September 2018 Newsletter Vol. 2 No.9



 $\textbf{HOUSING ADVOCATE NETWORK} \cdot \textbf{FAMILY PROMISE} \cdot \textbf{MISSOULA WORKS} \cdot \textbf{BUILDING BRIDGES}, \textbf{BUILDING LEADERS}$ 



MICHAEL DORAN 01/03/1969 - 08/16/2018

Terrible news for all of us at MIC and Missoula Works, one of our first Get It Done Crew members, Michael Doran, passed away. We are incredibly sad by his passing, he was a life force and will be so very missed. A gentle heart and hard worker that left us too soon. Rest in peace, Michael.

### **Staff Changes**

August marks the end of two members' time here at MIC, and the beginning for three new members. As we say goodbye to Lili, our marketing expert, and Miclan, who started the Welcome Back program, we are so grateful for all their hard work and the great times and fun memories we've shared together.



MIC welcomed three new members in August. Laurie comes to us from United Way as our new Business Manager. We also welcome our two new AmeriCorps members, Cat and Sarah. Cat is from Massachusetts and will be our new Family Promise Case Manager, and Sarah comes to us from Connecticut and will be working with Missoula Works to start a glass recycling program.



#### MISSOULA WORKS UPDATE

Last year at this time, Missoula Works struggled to keep the Get it Done Crew afloat because we lacked a vehicle. At that time, the crew was transported by our staff or we would reimburse employee mileage. Often, vehicles broke down and it was chaotic trying to transport employees to different jobs with limited transportation. We needed a truck to haul our trailer, transport our tools, and most importantly, get our folks to work!

Missoula Works applied for a grant through a local foundation specifically for a vehicle. After collaborating with a local car dealership, we were able to secure an agreement that enabled us to purchase a \$15K vehicle for only \$10k. You will now see Missoula Works traveling around town in a four-door Toyota Tundra outfitted with a magnetized logo! This truck has been absolutely invaluable to the stability and longevity of the Get it Done Crew. Not having access to transportation will no longer be an option for our employees. Get it Done completes nearly 80 jobs per month - ranging from painting fences, lawn care, weeding beds, fence repair and more! Get it Done has a staff of 6 people including two crew leads, please keep us in mind for your summer projects!

Call to (406) 926-3400 schedule a project now!

Find us on Facebook here: https://www.facebook.com/missoulaworksMIC/

#### New Job Vacancies (Are you or someone you know looking for a job?)-

HVAC Tech - DOE and will train Class B Driver for distribution- 16/hr Laundry attendant - 12.00/hr Housekeeping attendant -9.50/hr Irrigation Technician- 14.00/hr

Roofing Supply Technician- 11.00/hr

Full-time Auto Detailing- 10-11.00/hr and will train



#### HAN UPDATE

This time last year HAN was a small volunteer force of everyday Missoulians who wanted to help their fellow Missoulians find housing. Now the volunteer force has grown to 38 Housing Advocates and there are multiple ways people can become involved and volunteer their time.

#### Family mentoring:

Meet weekly with family in their home

- -Participant can identify areas they need support in
- -Connect to services in community
- -Connect individual with healthy social networks
- -Budget assistance if needed
- -Staying connected with Housing Navigator

#### Housing Advocacy for potential Family Promise participants:

Meet weekly with participant

- -Participant can identify areas they need support in
- -Connect to services in community
- -Connect individual with healthy social networks
- -Budget assistance if needed
- -Staying connected with Housing Navigator

### 549HOPE volunteering:

- $\cdot\,$  Collaboration between MIC and Union Gospel Mission (UGM)
- · HOPE provides homelessness prevention assistance
- · Shifts assigned to answer the phone
- · Orientation provided by UGM

406.207.8228 ext 305

marilyn@micmt.org



# HOUSING ADVOCATE NETWORK MONTHLY MEETING

September 18th

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

St. Paul Lutheran Church - 202 Brooks St, Missoula, Montana 59801

Advocates are everyday Missoulians who want to help people who are experiencing homelessness & support them after they obtain housing.

- \*\*Email marilyn@micmt.org to sign up.\*\*
- 1. Attend an orientation.
- 2. Commitment of 2-3 hours a week.
- 3. Attend monthly meetings.
- 4. Work one-on-one with an individual seeking housing.

#### Did you know?

- -About half the homeless population are employed.
- -About 15 percent are chronically homeless, while 67% have been homeless for less than a year.
- -The number of homeless and at-risk children in the Missoula County Public Schools increased by 16.38% in the 2014-2015 school year.

# FAMILY PROMISE GROCERY REQUESTS THIS WEEK & DAY CENTER NEEDS:

We currently have 4 families.

- Size 4 and 5 diapers
- Laundry baskets (4 total)
- Gas Cards (\$10 or \$20)
- Plastic bins for storage
- Lockers for family's storage of valuables and important paperwork (to be put at Day Center)



#### FAMILY PROMISE STATISTICS JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018

#### 1. How many families have been housed in Family Promise since July 1, 2017?

From July 1 2017 we served 15 families total.

