



From The Desk of Peggy

This time of the year is a blessing and keeps AROH busy in the cold weather to keep the homeless from freezing. From my desk, the staff and I work daily in deciding to help as many people as we can get in receiving a hand up.

It can be as simple as putting a mat on the floor to give some soul a place to sleep warm.

The following is a small bird's eye view of what your support has done for your neighbors needing a hand up.

- Families with children to stay in their homes.
- Gas or a bike to get to their job.
- The use of tools until they can buy their own to do yard work or housecleaning which has led to them starting their own business and employ others.
- With household items and clothing when needed from our Hope Thrift Store.
- To help the homeless that refuse to get a hand up in living in a home. We pass out warm bedding, clothing, food and many come for a hot meal, coffee and enjoy having a place to go to on the holidays.
- Taking people in when released from the hospital with no place to go.
- Taking in people with mental health issues that need a safe place to live while they work with the mental health organizations to secure permanent placement.
- Taking people in from jail so that they can be released to start a new life.
- Teaching people how to stay on a monthly budget.
- Teaching people how to play well with others and learning how to overcome anger issues.
- Guests receive training in skills that will help them to gain employment.
- Individuals under the age of eighteen who find themselves homeless from rebellion to their family's values, abuse by family members, mental health issues, or running away. We have seen them return to their family members or into a home where they will be safe.
- We help some to get their GED, driver's license and jobs, making it possible to rent a place of their own.
- We let people in when they have lost their ID's, to use our internet working through the states to retrieve their

birth certificate, getting them to the SS office to get a new card so they can get a job and earn money to rent their own place.

- A person full of body lice, we get all the meds to take care of destroying the lice. New clean clothes and a clean bed to restore their self-esteem.
- We work with people who failed and drank or used drugs and were asked to leave other homes. We give them more than a few chances. As an example, if a person has been a drunk for twenty years and they stay sober for a month and then drinks- 2nd chance: they stay sober for six months and fail but willing to humble themselves -3rd chance, then a choice is our Helmville Retreat for a year (no charge). Of the individuals who stay for a year, 90% of them so far, are staying clean and doing well. Some of these individuals were in and out of A Ray of Hope over a five-year period. It takes more than thirty days to pull a wrecked life full of poor choices back into order.
- Felons that no one will give a chance to we helped them make a new life on the outside. Given a new start, many of these individuals are now giving back to society instead of being a draw on the tax base.
- People that are under house arrest so they can hold a job and give to the tax base instead of taking from it.
- Working with veterans to get the medical or mental health issues resolved so they can get back into the life they enjoyed before they served to keep us living in a free land. (Some of these wonderful servants of our country have been with us up to three years).
- Giving bus tickets to those individuals who have family members in other cities and states that will give them a safe place to stay.
- Help them be accountable to past court action and fines they have not taken care of.

We do not take any State or Federal funding and are grateful for the communities giving us the hand up we need to help our neigh-

Damon Tichbourne

A Ray of Hope; There couldn't be a more fitting name for this exceptional house and household of people living and working together in this sober living environment. A Ray of Hope, as you might say is exactly what I was looking for and was in the most dire need to find and thank the Lord Jesus Christ, Peggy Christensen along with the wonderful staff who also live here that that is what I have found. It is hard to put into words the love and acceptance I have been shown here, also from the people that I have this thing called life with in this home; they call it A Ray of Hope. I emphasize the word home because you soon find out that it is what it is here, home and the people here soon become your family. If a sober way of life and living environment is what you seek, it is exactly what you will find along with love, acceptance and camaraderie. It is undoubtedly a work in progress to live your life for Jesus, to live your life sober and to put your heart and words into action, although; I can honestly say that it is far easier in an environment such as this, with people who live here and all who are associated for helping to save my LIFE!!!

Sincerely,
Damon Tichbourne

The Proberts

Sometimes A Ray of Hope is all the Sunshine you need.

A Ray of Hope was the best thing for our family! When our daughter was walking down the wrong path in life we feared that everyday it would be her last. She reached out to us for help, and we tried everything and called everywhere. They either wanted money or insurance, seeing the spot she was in, she had nothing. We got very emotional because as parents, there was nothing we could do. We didn't have thousands of dollars to spend on treatment, we were at our end. Then my husband called A Ray of Hope and explained our situation, with no hesitation they said to bring her in. At that moment Our prayers were answered. I am happy to say Our daughter has been clean and sober for almost a month, and is happily still apart of A Ray of Hope. Sunshine is all you needed.

