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June 2024

## **Family Time!**

The first day of summer will soon be here. We all think of backyard barbeques, vacations, time at the lake, etc. All of those activities sound like fun and should be. God wants us to have fun in life! But for the homeless, those are dreams that most likely will not be fulfilled. The homeless will still be struggling with addiction, sickness, loss of hope, fractured familial relationships, etc.

Many of the homeless in our community are caught in the grips of an ugly addiction. Despite attending treatment, AA and other rehab activities, the grip is so tight, it is difficult to escape. Thanks to your help, Cornerstone is able to offer them a sober living environment to help ease some of the temptations. All of our facilities - the men's mission, veterans' wing, prison re-entry program, Women & Children's Home, and Cornerstone Apartments - are sober living facilities. We see firsthand the pain and loss that addiction brings to our guests and their families. We offer a loving and supportive environment, and yes, that means some tough love and tough conversations too. We are all about honest conversations, no matter how difficult they are. We are all about accountability as well. Seeing the fruits of less than favorable choices and being held accountable for them is a big part of the recovery process. Change can be made when they reach that point. The change may be for a

few days, weeks, or months, but it is a starting point and is to be celebrated and encouraged. We love to help people by pulling them out of their pit, showing love, getting them help, and encouraging them. The highlight of our day is having someone talk about their healing journey, seeing them smile and wanting definite change. We also love seeing them reconnect with family....many of them have not spoken to their family in years.

While you are out enjoying your family time, please take a moment and lift up a prayer for the homeless and their families. Maybe there is a family barbeque in their future too!

Enjoy your summer!

Peace, Lysa





Roger was located in rural South Dakota and was referred to Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) by his county Veterans Services Officer (VSO). Roger had recently lost his son in a fatal car accident, which led him to lose his housing due to extremely low income and struggling with grief. SSVF case manager, Kristen, worked with Roger, his VSO, and the VA Health Care for Homeless Veterans case manager to help facilitate, transport and connect the client with the VOA Berakhah House in Sioux Falls, while working to enroll and seek housing with SSVF. During enrollment, Roger was able to double his income, get connected with VA services and support, and secure income-based housing in his rural community with SSVF's assistance. The SSVF staff helped facilitate his move and he was so happy to be going back to his rural community near his grandchildren. Roger checked in with his case manager months after his successful discharge from the SSVF program, stating "thanks to you, a Vet found his future again".

*As told by Kristen Intermill, Cornerstone SSVF Case Manager in Sioux Falls*

# Hello Summer

Lois Oetker dropped off many useful items that the members of Emmanuel Episcopal Church had donated for our guests. We thank them all for their Kind Hearts!





Sue Anderson is *\*legendary\** in Hill City for all of the love she gives away by her humor, her presence, her dedication, and her time. She initiated The Hill City Purse Project rounding up hundreds of purses filled with toiletries and necessities for the Cornerstone Women's Shelter and WEAVE each year and by creating quilted best-selling "flower pins" for several years. Active in her church and all of Hill City, she is the first responder to help and often, the last to leave. Sue is Love itself.

Sue Anderson was nominated by the Hill City Chamber of Commerce for a Helpline Spirit of Volunteerism Award. We could not agree more with what they wrote about Sue! She and the people of Hill City have been so kind to the ladies and children staying at the Cornerstone Women & Children's Home over the years. They have blessed them in so many ways! We join in congratulating Sue on this well-earned award! Sue is definitely Love In Action!



Lily Farwell and Victoria Verhey from the Rapid City Catholic School System presented a check to Lysa for \$595. They wanted to donate this money to help the ladies at the Women & Children's Home that have experienced human trafficking. We thank the students and staff for this wonderful gift!

Maryann Leanna (Program Manager of the Cornerstone Apartments) nominated the members of Freedom Church for a Helpline Spirit of Volunteerism Award. Pictured are Linda Hilgemann and Catie Hein of Freedom Church, along with Maryann. The members of this church have sponsored a Christmas Angel Tree for the children of the Cornerstone Apartments for nine years, and also put on a Christmas party yearly. They also do a Vacation Bible School every summer. The members of Freedom Church have become wonderful friends to our guests staying at the Cornerstone Apartments and we really appreciate everything they do!



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Janet Kahler, Pat Sutliff, Jean Cline and Kim Nearhood from the Rushmore Rotary group helped serve a noon meal at the Men's Mission. Thanks for the help!



## 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!)