



HOUSING ADVOCATE NETWORK • FAMILY PROMISE • MISSOULA WORKS • BUILDING BRIDGES, BUILDING LEADERS

Inspiring Stories- Housing Advocate Network

LC's story is one of deep perseverance, excruciating sacrifice, and unimaginable resilience. After three years of homelessness, and months of dismissal by Missoula landlords and property management companies—despite having a guaranteed rental assistance housing voucher—Housing Advocates and friends gathered around the kitchen of her new home to celebrate her ultimate success. With confidence, and without pause, she said, “I’ll never move again.”

Six months before she would settle into her own home, she met Zeke Campfield, MIC’s Housing Advocate Manager. He introduced her to Athina, one of HAN’s volunteer advocates, and Athina walked alongside L.C. from that moment on. “Having an advocate gave me someone to talk to,” L.C. said, “and the support made the process not as stressful.” Athina was there as L.C.’s voucher was continually denied—“income too low;” “credit report showing “N/A”... When she found the place where she currently lives, L.C. had to go to them three times. “It was a miracle,” she said. “They ran my background twice, and nothing showed up.”

One of the Housing Advocate Network’s mottos is, “Volunteers don’t house people; with their support, the people house themselves.” L.C. built a support network around her, applied her resources, and felt the power of moving forward. Standing in her kitchen during her housewarming party, Zeke encouraged her and the process she underwent. “You were like an athlete,” he said. “There’s a trainer, a performance coach, a nutritionist, support, someone working out the logistics, but in the end, it’s the athlete that must do the work. You did the work. You decided to do it.” He then asked her what inspired her to keep making possibilities. She replied in one word: “Stubbornness.”



If you would like to become one of over 50 Advocates, contact Zeke at zeke@micmt.org to meet over coffee and learn more. An orientation date is set afterward. Don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Missoula Works

needs more **Get It Done Crew** members. If you know of anyone who is experiencing employment barriers, send them our way to join our GID Crew, which will start them on their way to temp-to-permanent work.



Get Involved!

- **Mama's Promise Vendors** - We need places and events in and around Missoula to sell our new mother's jewelry. If you have information or want to lend a hand, let us know.
- **Fall Clean-up** **Get It Done** can help!
- **Get It Done Customers** - Know any neighbors or friends who need some work done at their home? Call and we will get you on our schedule.
- **Partner Agencies** - Please let us know if you are interested or know of an organization that might be interested in partnering with us to achieve our goals and employ fellow Missoulians.
- Contact Paige at paige@micmt.org for more information.



We have a **new JV!** Alison is from the land of cheese, beer, and home of the Green Bay Packer—also known as Wisconsin. She recently graduated from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, where she studied biology. Alison decided to do a year of service with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest because she hopes to not only learn more about social justice, but to have a hands-on service experience. She enjoys working with everyone at MIC and loves the energy people bring to the office. She loves living in such a vibrant city like Missoula and can't wait to continue exploring it. Aside from spending time with her fellow Jesuit Volunteers, she enjoys playing guitar, trying new coffee shops, hiking, and of course Grizzly sports!

See Them Home Update

Chili Cookoff & Pie Extravaganza



(click picture to watch video)

The Chili Cook-off and Pie Auction to benefit the See Them Home Campaign was a great success. We had nine different kinds of chili to taste and a thousand different kinds of pie! Thanks to all who contributed chili and pie! Such a great way to learn about the See Them Home Campaign- see friends from other congregations and enjoy some great food! We made over \$6000 that evening to support the campaign.

Congratulations to the top congregations in the Chili Cookoff. In first place, winning in the last few seconds, was Ethan's Chili from First United Methodist. Second place was Holy Cow, That's White Chicken Chili from Immanuel and in 3rd Place Trinity 2-Alarm Chili from Blessed Trinity. Thanks to Thrivent for an Action Team grant to support this event!

Apples for Housing



Thanks to all who came out and supported the Marks Family as they harvested their apples during Marks Macs Apple Days as Immanuel Lutheran's Fundraiser for the See Them Home Campaign. Thanks to a Thrivent Action Team Grant to provide lunch and purchase supplies. Each person took home a ½ gallon of juice and as many apples as they wanted. They processed 232 half gallons of juice and 52 quarts of pie apples.

By making a donation to the See Them Home Campaign, you too can have some apple juice or place an order for apple pies that will be made with love by the Solum Family and delivered before Thanksgiving. [CLICK HERE](#) to order (Missoula area) or contact Nancy Marks at nancy@imluchurch.org or 406-396-5494 for purchase information!

Houses for Change Information

Thank you to all who have picked up one or more of our "Houses for Change" to support the



See Them Home capital campaign to build Missoula's first Family Housing Center. The Center will ensure that if a family becomes homeless, they will have temporary shelter immediately, and support to get permanent

housing.

