



An entity of Good Samaritan Ministries

End of month report for March 2022

Hello everyone, I hope this finds you all warm and well, my apologies for the tardiness of this month's report. For the month of March, Our Place has operated at full capacity and our hours of operation remain Monday through Saturday from 9AM to 3:30 PM. March has been a great month at Our Place for our Peer Supports, we have had the opportunity to learn more about our consumers and how we can best help each of them as they become more trusting of accepting help in their journey forward. As we continue to build those relationships and engage them, they are taking advantage of using the added resources and opportunities we continue to add at Our Place.

Along those lines I want to share a story I consider a great success in our efforts. Charles Alvarez from the Montana Independent Living Project was in my office this week and as we were discussing adding another group, he commented on the number of people we had for lunch. "In all my years coming to Our Place I've never seen this many people here at once, let alone all sitting and eating together like one big family." That is one of the things that we have worked hard on at Our Place, bringing people together. Not only are they sharing a meal, they are doing peer support with each other, they are talking, laughing, and supporting each other through daily challenges, this is the basis of what we have set out to do, not only support them but teach them how to better support each other. Every day we are blessed to see more and more people coming together to help each other, learn from each other, and support each other, the future looks bright!

I would also like to take this opportunity to brag a little on our Peer Supports Sireena Neupauer, and Sarah Grantham. These two ladies do an amazing job facilitating groups, listening to our clients needs and helping them connect with the resources they need. They both continue to do wonderful work engaging our consumers where they are, building relationships, and helping them move forward in their lives.

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.

March was successful in so many ways as we continue to watch the growth of those we serve. We did see a small decrease in the number of people through the doors as the month wore on but I am happy to say we can account for around half of those people. After following up in our efforts, I found several of them we have helped get back to their hometowns in various ways, some have found housing and jobs, and some have been able to move on to other places and adventures, and some staying with family and friends during the weather. These small individual successes when put together, show us a bigger picture of our abilities to help people in a positive way. The wrap around services and support provided by GSM, C4MH, Salvation Army, Food Share, MT Health Care Association, Job Service and our other community partners continue to help many of those in need and we are grateful for their help and partnership. We also continue to work with United Way, Good Samaritan, and St. Paul's Methodist church to offer the homeless community showers which take place each Tuesday from 9am until 12pm. This program remains successful, and we average between 8 to 14 showers each week. We are truly grateful to have these connections in our community.

Here are our numbers for the month.

- **February client count: 689**
- **Targeted Peer Support hours provided: 96.4**
- **Veterans served: 31**
- **Housing found: 2 (Permanent supportive housing vouchers filled, in coordination with Good Samaritan and the Housing Navigator, these are cases that originated at Our Place).**
- **Foster care: respite for foster care 24**
- **Jobs found: 5**
- **Emergency food packs given out: Between the street outreach program and Our Place we handed out 105. (These were the packs donated by food share)**
- **Total number of meals served (Breakfast and lunch): 619**

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