF case managers who shared these stories recognize the need and the help they give families. The SSVF program has helped many local veteran families. Since October 2013 we have offered services and helped house a total of 125 veteran families. And Jesus said to him, “*Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.*” – Matthew 8:20, ESV

\*Names have been changed.



# Our Appreciation!

Cornerstone Rescue Mission wants to express our appreciation to all the participants, sponsors, and donors for the 2nd Annual 5k, this year entitled the Firecracker 5k. Those of you who did participate probably thought that was an appropriate title for the day, and we want to honor those who received medals: 1st place – Ron Hopp & Amy Fleck, 2nd place – Kevin Crosby & Autumn Cassen, 3rd place – Roger Fleck and Brenda Cassen. (Photo shows the participants waiting for the start of the 5k.)



Also receiving our gratitude is Black Hills Community Bank who at last count

received 25,592 diapers towards the Dear Ones Diaper Drive. Next month's newsletter will have the accumulative total

of funds and diapers for the entire month of the drive. Jaime Dubbelde, Loan Processor with the bank, and a CIC member says "I cannot believe the generosity that people had this year. Not only did we receive donations during the events we held and the silent auction, we received many mailed in donations from all over the area. One customer pledged to bring in around 1400 diapers." The diapers were delivered to Dear Ones on July 16th and the children helped unload them all again this year!



Last but not least, the 5th Annual Homeless but not Hopeless Golf Tournament was another success this year. The day was beautiful and the participants had a great time of golfing. We want to express our appreciation to M.G. Oil Company and all their sponsors and donors for making this year another wonderful event! (Photo shows golfers signing up before the tournament begins.)

Many thanks to all of these event participants, donors and sponsors! We could not do what we do without you.



# 2014 Cornerstone Board of Directors

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# Needs List

## **MEN'S MISSION**

*30 Main St.*

Twin size quilts and blankets  
Socks  
Ground Beef  
Coffee, creamer, sugar  
Bags of mixed salad  
Milk & Powdered Milk  
Forks and spoons  
Fruit, fresh and canned  
Eggs  
Tylenol or Ibuprofen/pain relief med.

## **VETERANS**

*30 Main St.*

Phone cards, calling cards  
Shoes & boots, all sizes  
Back packs  
Clothing (all sizes)  
Shampoo  
Water bottles  
Coffee cups with lids

## **WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME**

Kleenex, tampons,  
disposable razors  
Dish soap, automatic & regular  
Diapers 4 & 5, diaper cream/  
ointment, & baby wipes  
Fresh fruit & vegetables  
Tomato/spaghetti sauce  
Shampoo & Conditioner  
Bus Passes

## **APARTMENTS**

*1220 East Blvd.*

Large black trash bags  
Toilet paper  
Queen size mattress pads  
Queen size beds/frames  
Odoban cleaner  
Vacuums  
Kitchen chairs/tables  
Dressers  
Pots and Pans

## **DEAR ONES CHILD CARE**

*2901 Wisconsin Avenue*

Size 5 & 6 diapers,  
baby wipes & cream  
Milk and soy based infant  
formula & juice  
Baby Food (Jarred)  
& nutritious kid cereals  
Baby spoons  
& toddler silverware  
Child Safety Locks  
Canned fruits and veggies  
Liquid hand soap  
& paper towels  
Ziploc bags (all sizes)  
Toy storage containers with lids  
(all sizes)  
Portable baby gate  
& baby corral

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our newsletter or if you wish to be removed**

from our mailing list please send Email to:

**[cteigen@cornerstonemission.org](mailto:cteigen@cornerstonemission.org),**

**[kbye@cornerstonemission.org](mailto:kbye@cornerstonemission.org)**

or

**Phone: 605-718-8712**

**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!)