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The Heartbeat of The Mission

October 2011

Tuffy



Tuffy with Byron In The Woods, a Veterans Program participant.

Tuffy, a 9-year-old collie/border collie mix was an incredibly overweight (150 lb.) stray dog that could barely walk or move. Due to his heaviness he was almost put down, but he went into foster care and lost 60 pounds and was eventually adopted by one our staff in Cornerstone's Veterans Program. He has a very sweet and sensitive spirit and has become a part of our Mission family. He comes down to the Mission occasionally and is very friendly with the staff and residents who regularly request his presence. Guests who rarely speak open up and reminisce about their childhood pets and men who struggle with anger issues have gotten down on their knees to hug and show affection with the gentleness of a child. He goes on walks with some of the residents. Tuffy eagerly allows this interchange of unconditional love. Because of his service and personality, he was made the official mascot of the Humane Society of the Black Hills.

At the Cornerstone Apartments, we have had numerous requests for service/companion animals since the apartments have become permanent supportive housing. We currently have tenants with companion animals on the property. Seeing the help that these trained animals can give to someone with a disability is something to behold.

We have discovered a need in the process of honoring the requests for these service animals. We desperately need an exclusive fenced-in pet area. The dogs could then get a chance for a little exercise in a place dedicated just for them. These animals provide companionship, therapy, and security for the individuals. Providing care for their companion animals will enhance both the owner and the animal's quality of life.

If you would like further information and/or a tour of our complex, please contact Eric Lowe, program manager, via email at <u>elowe@cornerstonemission.org</u> or by phone at 605-721-9497 or 605-858-0002.

Watching Tuffy and the other service animals interact with the guests giving unconditionally reminds us we need to do the same thing, because that is what Jesus would do. His unconditional love is an example to us.

Second Annual Homeless But Not Hopeless Golf Tournament a Success

Approximately 80 golfers turned out for the second annual Homeless but not Hopeless Golf Tournament held June 23, at the Elk's Golf Course. MG Oil Co., Inc. and The Corner Pantry sponsored the event, which raised \$10,289.44. The day began with a shot-gun start at 11 a.m. under beautiful sunny skies. A barbeque followed and an online silent auction brought additional funds to Cornerstone.

We are so grateful to MG Oil Co. Inc., and to the following sponsors:

A&W (Deadwood Ave)

AL Cornella Refrigeration Service

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Aramark Uniforms

Arrowhead Golf & Country

Bear Country

Black Hills Harley Davidson Brad Heid w. Rushmore Radio

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Reptile Gardens

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Shangri La Boutique, & Hair Salon,

Jamie Walker Sheehan Mack Sales

Silverado Sinclair Signs Now

Someone's in the Kitchen

Soundpro Stamper Gold

Swisher International

Subway, Sheridan Lake Rd. Speedy mart Liquor

Thrash Tattoo

Upper Deck Architects Western Dakota Insurance Watiki/Hotel Alex Johnson

Wild Idea Tattoo

Wyoming Refining Company



Some of the participants in the second Annual Homeless But Not Helpless Tournament.



Cornerstone Executive Director Jim Castleberry happily accepting a really big check from Dave Kulish, general manager, and Tammy Young, executive assistant, M.G. Oil Company.

Cornerstone Gets a Cleanup and Facelift Thanks to United Way's Day of Caring Volunteers



United Way volunteers clean the hillside of the Cornerstone Apartment Complex

On Thursday, September 1, about 50 volunteers from various organizations working for the United Way of the Black Hills Day of Caring provided some needed and very appreciated sprucing up of Cornerstone facilities in addition to spending some quality time with some of our youngest clientele.

Seventy-eight teams totaling 968 volunteers spent the afternoon working on 100 projects in and around Rapid City. Wearing matching blue T-shirts, volunteers from numerous businesses and organizations stepped up to help nonprofit organizations including Cornerstone. Volunteers from Ellsworth Air Force Base accounted for 453 of the 968 volunteers.

The Cornerstone Apartments carpets were cleaned, the hillside was weeded, and many of the residents were pleased and commented on the improvements that the volunteers brought to their home. A wonderful "Thank You" goes out to the volunteers from JC Penney and Ketel Thorstenson LLP for the work done to beautify the Cornerstone Apartments.

The Women and Children's Home volunteer team painted and stained the decks and did some minor repairs and painting on the garage of the home. Thank you to the Rushmore Mall Team.

The group volunteering at Dear Ones Child Care played ball outside with the kids, read books, and finger painted a beautiful picture featured in the photo. The volunteers were from the Authentic Youth Civic Engagement group. At the Thrift Store the volunteers helped with a special moving project, sorted clothing and helped with other projects so thanks to the 28th Communications Squadron from Ellsworth Air Force Base.





United Way volunteers played with the kids...and fingerpainted!

2011 Cornerstone Board of Directors

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United Way's Day of Caring Volunteers...continued



United Way volunteers stain deck at the Women and Children's Home

Cornerstone Rescue Mission is so very grateful for all the help provided by these wonderful volunteers. Rosellen Reese, office manager for United Way of the Black Hills, said the day would not be possible without all of the volunteers from various companies throughout the area. This is the 13th year that the United Way has had its Day of Caring. The

first one, in September 1999, involved 175 volunteers who worked on 20 projects. "We've come a long away from our first Day of Caring," she said.

Reese added that people want to give back to the community, not just financially but also by helping those who are less fortunate and in need of help. Several of the volunteers have already said they would continue to volunteer at Cornerstone after their experience. We need volunteers so we win twice!

Needs List

MEN'S MISSION

Coffee, creamer
Drink mixes, any kind
Sugar
Cheeses – any kind
Noodles (any egg noodles,
not spaghetti)
Bulk breakfast sausages
Canned fruit
Spaghetti sauce

VETERANS

Phone cards, Bus passes

APARTMENTS

Bikes/bike rack
Bulk laundry & dish soap
Paper towels, napkins, tissue,
toilet paper
Shower curtains, rods, & rings
Gas cards, Bus passes

CHAPEL

CD player, Microphone

DEAR ONES CHILD CARE

White paper towels Dish soap (both kinds) Juicer, Bread maker

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME

Shampoo/conditioner
Baby wash, wipes, diaper cream
Coffee, creamer, sugar
Kitchen garbage bags, 13 gal.
Stationary, envelopes, stamps
Fruits/vegetables
Cleaning supplies
(Comet, bleach, Windex)
Smokers Outpost

THRIFT STORE

Hand sanitizers (no water needed kind)

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!)