11 exited the Family Promise Program.

4 are currently still in the Family Promise Program.

Of the families who exited, 8 exited with permanent housing.

3 exited without permanent housing.

- 2. Within the past year, what was the largest number of families served in Family Promise at one time? (this includes those on the wait list).
- 47 families (62 people total) at one time.
- 3. How many of those served were literally homeless right before entering FP?

Of the 15 families served in the Family Promise Program FY 17-18, 10 were literally homeless.

- 4. What was the average number of families on your waiting list in the past year?
- 25 families
- 5. How many of the families served in FP in the past year moved into permanent housing when they exited the program?
- 8 families moved into permanent housing.
- 6. How many of the families who were still homeless when they exited the program would have benefited from and been eligible (they weren't evicted) for an extended stay in Family Promise?

We re-assess each of our families' eligibility every 30 days, and as long as they are compliant with program requirements, they are approved for an extended stay (30 days at a time). We have no limit on how many extensions a family can receive.

We granted 5 of our families extended stays in FY 17-18. Of these 5 families, 3 exited with permanent housing, so they benefited. 1 family exited without permanent housing. 1 family is still in the program, so its too soon to say if they will benefit from the extension.

Of the 3 families that exited without permanent housing, 2 were evicted from the program. 1 would have been eligible for an extended stay but chose not to take it.

#### THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS



Are you a Thrivent member?

Do you have an Action Team that MIC can utilize?

Please contact us so that we can talk to you about an upcoming event that would be a great use of Thrivent Action Teams!

Call 406-207-8228 or email rebecca@micmt.org



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\*\*\*MIC has a diverse group of partners. Below are the programs, projects, and opportunities from our partner organizations. MIC does not necessarily endorse any of the following projects.\*\*\*



#### COME AND BE FED

When: Sept. 9th, 2018 from 8:00-9:30am

Where: First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 2701
South Russell St. (across from the fairgounds)

What: The First Christian Church in Missoula is hosting a Come and Be Fed pancake breakfast event on the second Sunday of September. Admission to this event is free and all are welcome! Stop by for some delicious pancakes and conversation.

Who: If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hilberg by email at <a href="mailto:fccmissoula@hotmail.com">fccmissoula@hotmail.com</a>.



#### MONTANA GREEK FESTIVAL: ATHENS UNDER THE BIG SKY

Are you getting excited for this year's Greek Festival, filled with all the Greek Food, Music, Dance, and all around fun you can handle? Well, you'll have to wait just a little longer.

On site we will have Greek Food Vendors with full menus to entice your palate, a Taverna with wine and beer, an Agora (Greek Market), LIVE Greek music, dance lessons, children's activities, and much more!! It's sure to be two days filled with fun, family, and lots of lifelong memories. Admission is FREE!!

As the festival has grown, we continue to thank God for the volunteers that make the festival possible. If you would like to sign up to work a shift, please sign up at this link: Greek Festival Sign Up Genius

Remember it's Fri. SEPTEMBER 14 5pm-10pm Sat. SEPTEMBER 15 12pm-10pm At 301 S 6th St W Missoula, MT

Please check out our Facebook Page Montana Greek Festival: Athens Under the Big Sky for more info and to stay up to date. Prizes for likes and shares to come!

For more information, or to become a sponsor please contact Chris at 406-478-8722



#### WHITE AWARENESS STUDY GROUP

#### Hosted by AJ Johnston, a senior practitioner in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition

AJ Johnston will be offering a 9-week White Awareness Study Group at Open Way Mindfulness Center starting on Sunday October 7th. Registration is required.

#### From AJ:

The intention of the group is to deepen self-identified white, mindfulness practitioners' understanding of how the concept of race shapes the lives of people in the USA. While I have facilitated similar groups in Virginia, California and online, I see myself as a co-learner with you on a journey to heal racism in our society. I offer this opportunity with the vision that it can help move us closer to beloved community.

Register by:

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH- Registration is limited to 14 people so it is important to register early.

To register or find out more, contact AJ Johnston at <u>pathofmindfulness@gmail.com</u> or call her at 757-331-0052.



#### Dinner Menu:

Served with White Rice

Chicken Kadai Vegetable Korma Lentil Soup

Prices: Individual: \$17.50 Family of Four: \$50 Children (12 yrs. and under): \$5 Where: First Presbyterian Church 235 S  $5^{\text{TH}}$  ST. W, Missoula, MT 59801 When: Sunday, September  $9^{\text{TH}}$ , 4-7 P.M.

R.S.V.P by Friday, September 7<sup>™</sup>, 11:59 P.M. AT (406)880-1887 OR AT SHABNAM.QURESHI@MSQ.UMT.EDU

\*ALL PROCEEDS ARE PROCESSED THROUGH CONGREGATIONS COORDINATING ASSISTANCE

Safe Food Healthy Lifel

**Our Contact Information** 

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