



The Heartbeat of The Mission

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August 2013

Partnering to Honor First Responders

In a community our size, partnering for the sake of others is a great idea. Recently, Cornerstone Rescue Mission and Bethel Assembly of God teamed up to honor our local first responders. The idea to do a special event for first responders came in part from Cornerstone Board of Directors member Sheriff Kevin Thom, Jim Castleberry, Cornerstone's executive director, and Bethel's lead pastor Gerad Strong, who also serves as a reserve deputy sheriff for Pennington County. Both Jim and Gerad volunteer as chaplains for the Pennington County Sheriff's Department, and working closely with the department has given all of them a better understanding of the risks, dedication and demands placed on first responders.



*Sheriff Kevin Thom and Pastor Gerad Strong
honor the First Responders*

The National First Responder Organization defines a first responder as any individual who runs toward rather than away from an event. They cite some examples of first responders as firefighters, sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics. The mission statement for the organization is: "We, the Nation's First Responders,

professional and volunteer alike, are the nation's first line of defense. Whether responding to a shooting, a wild fire or another terrorist attack, First Responders accept the challenges and responsibilities that go along with their chosen field; performing our duties without second thought or personal regard, to serve and protect others in their time of need." Despite the sacrifices made by these men and women across the nation, there has never been an organization that seeks to protect and serve on a national level those who do the same so often for us.

Approximately 60 first responders were honored on June 30. They all received a special coin to commemorate their dedication and received a prayer of protection and blessing. Hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, cookies and drinks were provided along with fun inflatables and games for kids young and old. Numerous drawings were conducted for vacation packages and gift cards were given away. What a wonderful way to show our appreciation for the local first responders and give a day to honor these brave men and women. Since Bethel Assembly of God was surrounded with emergency vehicles most of the day, it left many wondering what was happening!

This event was just one small way we can partner to try to show our community's appreciation and gratitude to the first responders here in the Black Hills area. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of the 19 hot shot firefighters who recently lost their lives in Arizona.

The community joins us in saying thank you for your dedication and service.

The Little Children

Another annual diaper drive was held for Dear Ones Child Care Program during June. With all the children in our care, Cornerstone goes through many diapers during a year. We are blessed to have received a total of 22,592 diapers or the equivalent in cash from Black Hills Community Bank's annual Diaper Drive.



Dr. Mark Harlow, Board of Directors and Jack Lyness, Black Hills Community Bank President and CEO with the fire truck that delivered the diapers to Dear Ones Daycare.

When you visit any of the Cornerstone facilities chances are good that you will hear or see little children, often by spying a little face with somber eyes peeking out from behind the parent's legs. Some come with empty tummies and stand in line at the Mission eager to eat whatever is put on their tray, as it may be their only meal that day. They eat to be filled not knowing and not always sure where their next meal will come from if their family does not return to the Mission.

Previously, we had discovered that one of the pregnant women staying at the Women and Children's Home had not yet seen a doctor. When asked why, the mother responded, "Do you have any idea how difficult it is to go to an OB appointment with three little boys?" Imagine the pleasant surprise she received when she found out we provide child care. Arrangements were quickly made to provide temporary child care so the mom could follow through with an appointment. The results were astounding. When the mom returned the look on her face was one of appreciation and relief uniquely experienced by having two hours to herself. This was something that the 24/7 single mother of three had not experienced since her husband was killed in a car accident. During her absence, the boys enjoyed two hours of time to play and receive nurturing attention from somebody besides their mom—something they have known little of in their lives. Now imagine her surprise when she learned about the Diaper Drive and the fact that she would benefit from that too.

Our community is generally aware of the plight of the homeless adults served by this ministry. It is true that we make every effort possible to help adults break the cycle of homelessness. We are also intimately aware that behind many adults are their children, longing for a safe, secure, and stable place to call home. The staff and volunteers of Dear Ones continue to provide that safety and stability while the children are in their care. Staff at the Cornerstone Apartments and the Women and Children's Home also helps the parents provide security and stability for these precious children. Our hearts are deeply touched when a mother brings her children to our doors seeking shelter or food.

