

A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD

HOPE

Hope is a word we hear a lot these days. It is common thread to those who live in our facilities at the Montana Rescue Mission. No one really wants to remain here indefinitely. They “hope” their stay will be short and their lives will get back on track. In difficult times such as these, “hope” is something to cling to when everything else seems to have failed. Without hope, why go on? There is only so much a person can endure, but with hope they are able to go on.

The ministries you support at the Montana Rescue Mission allow hope to survive and to flourish. Giving hope to others also gives us all hope that there is a better tomorrow. Adam’s letter in this issue of the *MRM News* is a perfect example. Unfortunately for those who dwell with us at the Women’s and Family Shelter or the Men’s Shelter there are no government “bailouts” or “rescues”. They rely solely upon the generosity of our donors, who provide them with the “hope” and the means to pull their lives back together. Without you, hope would be hard to grasp. We are all in this together! Thanks for your ongoing support.

God Bless,
Perry Roberts
President of the Board of Directors

REMEMBER THE GENTLEMAN’S LETTER FEATURED IN OUR FEBRUARY MAILING?

Well, he wrote back to the Montana Rescue Mission and said “Here is a little better donation to help buy food and essentials...God gave me a recent blessing again... However, I don’t feel that its adequate to repay the help I received from the Mission. Thanks for printing my letter, it sure gave me

a good feeling that someone would find hope for a future in bleak times. Please take care of the beat down homeless as they didn’t ask to be there on purpose! Being hungry, sick, homeless and without hope stinks and is quite frankly **dangerous!** Out there on the streets are those other kind that go over the edge and resort to violence against homeless innocent who are too desperate. It’s scary and I’ve walked that crooked mile too many times to turn a blind eye.”

*Train a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old he will not turn from it.*

Proverbs 22:6

MONTANA RESCUE MISSION

P.O. Box 3232
Billings, Montana 59103-3232
406-259-3800

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

VIEW OUR ANNUAL REPORT
ONLINE

www.MontanaRescueMission.org



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P.O. Box 3232, Billings, MT 59103-3232

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

HOST A SUNDAY MEAL!

Are you or a group of friends looking for a way to get actively involved in the Montana Rescue Mission ministries? Get together with friends and cook up a meal for the Men’s Shelter and Women’s and Family Shelter. Have your friends each cook a big pot of chili or a casserole and toss a salad and bake a pan of brownies. It only takes about 15 to 20 of your friends and family to put together a meal to serve 250 to 300 guests. Pick a day, plan a meal and feed the homeless.

PUT A SHINE ON IT!

Another great need for volunteers is to wax and buff our Men’s mission dining room.

Call Patti at 294-7930 for more information. God bless!



MRM News

MONTANA RESCUE MISSION

SPRING 2009

www.MontanaRescueMission.org

RESTORING HOPE

Picture the perfect family living in a nice house with a beautiful yard, three kids happily playing outside. Audrey, Michael and their three kids, Dylan, Ayden and Alyssa had a nice house with a beautiful yard until last November, when everything fell apart. Michael had a good job, but was working 12-14 hour shifts, so he was not home a lot.

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RESTORING HOPE

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Audrey was working eleven hour shifts at her job, so she decided to quit her job to stay at home and spend more time with their children. Then Michael got laid off in November. He had a hard time finding work so he could not afford to pay the rent. The family had no choice but to move, but they wanted some time to get things ready to move. Audrey had found work at a hotel, but when she asked for time off at her new job to move, she was let go. Then, a week before they moved, the transmission went out in their car. Audrey and Michael did find a small car, so they were able to get back and forth to work.

Michael and Audrey and their family moved into the Women's and Family Shelter in time for Christmas. Audrey says that "it was sad that they lost their home and had to live in a shelter, but everyone at the WFS has been awesome." The staff made Christmas for

the children seem as close to being at home and that helped make the move easier. She says that "the staff is great and they look out for you."

Audrey now has two jobs, one fulltime and one part-time. Mike has been looking for full-time work as a cook, but has been having a hard time finding work. They are hoping that he will be put back on his previous job in April. The family is saving money and looking for a house to rent that has a yard. It is a juggle because while Audrey is working, Mike is looking for work on opposite hours, so one parent is available to take care of the kids. Audrey's sister helps out by babysitting at her hotel room during the times when neither parent can be home. Audrey is very pleased with the helpful classes offered at the WFS and they will miss the staff and people living at the WFS when their family finds a home again soon.

