



The Heartbeat of The Mission

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February 2012

A Day With Faye



VA Photo Archive

Cornerstone Rescue Mission has approximately 50 veterans in our transitional housing program, and can house up to 60. We have added some female veterans to the guests at the Women and Children's Home. Estimates suggest nearly 200,000 Veterans—male and female—are homeless any given night and perhaps twice as many experience homelessness at some point during the course of a year. While most homeless Veterans are male—nearly 5 percent are women. One such woman recently came to the Cornerstone Women and Children's Home. We'll call her "Faye".

'Love at first sight' -that is the reaction of many who meet Faye. Her contagious yet soft laugh and smile make even a stranger feel welcome. At 80 years old she is very active. Most days she is out the door before six in the morning headed to the local gym only to stop back in later to meet friends eagerly awaiting her return to hear the news of her day. Faye has a way of making small accomplishments inspire, or at the very least, bring a smile to everyone's faces.

Faye is a Korean War Veteran who served her time as a nurse. Her compassion and the pride she shows in her work still shine through even today. She

finds great joy in sharing her talent of cooking with others. She is a very independent person with a few tendencies towards being stubborn... living at the shelter has shown her how to ask for help when she truly needs it. The staff at the Women and Children's Home has helped Faye with a number of needs including assistance with filling out applications, transportation to meetings, advocating on behalf of Faye, and emotional support.

Faye should be getting into her own housing rather quickly due to her persistence and determination. We will miss her warm smile, contagious laugh, amazing meals and most of all her friendship here in the home. We all could learn great things from Faye.

We are honored to share a part in the recovery and re-entry into the community of these veterans. Many people don't realize that veterans of the United States Armed Forces comprise 23 percent of the homeless population. Conservative estimates by the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans count one out of every three homeless men who is sleeping in a park, alley or under an overpass as an individual who has served our country as a member of the armed forces.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is taking decisive action to end Veteran homelessness. All Veterans at risk for homelessness or attempting to exit homelessness must have easy access to programs and services. About one-third of the adult homeless population has served in the Armed Services. Many others are considered near homeless or at risk because of poverty, inadequate support from family and friends, and dismal living conditions.

Your continuing support of our work at Cornerstone can help us bring hope and healing to Faye and other individuals like her who have given so much to our country. Thank you.

Made with Care



Installation Process

The Rapid City Westside Kiwanis Club recently called offering to help with a project at the Cornerstone Women and Children's Home. We had several needs but after a quick tour of the home the Kiwanis Club decided to take on the project of building a rack or cabinet to hold the large number of baby strollers. What a blessing to have their organization build a cabinet to specifications just for the Cornerstone Women and Children's Home.

Darlene Davignon of Darlene's Kitchen Gallery did the design work for the stroller rack/cabinet. Her husband Ivan is a master cabinet maker and Darlene is the designer, a past President and member of Westside Kiwanis. Darlene came by to see what was needed and came up with the design. The Davignon's donated the materials for the project.

Kiwanis President Dan Kuecker said "the entire club enthusiastically supported this effort." Some of the key project members were Ivan Davignon, primary builder, Craig Nicholson, builder/installer, and Bill McBride who also helped build. Dan explained that Kiwanis International is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. Kiwanis is almost 100 years old and has clubs in over 80 countries worldwide. "Given our focus is on helping kids of the community, this was a perfect opportunity for us. Thanks for partnering with us and allowing us to contribute in this small way to your critical mission at the Women and Children's shelter" said Dan Kuecker. A big "Thank You" from Cornerstone as we are so grateful to all of the Rapid City Westside Kiwanis members. This is just one of the many ways our community continues to show support for the mission.



Before all the strollers were put in!

Cornerstone Job Opportunities:

Cornerstone Thrift Store - Dock Worker/Driver/Baler – Full Time Position

Cornerstone Administration - Facilities Manager, Policy/Procedure & Grant Writer

Download an application @ website: Cornerstonemission.org

Needs List

MEN'S MISSION

Tomato Sauce/Tomato Soup
Spaghetti Sauce
Coffee, creamer, sugar
Drink mixes, any kind
Cheeses – any kind
Canned Fruit
Egg noodles & macaroni noodles
(No spaghetti noodles-thanks!)

VETERANS

Phone cards, gas cards, bus passes
Shoes & boots, sizes 10-13
Flannel shirts & Hoodies, all sizes

APARTMENTS

Bulk Laundry & Dish Soap
Kitchen and large black trash bags
Shower curtains, rods, & rings
Quart size Ziploc bags
Diapers, sizes 4, 5, 6 & pull-ups
Gas cards, Bus passes

DEAR ONES CHILD CARE

Dish Soap (both kinds)
Ear thermometer,
with sanitary covers
Sippy Cups & Large bibs
Paper plates, storage bags
Utensils (Teflon)

Baby bottles with nipples

Powdered Soy Formula
Diapers sizes 4,5,6 & baby wipes

WOMEN &

CHILDREN'S HOME

Baby wash, wipes, diaper cream
Pill Cutter, Digital Thermometer
Q-tips
Coffee, butter, sugar
Meat, Milk, Eggs
Cleaning supplies
(Comet, bleach, windex)
60, 75 watt energy light bulbs