



CENTER OF HOPE

October 2019

Center of Hope Newsletter

Sowing Seeds of God's Love...Physically and Spiritually

Learning to Ask for Help - Brett Rockvam

As most of you have heard Sioux Falls had a tornado on September 10th, 2019. The storm brought damage to many homes. I am thankful for the fact that no one was seriously injured or died. For myself we sustained tree damage. More than the average household, but for sure not the worst.

I was struggling with several issues during that time. Needing to be at work, but also needing to clean up my yard. On top of that my old truck had lost the ability to go into Park, two weeks before. I was in the process of figuring out through online resources how to fix the problem when the storm hit. Now I have a yard full of debris and the truck limping along.

While I was working on my truck, my neighbor approached. A church group had shown up wondering if we wanted help. I am not going to say no to a blessing as God provides, but for some reason I hesitated. In one evening with help I was able to get all the debris cut and into piles that needed to be hauled away. What a blessing. In the same period of time many others asked if I needed help. I was perplexed by my response, again because I was hesitant. What is that about? Do I feel undeserving of the help? Is it the old adage "Pull yourself up by your



Cleaning up after the storm

bootstrap?" Pride? Feeling not worthy because I had to ask for help? Did I think people would judge me? The problem was with me. I need to be strong enough to accept help in certain times of special need.

I am reminded that many of our guests do not have the support of community. Because of addictions, emotional trauma, or mental illness, people have lost connection with support from families or friends. The Center of Hope tries to fill that support gap. We do the best that we can to encourage people to keep going. We try to be a friendly face to lift them up. Our hope is to be a

place to engage the Church to walk alongside people.

As I learned with my clean up experience, sometimes we just need to ask for help. So, I am now doing that. We need your help. Financial giving to support operations is down this year. We currently are \$20,000 behind giving from last year. This is split between church and individual giving.

With the move coming up we have many opportunities to impact people's lives. With new programs that we are trying to develop and the move our expenses will go up. This move was not in our plans for the immediate future, but the

Sioux Falls Ministry Center had an opportunity to make a bigger impact in the community. It will put all of the ministries involved in a position of strength for the future. We anticipate this will increase our ability to help those in need.

Please consider a gift to the Center of Hope. This ministry has been a blessing to so many people. I especially have enjoyed working here as it challenges me everyday to grow in Christ, and learn to depend on Him. With your support, my prayer is that as our guests hear about Jesus Christ they will grow to depend on Him.

It's Just Around the Corner

It... is the **Fall Benefit on Saturday, November 9 at 5:30 p.m. at Sioux Falls Christian School!** The night will be full of fun, fellowship and funding the ministry of the Center of Hope. We want to thank you for all the support you already show for the Center and this evening is a time to celebrate the good things that God has done through your support. The night will feature a testimony by Jennifer, of how God used the simple act of one of our staff buying a hamburger to connect her to the Center of Hope and the blessing that connection has been to her.



As always there will be great items on our silent auction. We have a unique pair of Black Hills gold cufflinks. There are two beautiful hand-made woven rugs. These were woven on a loom that the weaver's grandmother bought in the 1950s to supplement her income, and there is more to that story! We have fresh canned produce and an autographed book by the artist Steven Curtis Chapman. Watch our Facebook page for pictures of these and other items.

Our live auction will also have some unique items on it this year. We have a ride to school for two children in a firetruck! The Sioux Falls Fire Department only makes this adventure available through select non-profits. We also have a ride in a WWII observation plane with a pilot who is a Colonel in the Air Guard and has flown fighters for 20 years.



The dessert dash is back again this year. This is a fun way for you and your table to give, and get a little something sweet back in return. This event replaces what was our fund-a-mission, yet accomplishes the same goal. You get to support the ministry you care about. We just may have a matching fund to double whatever you choose to give for this activity.

We want you all there to celebrate with us. To get tickets, you can visit the Fall Benefit page on our website and click the Register button. Or you can call the office at 605-334-9789. Tickets are \$10 for those age 13 and older, please also request free tickets for those 12 and under to help us with ordering food. SEE YA THERE!

Your Gifts Change Lives: We are now half way through our fiscal year and by your generosity we have met 32% of our annual budget. Would you help meet the needs of our guests in one of the following easy ways?

Give a monthly gift via check, credit card or automated bank transfer. See our website to give electronically. www.centerofhopesf.org/financial-gift
Double your gift by checking with your employer to see if they will match your charitable contributions.

Talk to your financial advisor about gifting stocks and commodities to the Center of Hope.

Financial Update

Fiscal year runs from April to March

April—Sept Income \$123,172

2019-20 Budget Need \$382,781

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Center of Hope appreciates the gifts in memory of — Henrietta Bajema who we will miss as a wonderful volunteer at the Center, and in Honor of — Brett Rockvam

Help us save on postage by receiving your newsletter electronically! Send your email address to info@centerofhopesf.org Also, please let us know if we need to update your mailing address.