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January 2024

❄️ Have a JOYful New Year! ❄️

It is hard to believe that 2023 is coming to a close and it is almost 2024. There is a part of me that gets excited about the new year...new goals, new opportunities, new people to meet. I await in expectation of what God is going to do for the Mission and myself. While he almost always takes a different route than I would like or expect, he always provides and takes care of the Mission, the Women & Children's Home, Cornerstone Apartments, Cornerstone Thrift Store, Our SSVF and other Veteran's Programs, Cornerstone Administration, and of me. God is good and I am going forward expecting many good things for all of the Cornerstone Family, which of course, includes you! Everyone reading this newsletter has helped us accomplish our task of caring for the poorest of the poor in our community - through prayer, monetary and goods donations, cooking, volunteering, etc. We truly cannot do it without you. You will find examples of some of the gifts we have received this season in the following pages.

I was at a Bible Study last weekend, and heard a definition of JOY that I have never heard before. I really liked it and I think it epitomizes what Jesus wants us to do: J - Jesus First, O - others second, Y - yourself last. This is what the Bible states and Jesus came to earth to teach us to do. I fall short of this on a daily basis, but there is so much grace, and every day is a new opportunity for me to try again. This will be my New Year's Resolution, and I hope some of you will consider joining me.

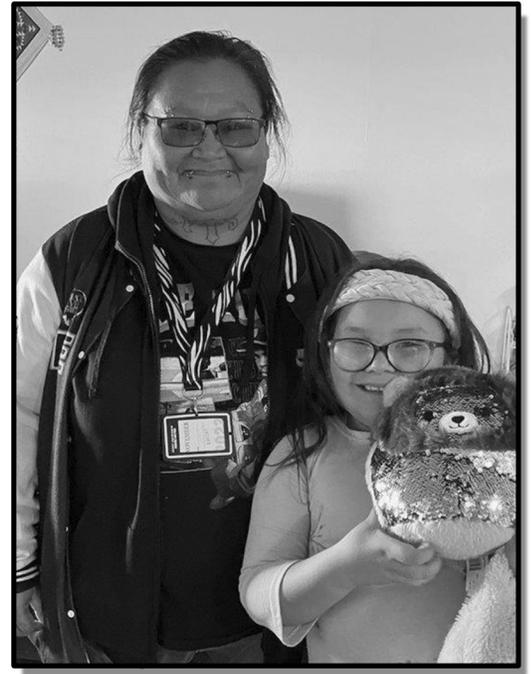
The generosity of this community never fails to amaze me. The donations we received this year will really make a wonderful Christmas for many who literally have nothing but a few sets of clothes. We are here to accept them for who they are, love on them, give them clothing, shelter, food, spiritual counseling and help them find their purpose. Many of you are practicing JOY and we cannot be more grateful. Wishing you and your families a very Merry Christmas season remembering the real reason - Jesus, and a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year!

With JOY, Lysa



Achieving Goals Brings JOY

Chastity Flying Bordeaux was a resident here and did a fantastic job at moving forward to obtain housing with her 8-year-old daughter. There were several obstacles and struggles along the way. She was denied from housing many times but she continued to apply any place that she could. Finally, she was approved for a 2 bedroom apartment for her and her daughter Jaquelyn. This has been exciting for her and we are very proud of her. Chastity learned how to save money and budget to help herself move forward. She confided to me, after she moved out, that she missed the structure of the facility and was worried that she wouldn't do okay on her own without us. Over time she has done fantastic and checks in with us once in a while to let us know how grateful she is and that she is still doing good.



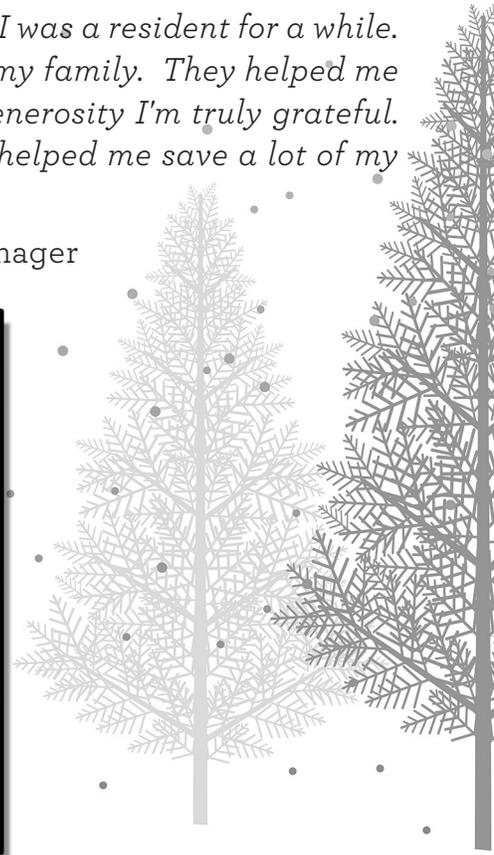
This is the note she wrote to us:

"I am grateful to the Cornerstone Women and Children's Home where I was a resident for a while. They have helped me out in more ways than one. I consider the staff my family. They helped me go in the right direction to find a place I can call home. For their generosity I'm truly grateful. I will never forget how much they helped and worked with me. They helped me save a lot of my money to get me back on my feet."

As told by Amanda Pioche, Women & Children's Home Program Manager



We know it is Christmas when the Hill City group rolls in with purses and pillows! The group once again got the whole town involved in their annual project that provides a purse filled with self-care items to each lady staying at the Women & Children's Home. In addition, each child receives a new pillow with a cute handmade pillowcase. This year Kendra Scott from The Handbag Store in Hill City got involved and donated many cute bags. Hill City, and especially this wonderful group pictured, have been such awesome and longstanding supporters of our Women & Children's Home. We thank them and the town of Hill City for their love and support!





St. Thomas More High School, St. Thomas More Middle School, and St. Elizabeth Seton Elementary School continued the wonderful tradition of helping our guests with donations of long underwear and other clothing items. When the temperatures drop, and the winter winds are blowing, a new set of long underwear can make all the difference in keeping warm! We want to thank these wonderful students, the teachers, and their leaders for the generosity and compassion they show our guests every year!

joy



Ed Simpson, Dick Turnwall and Eileen Turnwall from the DAV Northern Hills Chapter 11 brought Teena Conrad (SSVF Program Manager) a check to benefit the homeless Veterans we work with through our Supportive Services for Veteran Families program. What a generous gift to help our struggling Veterans!



Bonnie Jenniges from the Blooming Loomers group of the Canyon Lake Activity Center dropped off handcrafted hats and scarves again to help keep our guests warm. These ladies are so generous with their talents!

2024
CORNERSTONE
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The Zion Lutheran Women's League gathered hygiene items, socks, underwear, and household items for the Veterans staying at Cornerstone. Some of these things will help Veterans as they transition into their own apartment. Thanks to the ladies of this group and everyone else who donated to our Veterans!

Micheline Nelson brought over backpacks to Teena Conrad (SSVF Program Manager) that the Scout Pack #17 of Spearfish had filled with hygiene items for the Veterans staying at Cornerstone. What a generous gift for our Veterans!



Needs List:

MEN'S MISSION - 30 Main St.

KITCHEN: Spaghetti sauce, tomato sauce, canned beans, salsa, BBQ sauce, salad dressing

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.

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!)