



An entity of Good Samaritan Ministries

End of month report for April 2022

Greetings everyone,

Hopefully you are all finding ways to enjoy the beautiful weather as of late! I've had the chance to get out on several hikes with my grandson and even though his little legs are so much shorter than mine he keeps me moving!

For the month of April, Our Place has operated at full capacity and our hours of operation remain Monday through Saturday from 9AM to 3:30 PM. April was a very productive month at Our Place. Our Peer Supports logged ninety-nine hours of help in supporting the people who came through our doors. We continue to build on the opportunities as we develop those relationships with our consumers as well as their trust. While we progress in our efforts, we have notice a rise in people stepping up to be accountable and help keep Our Place running smoothly.

This month I wanted to share a story with you all about one of our clients who, when they started coming to Our Place, was dealing with some serious explosive anger issues and had a very challenging time getting along with anyone. Over the last three months of working with this person our staff has shown a great amount of compassion, understanding, and tolerance and it has paid off. At this point this individual has been able to learn to feel they have a safe place to be able to talk to someone, express their needs, and work through some of their fears and anxiety. They have started interacting slowly with the other regular consumers and in their own way tries to apologize for past behaviors. There are still things to work on but this is one of my favorite stories I've witnessed here as our people and staff learn to maneuver difficult situations and big emotions. Our Street Out Reach Coordinator said it very eloquently when he stated, "The one thing we do better than most places is extend tolerance to those who really need it to turn things around." While there are limits to everything, being able to see someone is trying to change makes a big difference in how and why we do everything we can to ensure people have what they need to be successful. Success is always best measured in distance rather than time.

Again, I would like to take an opportunity to brag on our Peer Supports Sireena Neupauer, and Sarah Grantham. These ladies continue to work with our clients helping them learn new ways of dealing with challenges, helping them work through finding jobs, and connecting them with resources.

We saw some other great events in April as well, with the help of Mo at the Food Bank and our volunteers we were able to provide an Easter dinner of baked ham, roasted potatoes, and glazed carrots. As we move forward in working with community partners Montana's Peer Network was kind enough to come to Our Place and take a tour, set up a monthly group, and do a pod cast with myself and their representatives to help promote Our Place.

While we did see a small decrease in number of people served we did see and increase in the amount of meals we served.

Here are our numbers for the month.

- **April client count: 667**
- **Targeted Peer Support hours provided: 99**
- **Veterans served: 34**
- **Housing found: 3 (Permanent supportive housing vouchers filled, in coordination with Good Samaritan and the Housing Navigator, these are cases that originated at Our Place).**
- **Jobs found: 3**
- **Emergency food packs given out: Between the street outreach program and Our Place we handed out 111 (These were the packs donated by food share)**
- **Total number of meals served (Breakfast and lunch): 762**

We continue to work on group structure as well as a variety of recovery based subject matter so we can give our consumers the most options in finding what works for them in their recovery. As we know each person's recovery is an individual journey and one of our goals is to give everyone the chance to learn and explore new options as they move on in their positive life changes.

Case Management: consists of assisting with paperwork for our consumers, taking them to meet with different community entities, being present when they are filling out lease paperwork, filling out case management packets for the Permanent Supportive Housing Vouchers, following up with any required documents and keeping files for clients, as a per support...a fantastic combination for success!

Treatment: Our Place continues to focus on people suffering from addiction and mental health challenges continuing to connect our peers with a variety of LACs, addiction services, therapists, and mental health professionals across the state.

On the Peer Support side, we offer one-on-one support, as well as groups to Peers who are experiencing a crisis. On average we mentor-at least three people a day, sometimes more. Again, this is not professional counseling, but more a sympathetic and experienced ear to help them work through their challenges, while coming up with appropriate solutions or options

Thank you for your continued support in our efforts as we to strive to be an asset to our community and serve the most vulnerable population.

Sincerely,

Todd Tecca

Manager

Our Place Drop In Center