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July 2020

★★★ *Happy* ★★★ **FOURTH** *of* **JULY**

Even with the COVID-19 pandemic, Cornerstone continues to see many successes. God has shown so much grace to our Mission, our guests and our staff – I can't even begin to count our numerous blessings. We've had so many donations of food, clothing, masks, cleaning products, shoes, bedding, etc. – and are so very grateful for the generosity of this community.

Even though we have reduced our numbers due to social distancing and safe health practices, we are still able to find housing for folks. Friends, family, and relatives continue to open doors for our homeless folks, and we have been able to reunite families, which leaves a warm feeling in everyone's heart. Some of our guests have been impacted by job losses, but we have kept them busy at the shelter, or they have found other employment. We have continued to move some out into their own housing or are still working with them to move in that direction once they have a more secure income.

Seeing the happy faces of our guests when they get employed and then the key to their own home is so gratifying in many ways.

We will continue to monitor the health of our guests and staff and follow all the protocols involved with social distancing. We will continue to assist the most vulnerable in our community in any way we can.

We are feeding our residents three meals a day. Even though our soup kitchen is temporarily closed to practice social distancing, we have been handing out sack meals for those seeking food to ensure no one goes hungry. And we do it all because of your compassion!

Thank you for your generosity. Pray for our country, salute the flag and enjoy the freedom so many have fought for us to have. Happy 4th of July and God bless you!

Peace, Lysa



Nelson Jackson

A Case Management Success Story

This article was written by Joe Carpenter, with the permission of Nelson Jackson. Joe is a compassionate case manager at the Men's Mission at 30 Main Street. He has been with Cornerstone for many years and we certainly appreciate the care he shows our guests!

"Nelson came to us on 3/20/2020 from Nevada with just \$34 in his pocket and a small bag of belongings. He was born in Drill, Virginia, in a small cabin on the Appalachian Trail in 1947. His birth record was handwritten in a small space at the bottom of a page in a Bible. His family relocated to a town in Ohio where he attended and graduated from high school. The house in Ohio succumbed to fire and the Bible was lost. He set off to tackle the world. He has spent most of his life in the west and did odd jobs and stayed with friends. Unable to get proper identification, and without a birth certificate, it was difficult for him to retain long-term employment and housing.

After arriving in Deadwood and failing to locate friends, he came to Cornerstone. Nelson met with staff and was issued a voucher for clothing and a couple of Wal-Mart gift cards for essentials. With limited resources due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were still able to obtain the necessary contacts to set him up with his Social Security retirement benefits. His benefits were activated to six months prior and he now receives a monthly benefit. We were also able to get him an identification card and set him up with a bank account and a cell phone. At 72 years old, Nelson will finally be moving into his OWN apartment!"

WOW - What a story! Thanks Joe for everything you did for Nelson. Your problem-solving and compassion were truly life-changing for this gentleman!





Penny Lingenfelter, Renee Elkins, Abbie & Doug Thrash

Renee Elkins

A Cornerstone Gem

We have many, many wonderful volunteers at Cornerstone and each year we like to honor one with the Abbie & Doug Thrash Spirit of Volunteerism Award. Abbie and Doug are a wife and husband team who volunteer many hours in our Cornerstone Thrift Store.

This year Renee Elkins, and her husband Richard, were selected to

receive this award. Renee volunteers many hours in the Thrift Store and also takes boxes of items to work on at home. She goes through boxes of donated items, cleans them up, and puts them out on the sales floor. She also works at keeping the shelves organized and tidy. Her specialty is working with the kitchen and home decor items that come into the store. On many occasions Richard pitches in to help her.

When asked about her thoughts on volunteering with Cornerstone she replied: **"I like working with all the people here and I find it very fulfilling. I am just doing what Jesus wants us to do - giving back. We were put on the Earth to help each other out."**

Well said Renee and Thank You for all you do! We certainly appreciate and thank all the "Gems" that volunteer at Cornerstone!

Kathy Sigle

Heart of an Artist

Kathy Sigle, an artist from Spearfish, did an online auction of one of her small originals for 5 weeks in a row. Each week was a different painting and the proceeds went to local groups that help people in need. Cornerstone was lucky enough to be one of those groups. The awesome bird painting she auctioned for us netted \$275!



Thanks Kathy for sharing your amazing talents to help Cornerstone!



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CORNERSTONE
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J.D. Rodriguez, Bruce Rampelberg, Richard Wahlstrom & Martha Rodriguez from the Rapid City Noon Rotary Club brought a check for \$2,500 to the Women & Children's Home. What a generous gift from our friends at the Rotary!

Happy
INDEPENDENCE DAY

Needs List:

MEN'S MISSION
30 Main St.

KITCHEN

Fruits and vegetables, eggs, milk, coffee, sugar, oatmeal, pancake mix
Cream of mushroom or chicken soup all kinds of meat.

MISSION:

Foot powder, towels, twin-sized blankets, twin-sized sheets, reading glasses, bottled water for sack lunches, personal hygiene items for men & women, backpacks.

CORNERSTONE THRIFT STORE
401 - 11th Street

Beds, furniture and appliances, kitchen items, home décor.

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME

301 Fox Run Drive

Coffee, eggs, milk, cereal, sandwich bread, butter, sugar, laundry soap, dish soap, baby wash, baby lotion, kleenex, clorox wipes and personal hygiene items.

VETERANS - 30 Main St.

Shoes, boots, sugar, creamer, antiperspirant, lotion, backpacks, coffee.

APARTMENTS
1220 East Blvd.

Dish soap household cleaners, toilet paper and laundry soap

ADOPT A FAMILY

Gas cards, oil changes, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, household items.

Thank You!!

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!)