

December 2016

Fall Benefit Highlights - Calvin Ver Mulm

The Fall Benefit is always a fun night with lots of good food and a great time to support the work at the Center of Hope. This year was no exception. A host of churches and individuals put together some amazing baskets for the silent auction. The balloon board was so full this year it became a balloon pool! The live auction had some unique items; Alvin Hoogendoorn made a 4 to 5ft tall windmill and there was a handmade tool box of barn board filled with loads of tools. The baked goods also lived up to expectations with homemade chocolates, peanut brittle bowls full of goodies, sticky buns, lefsa and dinner rolls. All this adds up to a great way to support the ministry of Center of Hope.



Our planning team worked hard to secure donations to cover the cost of the event so that every dollar given that night would go directly to ministry. They succeeded in covering them and secured some great tickets for the last home Huskers football game of the season. We want to thank our sponsors First Premier Bank and Sammons Financial for their generosity in covering those expenses.

Faith Community Nursing was the highlighted portion of the ministry that night. Maddie Borah is our nurse on staff. One of our guests at the Center, Jeffery, told us how he benefited from the nursing program. He had been having some health issues and shared what a blessing it was to have someone who could understand what was going on medically, approached it pastorally, and could direct him to get the help he needed.

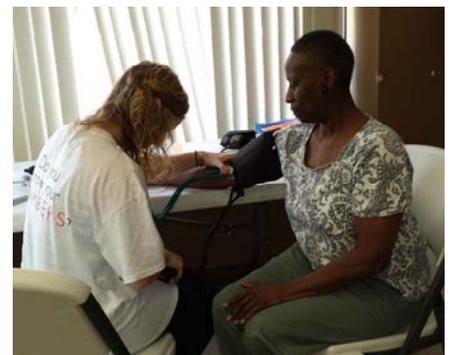


We are looking to expand the role of nursing in the Care Center because we have seen how it benefits our guests by helping them stay healthier, which is also a benefit to our medical system in lessening the load on resources. You will be hearing more about that this coming year.

Our planning team was aiming high for this event, to raise \$35,000. After the dust had settled, we raised \$24,900. That makes it the second highest amount ever raised at the Benefit. Thank you to all who came and supported the Center of Hope.



A guest received glasses via our nurse.



What you can do to Help!

Have you ever wondered, "What can I do to help those in need?" Have we got an opportunity for you. We are looking for people with a heart to share God's love with guests by serving in our care center a few hours a week. To get details call us at 605-334-9789 and ask for Randi, our Volunteer Coordinator (who is herself a volunteer)

If you have any extra coats, gloves, snow pants, or boots, our guests need them. We especially need those items for children and men. You can drop them off anytime between 8:30am and 5pm weekdays. Come to the entrance on the south side of the building, closest to the fenced in playground, and ring the doorbell. We will be there to help you unload.



New Things Going On

For months, we have been anticipating and helping develop a database to let us share information on services between different agencies. We are part of five agencies in the pilot phase of the project. We look forward to this tool to help us use our resources more effectively. It is already making a difference in our conversations with guests by helping us learn more about their needs. This has led to some amazing times of prayer, helping them find other resources, and building better relationships.

Another new thing we participated in during December was Church on the Street. It is a once-a-month



ecumenical worship service geared to those who live on the streets. Cal shared the Christmas message, based on John 3:16,17 at the recent service followed by a meal and gifts for the guests.



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Sharing Christmas



We want to thank the donors who participated in Sharing Christmas. You helped bring joy of Christmas to 606 families. Thank You!



MEMORIAL GIFTS

*Center of Hope appreciates the gifts made
In Memory of... Don Broekhuis & Sharon Morrell
In Honor of... Bob & Becky Oltman*

As always, we are happy to have you on our mailing list. Please let us know if we need to update your address or if we can send the newsletter electronically to you.



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