

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

July 2017

## APPRECIATION TO ALL

The four seasons of the year are always a time marked by transition and we have a transition at Cornerstone as well. We have operated Dear One's Day Care at a separate location for five years and we have made the decision to close our day care and incorporate it into our Women and Children's Home. The decision was made through much prayer and we will miss our little day care with its phenomenal back yard full of playful children. Part of the reason was financial as we want to be great stewards of the money donors provide. We will be transitioning to the Women and Children's Home and providing day care and hands on educational activities for children and their mothers so they can learn to be better parents. While we will miss Dear One's Day Care at its old location, we feel we can better meet the needs of the families in our care with this transition.



*Appreciation Banquet at Terra Sancta*



We held our Volunteer Appreciation Banquet at beautiful Terra Sancta towards the end of May and so appreciate all of you who came. For those who could not come, please accept our thanks for all you do to keep Cornerstone up and running. Our guest speaker was Abbie Thrash, a longtime volunteer at our Thrift Store. We have over 700 volunteers who operate in several capacities - lawn care, construction, painting, cooking and serving meals, day care, assisting in the Thrift Store - you name it! Our theme this year was "Volunteers are the LIGHT of Cornerstone" - and indeed

you are. Thank you for sharing your light with our guests, our staff and all our Mission programs. God is certainly pleased by your efforts and we are so grateful to receive from your gifts and talents.

May God's love shine on you and your family,

Lysa

# FRANCIS' STORY



The Rapid City Journal ran an awesome story written by Tom Griffith, with picture by Chris Huber, and we just wanted to share this story with our Cornerstone family...

Francis Kaufman still remembers that fateful day last December when he was released from the Pennington County Jail after serving five months on drug-related charges.

It was 12 degrees outside and Kaufman, a 37-year-old Navy veteran, was clad in the same apparel he had been arrested in last summer – a T-shirt, shorts and sandals.

“It was freezing, I was homeless and I was lost,” said Kaufman, who once sailed the world as an electronics technician aboard the USS John C. Stennis, an aircraft carrier so large it has its own traveling ZIP code.

But fate, a newfound friend whose name he still doesn’t know, and a local homeless shelter intervened and now, the 6-foot-1, married father of three is gainfully employed and settled into a rental home on Rapid City’s south side with his family. His story of service and subsequent solitude is not new in South Dakota, which is seeing a rising number of homeless veterans across the state.

As Kaufman walked down St. Joseph Street that wintry day six months past, he wondered what to do and where to go. Sensing his uneasiness, another homeless man offered to buy Kaufman lunch at Hardee’s. Though Kaufman never learned his name, the man suggested Kaufman head over to the Cornerstone Rescue Mission, which had provided him with a coat and gloves.

“This was some guy I didn’t even know,” the Pierre native and Stevens High School graduate said with a shake of his head. Following the welcome lunch, Kaufman heeded the man’s advice and walked to the Cornerstone Mission, where

he not only found a warm bed, food, clothes and comfort, but compassion and the resources he needed to move forward as well.

“I was feeling lost and alone,” Kaufman said. “That was the most difficult thing. But the people at the mission made me feel that I belonged, and that I wasn’t alone anymore.”

Kaufman’s story is not unusual, according to Teena Conrad, the Cornerstone Mission’s coordinator for the Supportive Services for Veterans Families program. On average, the Cornerstone shelters 20-30 homeless veterans among its 120 guests every night of the year and provides them with everyday necessities ranging from clothes, coffee and creamer, to personal hygiene products, three square meals a day, and a sympathetic ear trained to listen to their troubles.

“It doesn’t take much when you have nothing,” said Conrad. “These vets have been out on the street, living in their vehicles, staying with friends and family, or coming out of jail, so they have nothing. Our ultimate goal is to house them, get them off the streets and transition them to permanent housing.”

“We’ve been very successful, and we worked with 280 veterans’ families last year alone,” said Conrad. “Many are like Francis. Our case managers help them with budgeting, finding work and understanding what available resources exist.”

That hand up may be more needed than ever before. While a recent one-day count of homeless persons scattered across South Dakota showed an overall decrease of 19 percent, the number of homeless veterans had soared by 23 percent in the state.

Cornerstone would like to thank those that support our homeless veterans!

# BMS RECOGNIZES DEAR ONE'S DAY CARE

The thoughtful Full Circle staff of Behavior Management Systems stopped by the Dear Ones day care and presented the staff with a Community Service Award for all their service to the parents and children of Full Circle. It was an awesome surprise and we thank them for their thoughtfulness!



## FRIENDS OF CORNERSTONE



*Church of Resurrection Inspiration Singers from Kansas sang for our guests*



*Wellspring Youth Group from Colorado lending a helping hand at the Thrift Store*



*Pastor Frederick Johnson & Rollin Sieveke from VFW Black Hills Post 5969 out of Deadwood drop off a check to benefit our Veterans.*



*UCC Youth Group from Mobridge getting ready to work in the Thrift Store*



# 5th Annual CORNERSTONE RESCUE MISSION 5K RUN/WALK



*Run for the  
Homeless*

**SATURDAY AUG. 26, 2017**

**REGISTRATION - 8AM  
RACE STARTS - 9AM**

**SIoux PARK, RAPID CITY**  
*By the sundial and soccer fields*

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

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

Register by 8-14-17 to guarantee a T-shirt.

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

For mor 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Needs List

<p><b>MEN'S MISSION</b> <i>30 Main St.</i> <b>KITCHEN:</b> Fruits and vegetables Eggs, Milk, Coffee, Sugar Oatmeal Cream of Mushroom or Chicken soup <b>MISSION:</b> Towels, Blankets Twin-sized sheets Cold weather outerwear Reading glasses</p>	<p><b>WOMEN &amp; CHILDREN'S HOME</b> <i>301 Fox Run Drive</i> Coffee, Eggs Milk, Cereal Sandwich bread Butter Laundry/dish soap</p>	<p><b>APARTMENTS</b> <i>1220 East Blvd.</i> Dish soap household cleaners</p> <p><b>ADOPT A FAMILY:</b> Gas cards, oil changes, laundry &amp; dish soap, toilet paper, household things</p>
<p><b>VETERANS</b> <i>30 Main St.</i> Shaving cream &amp; razors, shoes &amp; boots, backpacks, underwear &amp; ,T-shirts, coffee</p>	<p><b>DEAR ONES CHILD CARE</b> <i>2901 Wisconsin Avenue</i> Baby wipes &amp; pull-ups Food processor Canned or fresh fruits &amp; vegetables Infant swing Infant bouncer Hand or electric Small microwave</p>	<p><b>CORNERSTONE THRIFT STORE</b> <i>401 - 11th Street</i> Beds, household furniture, household appliances, kitchen items, home décor</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!)