



An entity of Good Samaritan Ministries

End of month report for September 2022

Hello everyone,

I hope this finds you all well and enjoying the change in weather. With the change in weather, we have seen a slight change in the number of folks coming in, after comparing the amount of people we've helped with the MERA program and those moving to warmer climates we can account for most of the drop-in clients. The month of September has seen several success stories in different areas, we have helped 29 people find housing and 8 of those we helped connect with community partners and find jobs. These are the first steps in getting people back on their feet and feeling like they matter. One young man in particular who is trying to take care of his mother while they are both homeless was able to find a job, eventually purchase a vehicle, and has been able to transfer with his job to Great Falls to help take care of his grandmother as well. He has been coming to groups off and on, taking the opportunities to connect with resources, and work with our staff to accomplish these goals. We are all very proud of him and his efforts to remain levelheaded and persistent in achieving all he has. All these successes are helped along by the work our wonderful staff does in putting people first. Thank you again for all your support and helping us provide these opportunities to those in need.

For the month of September, Our Place has operated at full capacity, our hours of operation remain Monday through Saturday from 9AM to 3:30 PM.

Here are our numbers for the month.

- **Client count: 505**
- **Targeted Peer Support hours provided: 132 (We saw a decrease in peer support hours with clients being housed through the MERA program and some moving out of the vicinity)**
- **Veterans served: 32**
- **Jobs found: 8**
- **Emergency food packs given out: Between the street outreach program and Our Place we handed out 120. (These were the packs donated by food share)**

As our focus continues to be helping people regain hope, connect with resources, get back on their feet and move forward with their lives we continue to see great changes and renewed commitment in many of our client's efforts. We are continuing in our efforts to not only bring in resources from the community but to also ensure our clients are connected with the community resources who are unable to come to us. We continue to see clients coming together to support each other and share knowledge as they help one another navigate life.

In September we were able to add to our staff Erin Olsen as our part time peer and Celi Stewart filled our position for the Peer Workforce Partnership grants from NAMI, the LAC, and the CSAA. Erin and Celi along with Alton Talley make a difference in people's lives each day. Sarah Grantham our marketing director for Good Samaritan is also a big influence on our clients as a Peer Support coming to Our Place to run groups during the week as well. Mark Nay our Street Outreach Coordinator continues to do an excellent job as well as he works with our homeless clients in ways very few people can. Each of these people brings a level of compassion and personal skills that allow our clients the opportunities that they have. I am eternally grateful for each of the staff and the gifts they bring to Our Place as we all continue to build the relationships with our clients that allow us to help them in the areas they need.

We continue to work on our career opportunity program, the Peer Workforce Partnership, to train a peer support, building support and resources in the community, and expanding the opportunities we can offer here at Our Place. Our staff continues training on various aspects of communication, group facilitation, and programing that continues to help our clients with the help of Brandy Vail and Montana's Peer Network as we move forward with our recovery-based groups.

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: OP has been focusing on people suffering from addiction, we have utilized Rimrock, MCDC, Boyd Andrew and Instar Community Services. In the month of September we were able to help facilitate 2 people going to treatment.

On the Peer Support side, we offer support one-on-one to Peers who are experiencing a crisis. On average we work with three to eight people a day. This is not professional counseling, but more a sympathetic and experienced ear to help them work through their problems, while coming up with appropriate solutions or options

The success in wrap-around services with GSM, Many Rivers Mental Health, MSH as we work together to help provide as many services as we can for those in need continues to grow and make a difference in people's lives.

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 continue to average between 8 to 14 showers each week. We are truly grateful to have these connections in the community.

Thank you for your continued support in our efforts.

Sincerely,

Todd Tecca

Manager

Our Place Recovery and Resource Center