CARE AND COMPASSION

Juanita lives at the Women's and Family Shelter with her daughter, Celeste. Her son recently got married and now he, his wife and baby are staying at the WFS too. Juanita and her daughter lived in their own home until three years ago, but then she had to move out of her home. She stayed here and there, until April of last year, when a friend offered to rent her house to Juanita and her daughter. Her friend moved back into the house in November and the living situation was not good, so Juanita and Celeste had to leave again. They stayed with friends for a short time, but there were eleven people in a two bedroom apartment, so they came to WFS in December. Everyone has been so supportive at WFS. Juanita says that "Lana (WFS Manager) doesn't treat them like trash" the staff knows that Juanita is trying to get back on her feet

Juanita is working full time and has applied for Section 8 and has received

a voucher so she is looking for a place to rent for her and her Celeste, who is in junior high. She attends classes offered by WFS staff and volunteers when she is not at work and really learns a lot from the classes. Celeste gets bored at times as most teens do, but she and her mom say that they feel very safe at the WFS, the staff is always nice to them. Heather from the REACHOUT program creates fun things to do with the kids- like having slumber parties. Celeste also enjoys the knitting classes and the arts and crafts classes offered by volunteers. She says that "the tutors are great and the volunteers are great too."

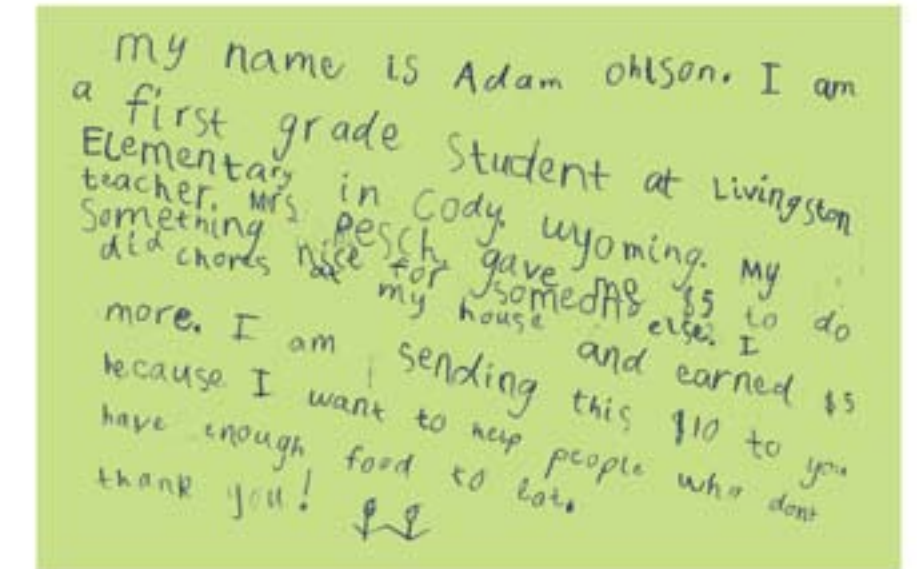
Juanita says that "she feels God's presence at work at the Women's and Family Shelter and that God is the only one who can help them."

"I feel God's presence at work at the Women's and Family Shelter. God is the only one who can help us." - JUANITA



ACT OF KINDNESS – MAKES A DIFFERENCE

This letter and donation were sent by a little boy in Cody, Wyoming. His first grade teacher, Sharon Resch came up with the idea for "The Act of Kindness" project. She received a generous gift of money and passed \$5 on to each of her students asking them to do an Act of Kindness for someone else. She said "the projects that my students did just warmed my heart so much and I know the students have touched so many lives. All 17 of my students participated." **I hope this project will make everyone's heart feel good.**



MINISTRY NEEDS FOR SPRING

MEN'S SHELTER

Toothbrushes and toothpaste
Deodorant
Shaving cream
Razors
Shampoo, industrial bottles
Body wash
Good towels
Twin size sheets
New pillows
Scrubs, size L-XXL, 100 pairs

RECOVERY AND RENEWAL PROGRAM

We are looking for an enclosed utility trailer approximately 5x8' to 6x10'. Part of our vision for the men is to do service projects in the community. We can carry and safely store tools in a trailer.

WOMEN'S AND FAMILY SHELTER

Items for Easter Dinner
Ham
Canned fruit cocktail
Canned peaches
Olives
Juice
Fruit
Spoons, forks*
Towels, washcloths*
Individuals and/or groups to refurbish rooms

* Used are okay
** Sliced or unsliced

MEN'S SHELTER KITCHEN

Commercial bakery carts, vinyl covers & full size plastic sheet pans
Ground beef
Roast beef
Bacon or sausage
Deli meat**
Cheese**
Napkins
Plastic spoons
Paper bags #12
Zip-lock sandwich bags
Beans and rice
Sugar
Canned tuna
Latex food handler's gloves, 100-150 per box, size large
Plastic wrap and aluminum foil, 18" rolls
Coffee, not decaf

He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young, Isaiah 40:11