



A Ray of Hope News Letter

August / September 2013

From The Desk of Peggy

Defeating Negativity

A Ray of Hope is a ministry to hurting people and hurting people will hurt others in their pain and they will attack A Ray of Hope and staff. The issues we deal with to help a person to understand, the healing power of the Blood of Christ, the first step being is to not to take their negative reaction to us personal when a guest or staff hits us as being the problem, always remember finger pointing is as old as time. And the best thing we can do is not defend ourselves, see the incident, as God Trusting us to respond in a way that is healing to the broken soul who is living in drama and mistrust, and has use anger to keep people from hurting them or getting to close. So our reaction to gossip, hate, misunderstanding and confusion, is to put our feeling aside and work on the facts, that can change a heart full of hate and fear, to one of trust and kindness to others.

Let angry people endure the backlash of their own anger; if you try to make it better, you'll only make it worse. PROV-ERBS 19:19 MSG

This means do not join them in anger but minister in truth love and accountably thru understanding and following the healing guidelines of A Ray of Hope.

From experience, we know that it is easy to criticize others. **And we know that it is usually far easier to find faults than to find solutions.** Still, the urge to criticize others remains a powerful temptation for most of us.

Negativity is highly contagious: We give it to others who, in turn, give it back to us. This stress-inducing cycle can be broken by positive thoughts, heartfelt prayers, encouraging words, and meaningful acts of kindness. In restoring a hurting person that even thought they made a poor choice in breaking a guideline, it is not the end but the beginning of them understanding that God loves them so do we and that God is a God that gives us many chances to learn to make better choices in our lives and we learn to trust HIS Way above man's ways.

As thoughtful servants of a loving God, we have no valid reason—and no legitimate excuse—to be negative. So, when we are tempted to be overly critical of others, or unfairly critical of ourselves, we must use the transforming power of God's love to break the chains of negativity. We must defeat negativity before negativity defeats us.

Winners see an answer for every problem; losers see a problem in every answer. ~ Barbara Johnson

We never get anywhere—nor do our conditions and circumstances change—when we look at the dark side of life. ~ Mrs. Charles E. Cowman

To lose heart is to lose everything. ~ John Eldredge

Do not build up obstacles in your imagination. Difficulties must be studied and dealt with, but they must not be magnified by fear. ~ Norman Vincent Peale

Deal with the facts, and do not react to drama and feelings in fear that someone is not going to love you when you will not enable their poor choices. Peggy Christensen

Fear can stop God's plan for ourselves and other's that we are to have a sound mind in the truth of living the golden rule do unto others that you would have done to you.

From the beginning of A Ray of Hope, we have face one fear at a time in the growth of A Ray of Hope to help people in a hand up not a hand out.

Fear that well meaning people letting us know that we did not have the education to help people in a hand up to break the bondages that brought them to being homeless

People who said Peggy you do not have the health to do the work.

Continued on page 2 see Defeating

Defeating

From page 1

When people are trying to blackmail us to allow them in breaking the guidelines of recovery of A Ray of Hope or they would turn us into every government agencies.

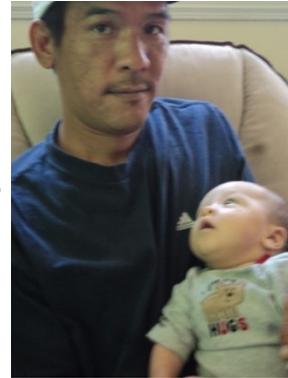
When people that wanted to be part of the ministry as we were helping them and they wanted to give back, but would not follow their job description and guidelines of A Ray of Hope, instead enabling our guest to continue in poor choices, that not only cause a guest to stumble in recovery, but took other guest with them in their poor choices, and when they were called on it we would hear you have lost the heart for people, and I have a better heart than you. They blew up and walk out full of hate and gossip, and we have relationships lost over it. By now you are understanding we could write a book, about broken people trying to use fear to get their own way in making poor choices in life, or wanting to be large and in charge, in running A Ray of Hope and others lives and work, instead of doing the right thing and work as a team within the guidelines and Job description that have work in the recovery of many who came to our door for help.

How do we overcome the loss and fear. It starts in loving and praying for the ones who have caused the issues, trusting God's truth that we are to pray for them and bless them in ways that they have no idea that it is us, because the truth is that God is the one that is blessing them and he provided forgiveness to us to pass on and the funds and the ability to bless the person that hurts others in their own hurt as we have learned in our work that hurting and broken people hurt others, until they come into full recovery in understanding that the Golden rule that blesses everyone . Isa 54:17 is one of the many promises that we trust in God's protection of our work, to let us to be an expectant Christian, to expect the best, and look for the best in others. Learning not to become discouraged, and turn our thoughts and our prayers to the fact that God is in blessed control of everything, the outcome and healing is up to HIM as we touch people in a hand up and a home of safety to heal.