Sincerely
The Proberts

Leslie Leigh

I just moved back from Missoula and I am trying to get on my feet again. Looking for work when you are 34 weeks pregnant is hard. Baby is due in September and I am hoping to be able to find a good job and a place of our own after she is born. Currently I live with my family. I have 3 children Payden he is 6, Luke he is 2 and Billie she will be 3 months old in December.



Makayla Cheman

I came to the Ray of Hope in search for financial assistance. I had just had my baby boy Malik and was on maternity leave. I felt welcome and not judged for the help I was asking for. Thank you Ray of Hope for giving my baby boy a roof over his head in our time of need. God bless you!!



Alisha Watkins

From left to right Roman in the camo, Noah in the stripes, Jayson is next to Noah, Titus is in the yellow shirt, then there is Adynn next to the two babies. I appreciate you signing me up for Adopt a family and all the help I got when I came in to get warm clothes for my chil-



Women's/Children's Center Update 11/10/2017:

The electric, plumbing, and heating are roughed in. The house is insulated (thanks, Taylor Insulation), drywall delivered (thanks, Northwest Drywall) and is now being installed!!

Montana on Fire-From the desk of Wayne Appl

2017 was a historic fire year here in Montana. We at AROH were honored and privileged to help out a new organization "Fire Relief Effort for Northwest Montana", a group of local caring people who put their heart and soul into helping not only the people who lost their homes in the fires but also the hundreds of fire fighters risking their lives to save our land.

We were able to help by providing hundreds of pounds of food from our pantry and many boxes of clothes from our thrift store. Some of our guests took a load to Libby, while others used their talents to solicit items from local businesses and gather dozens of hygiene kits, socks and beanies for the fire fighters. We would like to thank Kelly Marshall and Elena Teichman from Fire Relief Effort for Northwest Montana for taking an entire truck bed full of nonperishable food, clothing and hygiene items and dispersing it between Eureka, Libby, Seeley Lake and Plains. Two more truckloads full were picked up and distributed by Paul Brickman and Ben Hogan. We would like to thank Beth Dunbar for reaching out to us and allowing us this opportunity to give back. Last but not least is our sublime gratitude to the Flathead Community because it is your donations that made our collective efforts possible.

This is what makes Montana great, people helping people and the stories across our great state make me proud to be a Montanan.

Mike Nolan

My family and I are truly blessed in knowing out strength is in our love and in our action and attitudes towards others. Christmas can become alot more wishful than saying I love you so much. I am Michael Noland and I and my wife Amy-Jean, our son Richard-Paul and our daughter Mackenzie-Jean care very much to say we love you so much each and everyone of you who make Adopt a Family for Christmas- a God Blessed ray of hope. Thanks you and God Bless us all!

The Nolands

Ten steps to building faith in ministry to others in God's truth by learning to love your neighbor as yourself.

1. Face and overcome problems and challenge's without whining.
2. Understand Who God is and know and understanding He is full of mercy.
3. Meditate on the word of God and the truth of the bible to live by and learn who God is and how He acts towards His people in love, kindness and accountably.
4. Apply the word of God to your life daily by reading the book of Proverbs daily and have the integrity to live it, in and out, Do what you say and do not back out for any reason. Do it without complaint about how tired or picked on you are. If it is sweeping a floor, showing up to work, cooking for others, visiting others just get it done or let others know in time that you are not going to do it.
5. **Do not under estimate yourselves. GOD does not care about your abilities. He shows up when your make yourself available to follow Him instead of worrying about who loves and follows you.**
6. **Pray that we will learn that obedience to God is better than sacrifice to God.**
7. Talk more of what the Lord has done and less of your good works.
8. Do not glorify your sins for any reason.
9. Do the right thing with integrity when no one is watching or can pat you on the back.
10. Respect others authority and you want others to respect your authority. **Learn to confess your failures and take them on your desk of life to overcome and build your faith, knowing that God forgives and is a God of 1,000 chances and keep on keeping on in His integrity.**

A Ray of Hope
PO Box 5407
Kalispell MT 59903

Visit us at <http://arayofhopemontana.com/>

Phone 406 755 4673

A Hand Up Not A Hand Out



Helmville

2340 Hope RD 406 260 8084

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

MISSION STATE- MENT

A Ray of Hope shall provide a safe harbor for those in the community with nowhere else to turn. It will provide those who seek help not only with food, clothing and shelter, but also with knowledge and a avenue to develop competency in meeting life's financial, emotional, family, and legal rehabilitation challenges.



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 PO Box 5407, Kalispell MT 59903