

30 Main St.
PO Box 2188
Rapid City, SD 57709
605-341-2844
Fax: 605-718-2332
csrm@cornerstonemission.org

August 2019

PRAYERFUL CHANGES

For the past several years you may have read articles in the newspaper or seen me on various television channels discussing the vast overcrowding at Cornerstone Rescue Mission and the numerous people sleeping on the floor. While we love serving the homeless, the numbers have become too large for one agency to handle. After thoughtful prayer and discussion, we have decided to make some permanent, year-round changes for the overall safety and security of our guests and staff. On the coldest nights we have had all 58 beds full and up to 75 people sleeping on the floor, leaving a staff ratio of one staff to 133 guests – not safe for anyone.

It has always been our policy for guests to find employment within 30 days; and with employment opportunities all around town, that is possible for anyone motivated to work. We will be keeping that policy and continue assisting our guests to find gainful employment. We will also allow them to stay for another 60 days to save up money while we assist them with budgeting, case management and housing search and deposit assistance. Ninety days will be the maximum stay and our guests feel that this is an appropriate amount of time for them to get back on their feet. When our beds are full, the Mission will be considered full and people can be placed on a waiting list, which is common for missions around the country. Our soup kitchen will continue to operate as usual so guests on the waiting list can check on their status if they come in for meals. We have asked agencies who send people to the Mission to find alternative housing for them

via friends, family, or their own housing assistance programs, etc. Our hope is that limiting the stay to 90 days or less will allow us to care for more guests in the long-term as we can cycle more people through our program.

The women and children who have been sleeping on the basement floor of the men's mission have moved to our recently expanded Women & Children's Home where they can live in an environment more conducive to rest and healing. They also must find employment within 30 days and we have day care on site and transportation and appropriate interview clothing to help them with their job search. They will also have assistance with budgeting, case management, housing search and deposit assistance. When the Women & Children's Home is full, we will also have a waiting list for them.

Be assured that we love serving the homeless and will continue to do so. We will continue to fight for them. This has been a difficult decision for our board to make, yet our main responsibility is for safety of the guests inside our four walls, and we cannot handle these vast numbers anymore. Homelessness is a community issue, and we are asking the community for help in caring for the homeless in Rapid City. We cannot do this alone. We will continue to have discussions with community stakeholders. Please keep the homeless and the Mission in your prayers.



A Heavy Burden Lifted

Lifting a heavy burden that's what Black Hills Community Bank, and everyone who donates to their annual Diaper Drive does for the women at the Women & Children's Home. They lift the heavy burden of having to buy diapers. Did you know that the average child goes through 6,000 to 7,000 diapers? I found that number quite daunting! Now image how daunting that number is when you are homeless and have little or no income!



Lysa, Mark & our friends from BH Community Bank who rode up in style in the bank's fire truck!



Lysa checks out the cool items on the silent auction table.

That's where our friends at Black Hills Community Bank come in. Every June they do a Diaper Drive and collect thousands of diapers and monetary donations to be used for diapers and other baby related items. This year they did this by collecting donations from their customers, having a silent auction in the bank lobby, putting on weekly bake sales, events at Blaze Pizza and Pizza Ranch, and other activities. 2019 was the 9th year for the Diaper Drive and they collected diapers and cash equaling 45,000+ diapers! They even brought the bank's fire truck for the children to enjoy!



Some of our kids enjoying the fire truck.

We send a hearty Thank-You to Black Hills Community Bank, the staff for all their hard work, the customers who donated, the silent auction donors, and the restaurants who participated! Together you truly lifted a heavy burden for the women at the Women & Children's Home!

Women & Children's Home Expansion

~ Open House ~

August 15th - Noon to 3:00

Please join us for tours & refreshments

Fountain Springs Shares the LOVE

It is such a joy when Love Week rolls around each year! Our friends at Fountain Springs Church always reach out to Cornerstone to ask how they can bless us. This year they painted decks and planted flowers at the Women & Children's



Tina Lynch brought in the cute employee gift bags.