The Bible passage following shows Jesus rebuking the disciples for turning away the children who were seeking the same thing the adults were seeking—to be seen and to receive acceptance. Homeless children across this country and within this community know the longing to be seen, to be accepted, to have someone reach out to them with open arms and a heart filled with tenderness and compassion as Jesus did.



Children, staff of Dear Ones meet the firefighters

Mark 10:14 *When Jesus saw what was happening, he was angry with his disciples. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. (NLT)*

We thank the Black Hills Community Bank for the annual Diaper Drive. The bank beat their record for total diapers donated and we cannot sufficiently express our gratitude and appreciation for their hard work. We also thank the community for supporting our ministry. For each dollar that is given, each morsel of

food that you share, you too become a partner in the effort to provide a temporary place for the children, a place of acceptance and hope that just might transform the future for the next generation.

Needs List

MEN'S MISSION

Coffee, creamer, sugar
 Lasagna noodles/rotini noodles
 Cream soups –
 (cream of mushroom, celery, etc.)
 Milk & mozzarella Cheese
 Chicken and beef base
 Canned fruit or fresh fruit
 Flat sheets (any size), fitted twin sheets & pillows

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME

Kleenex, tampons,
 disposable razors
 Household cleaning supplies
 & bleach
 Diaper cream/ointment,
 & baby wipes
 Vitamin C & juices
 (apple, orange, etc.)
 Coffee, creamer & sugar
 Canned vegetables, tomatoes/spaghetti sauce
 Dish soap – hand & automatic
 Trash Bags – all sizes
 Bus Passes

VETERANS

Phone cards, gas cards, bus passes
 Shoes & boots, sizes 10-13
 Clothing sizes XXL and larger only

APARTMENTS

Large black trash bags
 Toilet paper
 Twin/Queen size mattress pads
 Odoban cleaner
 40 & 60 Watt light bulbs
 Kitchen Chairs

THRIFT STORE

Rubber bands
 Rechargeable AA & AAA batteries
 Gallon ziploc bags
 Space bags
 Kleenex

DEAR ONES CHILD CARE

Large balls, all kinds
 All Free laundry detergent & bleach
 Soft soap & sunscreen
 Size 5 & 6 diapers, baby wipes & cream
 Milk and soy based formula
 3 Hands free trash can with lid
 CD Players
 Trikes, bikes and scooters
 Thrift Store
 Rubber bands
 Rechargeable AA & AAA batteries
 Gallon ziploc bags
 Space bags
 Kleenex

2013 Cornerstone Board of Directors

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Fischer Furniture

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Carpenter Dental

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Ron McLaughlin
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Beverly Schoenstedt, RN
RC Regional Wound Care

Kevin Thom
Pennington County Sheriff

First Annual
CORNERSTONE RESCUE MISSION
5K RUN/WALK

SATURDAY AUG. 31, 2013

REGISTRATION - 8AM
RACE STARTS - 9AM

SIoux PARK, RAPID CITY

Pre Registration - \$20
Race Day - \$25 | Kids - \$5
Register by 7-31-13 to guarantee a T-shirt.

Register at The Runner's Shop or
Cornerstone Admin Office
(401 11th St)

For more information contact Camille at:
605-718-8712 or
cteigen@cornerstonemission.org

Cornerstone **United Way**

Join us in celebrating Labor Day Weekend as we stamp out homelessness

Name: _____ T-Shirt Size: Adult S M L XL Youth S M L

In consideration of your accepting this entry, heirs, next of kin, spouse and assigns, do hereby waive and release any and all rights and claims of damages, or losses against the organizers or sponsor of this event. I have read this document. I understand it is a release of all claims. I understand I assume all risk inherent in my participation in this event. I voluntarily sign my name evidencing my acceptance of all the above provision's.

Sign: _____ Date: _____



KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Do you have a group that wants to help out at Cornerstone?

Come cook and serve a meal in our newly remodeled kitchen!

OPEN DATES:

2nd Sunday Lunch every other month
(Aug. Oct., etc.)

4th Sunday Lunch at 1:30 every month

Call Camille at 718-8712
for more information! Thank You!

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!)