We are excited to hear how you are using your Houses for Change. So far we know that several congregations and St. Joseph's Elementary School are using the houses as well as many individuals. You may see the houses around town at businesses, as well. To date, we have given out 400 houses.

December 10th Return boxes. Time and location will be sent out beforehand.

January 11th Houses will be displayed at our See Them Home Celebration. If you would like to be one of our volunteers putting the display together, let us know.

Houses for Change is a fundraising opportunity through Family Promise National. We purchase the houses, and the proceeds go directly to the projects that we are raising funds for. If you would like a House for Change to support the new family housing center, please contact Rebecca at rebecca@micmt.org. We have some in the office and more coming soon.

Family Promise



We are looking for a new driver for Sunday shifts: Pick up families at 6:30 a.m. and then drop them off at their new church at 5 p.m. Let us know if you or someone you know are able to help out. Marilyn@micmt.org or Emma@micmt.org

Family Promise, Housing Advocate Network, and YWCA's Rapid Re-Housing have been working together to provide shelter for a family until their new home becomes available next week.

We have **four** families in the program. There are 11 faith community hosts, 14 support congregations and groups, and 2 faith communities that are sites only. (Sites Only don't offer volunteers but they still share their space for a week of overnights.) A total of 27 groups!

Family Promise welcomes Katie Holmgren who is interning for 20 hours as part of her Non-Profit Administration degree.

Welcome Baskets

Help support our Family Promise families as they transition into their new homes!

Congregations, organizations, families or individuals are invited to sign up for 1-4 kits and have them ready when families are moving into their new place. There are nine different Welcome Baskets - Kitchen, Toiletry, Cleaning, Bathroom, Recreation as well as the opportunity to give gas cards or gift cards. [CLICK HERE](#) to get the details of what is included in each kit.

Once the family is moved in, you will get an email with information about how to deliver the welcome kit. It's been a great way to help our families get off to a good start.

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up for a welcome basket.

If you have questions, contact Nancy Marks at nancy@imluchurch.org or 406-396-5494

Community Organizing - Bridges and Leaders

Bridges and Leaders is set to meet with Core Team Leaders for our monthly gathering from **12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. on October 8th**. This is for the 2-3 leaders from each organization working to assemble and sustain the work of your Core Team. We'll be meeting at Limitless Ministries at 1900 W Broadway St. (north entrance). Please bring your own lunch or a dish to share. We typically schedule a Core Team Leader Gathering in the evening as well, to accommodate schedules and childcare needs. This month, however, the second session of our Leadership Training falls on the evening of Oct. 8th, so no evening meeting will be scheduled. We'll be back to our afternoon and evening meeting options in November!

Recycling Works

We currently have **375** people signed up for glass recycling. Thank you all for making Missoula more sustainable! A new hydraulic trailer is coming with the bunker construction.

We offer:

- Once-monthly glass pick-up schedule. (No more bi-weekly.)
- Every week compost pick-up.

We still frequent the Clark Fork Farmer's Market. Visit us by the fountain at the entrance. Learn more, or sign up today on our website: [Recycling Works](#)

Welcome Back

Welcome Back is a coalition of men and women directly impacted by incarceration who are joined by community supporters to discuss the impacts of incarceration and re-entry and to work together towards breaking down the barriers to re-entry. We do this through regular social gatherings and fellowship, through direct mentoring and advocacy with folks coming out of the corrections system, and by organizing to identify the pressures impacting these individuals and working with community partners to identify solutions.

Join Welcome Back at its monthly potluck 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month at St. Paul Lutheran Church, find us on Facebook or email welcomback2missoula@gmail.com

**MUIHC Fall
Wellness Fair**
Saturday, October 12th
8 am - 12 pm

FREE Continental Breakfast
Available After Wellness Exam
Gift for each participant

***October is Breast
Cancer Awareness
Month!***

Missoula Urban
Indian Health
Center
830 W Central
Ave

- Clinical Screenings & Testing
- HIV and Hepatitis C screening
- Women's Wellness Screenings (mammography, cervical)
- **Seasonal Flu Vaccine ALL ages**
- Wellness Education

Labs Require **12 hour fast Before Event** for Cholesterol, Fasting Blood Sugar, and Hemoglobin A1c (medication and water are okay)





הַשְׁלוֹם מִסּוּלָא



Benefit Jazz at the Mountain: An Elegant Evening of Jazz, and **first 3-day Jewish Festival!** Har Shalom's *Fund for the Future* will establish a Jewish Center for Learning & Spiritual Life.



Saturday, October 19

7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

3035 S. Russell Street

Missoula

Information and tickets at [Eventbrite](#)

And the first [Missoula Jewish Festival](#)

\$18 - \$144

Easy ways to give to MIC!



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

Every act of your generosity helps us to further our mission. Thank you for making the world a better place. Love from Family Promise, Housing Advocate Network, MIC, Missoula Works, and Recycling Works.

Our Contact Information

Missoula Interfaith Collaborative

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Missoula, MT 59801

406-207-8228

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