Home. They came back multiple times to dodge the never-ending rain and even provided the flowers. They also made little gift bags for each Cornerstone employee. Our employees are a hard-working bunch and it brightened their day to be honored by Fountain Springs in this way. Fountain Springs is an old friend to Cornerstone. They have shared their love with us in many ways over the years and we certainly appreciate our dear friends at Fountain Springs!



Love Week workers planted flowers at the Women & Children's Home.



And painted the decks.



Stephanie works with Delilah & Molly Thunder Chief.

A Fun Class

Stephanie Vento and the Cornerstone Apartment residents cooked up a storm! Stephanie is the new SDSU Extension Nutrition Assistant for Pennington

County. She brought a series of great classes to the apartment residents that focused on making healthy food choices, reading food labels, budgeting food dollars wisely, planning meals and grocery lists, and food safety and storage. These classes were geared towards

individuals on a limited budget or economic assistance. She brought all the supplies and made a dish each week that everyone could sample. The participants even got free items such as measuring cups, cutting boards, etc. Maryann, program manager, said the residents had a great time. We thank Stephanie for bringing in this informative and fun class!



Glenda Schut from The Village retirement community brought over a \$300 donation from their church service offerings. How sweet of them to think of Cornerstone!

7th Annual CORNERSTONE RESCUE MISSION 5K RUN/WALK

SATURDAY SEPT. 21, 2019

REGISTRATION - 8AM
RACE STARTS - 9AM

Starting at **FOUNDERS PARK**

Pre Registration - \$20 | Race Day - \$25

Kids (0-12) - Free | Youth T-shirt - \$10

Register by 9-3-19 to guarantee a T-shirt.

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

For more information contact Deb at
605-718-8712 or dberg@cornerstonemission.org

Mail registration for to:
PO Box 2188 Rapid City SD 57709

Name: _____ T-Shirt Size: Mens: M L XL 2XL Womens: 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 provisions.

Sign: _____ Date: _____

2019 CORNERSTONE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Mark Harlow, President
Regional Health

Dr. Josh Biberdorf, Vice President
Mountain View Chiropractic

Dick McConnell, Secretary

Lysa Allison, Executive Director

Tammy Ackerman, EXIT Realty

Greg Barnier, Attorney at Law

Fred Erdman,
Pennington County Sheriff's Office

Dr. Steve Giuseffi, Black Hills
Orthopedic & Spine Center

Esther Newbrough,
Black Hills Corp.

James Rattling Leaf, Sr. Consultant

Kevin Thom, Pennington County Sheriff

Sam Fischer, Financial Analyst
(Board Liaison, non-voting)

<h2>Needs List</h2>	<h3>MEN'S MISSION</h3> <p>30 Main St. KITCHEN: Fruits and vegetables Eggs, Milk, Coffee, Sugar, Oatmeal, Pancake mix Cream of Mushroom or Chicken soup all kinds of meat</p> <p>MISSION: Foot powder Towels, twin-sized blankets Twin-sized sheets Cold weather outerwear Reading glasses Bottled water for sack lunches Personal hygiene items for men & women Backpacks</p>	<h3>CORNERSTONE THRIFT STORE</h3> <p>401 - 11th Street Beds, household furniture, household appliances, kitchen items, home décor</p> <p>WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME 301 Fox Run Drive Coffee, Eggs Milk, Cereal Sandwich bread Butter, Sugar Laundry/dish soap, baby wash/baby lotion Kleenex, Clorox wipes and Personal hygiene items</p>	<h3>VETERANS</h3> <p>30 Main St. Shoes & boots, thermal underwear, sugar/creamer, antiperspirant, lotion, backpacks, coffee</p> <p>APARTMENTS 1220 East Blvd. Dish soap household cleaners</p> <p>ADOPT A FAMILY: Gas cards, oil changes, laundry & dish soap, toilet paper, household things</p>
---------------------	--	--	---

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!)