We are so grateful to so many who have stood with A Ray of Hope and allowing us to do the work we love so much, in giving and hand up and not a hand out to so many to know the love and help of a community that cares about others.

Little Ones

We have two Daddies' who are able to care for and be with their little ones in one dorm room that we have set aside for them. They are very grateful to each of you that help provide and their pointed out the work we about. ---I do Mothers and of lives poor only life but for their the blessings of our work, there are many babies that



a home for them little ones. Tiffany to me that some of do, no one knows know that when Fathers come out choices it is not changing for them babies too, one of

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Letter

Hi Peggy I wanted to write to you and tell you thank you so much for giving me another chance here at the house. I do really feel like things will go differently for me this time especially when I have people like you and Bob who still believe in me. I also know the Lord has been with me the last 3 years and watching over me because that is the only way I have managed to stay alive given some of the situations I've been in of my own doing and of course those that a certain lifestyle seem to bring. So again Thank You and God bless you and the home you provide for those of us who seem to be at the end of the line. Love, Tonya

Mandy Jo

This picture is of Mandy Jo doing what she loves to do loving on others, as you read the following you will see her heart, she is a joy to work with.

Peggy

I am a recovered meth addict in this Valley 6 years in December. I was a mother of 4 little girls who lost them to meth. I wish that I had a woman's shelter for my girls and I when my husband had left us in 2004. I was a stay home mom who was left with all bills and debt. I had no family to lean on or to help me. That was when meth was introduced to me and it was then made my coping mechanism. Within 9 months I was raided and my children were taken. It was the saddest day of my life. I have never gotten them back. But I hold on to the promise of God that He will replace what the locust have eaten Joel 2:25. I thank God for His promises and for my sobriety and where He has brought me today. I am happy to be Assistant Director of A Ray of Hope and helping to see a woman's shelter built that can give to women what I needed when I was going through abandonment. My gift is helping others through recovery since I have been there too. Also to help other mothers who just might think of taking the



easy way out and get hooked on drugs because they are alone and drugs is their way of coping....I'm excited to see what The Lord will do and excited to see mother's lives come together because of God's love for them. Thank you to each one that has donated to A Ray of Hope that has blessed my life and so many others in our community.

Mandy Jo

The dream and vision of a women's shelter.

The hope and dream we have at A Ray of Hope, is to take this home that

A Ray of Hope, was given to a wonderful donation by Rudy Koestly and his family many of you do; for women



working on getting a shelter built with the support of A Ray of Hope staff and

volunteers. Rudy Koestly who as have a heart raising children with the Ray of Hope staff and

Please call the office at 755-4673 and let us know what you can do to help to get the shelter up and running. Or email aroh4u@gmail.com if you want to be part of this great project that can bless lives to come for years, to come in your time. Efforts and donations that will keep on giving a hand up for years to come **to children to be able to live in a safe place with mom until she can stand on her own with a hand up** from her community and neighbors. Children will be learning life skills that will help them to stand on their own to make a positive difference in their communities. Most important they will be learning that God the father that created them has them in His arms.

Dear Peggy,

Although I haven't met you face to face, I feel as you are a spiritual mom to me. I am inspired by your willingness to let God work through you. I have learned a lot by just listening to conversations between you and the broken. We are all broken, just some in the dark. Thank you for allowing God's Light to flow through you to pour out into the lives that need that Light to live here on this earth.

You are an amazing woman because of God within you. Happy Mother's Day!

Love, Katlyn

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A Hand Up Not A Hand Out

Peggy Christensen Executive Director
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Linda Mengwasser / Paul Befumo / Gary Scheel
Bill Phillips / Robert Christensen / Tom Dalton /
Connie Kirby / John Weaver / Dave Mclean

WE have good workers that need a Hand up
with Work
Call 755-4673

Donations Of Food, Eggs, Meat, Sugar, Coffee,
TP, Paper Towels, Kleenex , Money
Are Greatly Appreciated
Donations are tax deductible

Mission Statement:
A Ray of Hope is a 501c3 State and Federal tax-exempt organization formed to help those in need. Our primary focus is helping families become functioning members of society and helping the hungry and homeless with their need when all else has failed them.



Shelter
46 5th Av West Kalispell MT 59901 PH 406 755 4673



Thrift Store
105 6th Av West Kalispell MT 59901 PH 406 260 4184

Please send donations to
A Ray of Hope
PO Box 5407, Kalispell MT 59903