



From The Desk of Peggy

My eyes filled with tears of gratitude a few days after landing in the hospital and receiving my diagnoses of cancer. This journey of understanding God's purpose was evident when Joe called from the shelter to let me know God was instructing him to give his time and talents to finishing the women's shelter

After hanging up with Joe, I looked at the flowers filling up my room. I was grateful for them but at that moment it came to mind that the funds could have gone to the building of the shelter.

Dave Mclean, a good friend of mine and a Trustee of AROH, came to visit and prayed with me about what could he do to help. I told him that as the contractor for the women's shelter he already was helping immensely.

Additionally my friends, Jim and Brenda Roskos came to the hospital for prayer with me. They asked me the same thing, "What can we do for you Peggy?" I let them know as well that as much as I felt loved and cared for with flowers I would love for people



to give the money to the building of the shelter.

In no time, I was getting reports from my longtime friend Tom Dalton, who has volunteered at AROH from the beginning and is now our office manager and bookkeeper, he called and let me know that donations were coming in. This helped me immensely knowing that I could be of use while I was in the hospital and aiding me in regaining my strength from our mountain cabin and retreat.

In all this was the knowledge that I was receiving living water from the throne of heaven, it was flowing from God through his people, everyone working to keep my vision of the women's/children shelter alive and well.

There are no words that can express how my heart filled with gratitude for all the people and activities that were involved to get the project up and running. I have read all of your letters and cards encouraging me to keep on keeping on. Now I can look at the following picture and it tells it all. Many hugs and thanks and blessing to each one of you!!!

HOW TO ADOPT A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS?

Call 406-755-4673 or go to A Ray of Hope, 46 5 Ave West Kalispell, MT.

When you adopt a family, you will be able to pick the size of the family or even more than one family. You will get the children's clothing sizes and a list of their favorite colors, books or other gifts they are hoping will be under their Christmas tree. We also ask you to provide them with the food to prepare their family Christmas dinner.

Thank you for making the meaning of Christmas come alive in the hearts of families in need of a hand up in Christmas love.

All gifts are both federal and state tax deductible



LETTERS

My name is Autumn Bock; I am a single mother of 2 amazing, wonderful, beautiful kids.

Sophia 6 years old and Harrison 3 years old. I recently lost my job at Copper Mountain Coffee, this is the first time as a single mom that I have been completely unem-



ployed. And it is very discouraging and hurtful to my heart because I don't know how I am going to provide things for my babies. I am currently waiting to receive unemployment and have been actively searching for a job so I can get back to being the strong independent mom that my kids deserve. With all this being said I am greatly appreciative that there is a program like Adopt a Family that families like mine can sign up and not have to worry so much about Christmas!! Thank A Ray of Hope!! Not only did you help me with my rent but your helping to take a huge stress off of me for the Christmas sea-

Ray of Hope team

Thank you for what you do in our community.

We are glad that we are able to partner with you here in the Flathead Valley.

We are praying for good things.

God bless—Canvas Church team

Thank you for all you do to enable people to get their lives on the right track. God bless you in your ministry.

Yours in Christ,

Thelma Weigum

To the Community

This is how I became apart of this big family: A couple of years ago I had my kids taken from me because of my poor choices. I kept going with my poor choices because I felt that because my kids were taken from me that I didn't need to care about anything or anyone at that time, not even myself so I kept going with what I was doing. Well a year and a half had passed and my health was getting worse and I just kept putting it off like it was no big deal. My husband was very worried and along with making poor choices we decided to go on the run for awhile. It only lasted a couple of months and my husband went to jail. So I stayed on the streets for another week and finally decided to call my parents and ask for their help to get better and help find a place for me to live. They then called everyone they could to help and took me to the E.R. I couldn't live with them because they have my kids and have been caring for them since they were taken from me. Then my Dad called A Ray of Hope and took me there to get signed up. When I went in there and filled out the paperwork everyone was so friendly and nice. They made me feel very accepted. It was like walking into your own home. Christina was the one that helped me, and talked to me about the house and how things work. She also was the one that reassured me that this was the place for me. While the paperwork took time to get processed I stayed in a car at someone else's house. The next day my Dad received a call from Christina saying that I was accepted, that is when my Dad picked me up and brought me here to A Ray of Hope. I have lived here for almost a month now. I work around the house and at Hope Thrift to give back. I have come to know that everyone I live with is my family. We all help each other in many different ways like: a person to talk to, a helping hand, help with spot jobs etc. I have found a place I can call home and the people have helped me get my health back and helped me with finding myself. This is the place for me!

GOD Bless everyone
Courtney Vondrich

From the heart of Rachelle Thompson

Peggy has invited each of us at the shelter to come up and spend time with her, Bob and the other guests in Helmville. It wasn't until early September, 7 months after arriving at AROH that I finally decided "why not"? I remember speaking with Peggy on a Tuesday and she said get ready because Bob is going to pick you up on Thursday. At that point there was no turning back, I was now committed. My only reason for hesitation was the fact that I am a girly girl, I enjoy camping but after 3 days I am packing up to head home, take a shower and enjoy today's modern conveniences. On the mountain I would be staying in my own private cabin but I was also going to have to quickly adapt to getting wood, hauling my own water, making a fire for heat, handwashing my clothing, boiling water for a bath, using an outhouse and lastly coming to terms with the most effective way to kill a mouse that has 9 lives. Here I should probably also mention that I would wreck my car into a tree in order to avoid killing a squirrel so my battle with the mouse was traumatic for me yet highly comical for others.

I was surprised with myself that not only did I quickly begin to appreciate living off the grid but I also began to really thrive emotionally, physically and spiritually. Initially I agreed to stay a week, possibly two at the most and before I knew it 6 weeks had flown by. Every morning we had a group bible study where each message spoke directly to our hearts as if it was directed to each one of us individually. I also began working with Peggy on studies in the bible related to our founding principle in the American Constitution and breaking generational curses. I enjoyed the solitude of my cabin where I could be alone with my thoughts, to journal, read or take a nap. I enjoyed time spent at the main house learning about Bob and Peggy and I am still in awe of their integrity, compassion and their sincere desire to help others. Every conversation with them I left more knowledgeable and I laughed more up there than I have in years. I



will forever remember Bob's sense of humor and wiping the tears out of his eyes from laughter as we share the same sense of humor. I also hold dear to my heart my time spent with and getting to know Gary, Brandon, Daniel and Leigh. They are amazing guys that were willing to try new things as well as being dorks and finding humor in just about everything we did. They will forever be in my prayers. I am also grateful for the relationship between myself and Peggy, she has become a dear friend and I will keep her stories of rebellion a complete secret.

If you look around the entire property you will find there are crosses everywhere. When Bob was building each structure he incorporated various crosses into the house, the cabins, fences and bridge, horse stable, bird houses and I even saw one rising from the creek below. On one of the outside walls of the main house is a giant wooden cross. The pinnacle of my time on the mountain was when I pounded my own nail into the cross next to others who had done so prior to me. Driving the nail into the wood represented complete forgiveness for myself and the things I had done, for others I felt had wronged me and for the grace and forgiveness Jesus freely gives to those who seek him. This allowed me to leave all this negative baggage behind me and to move forward in the life God has planned for me from this point forward which I am happy to leave in his hands.

I am so blessed by my time with everyone on the mountain and I left a happier and healthier person. In fact when I saw my counselor upon my return to Kalispell she validated this as well stating, "you are a completely different woman from the last time I saw you". Thank you for allowing me this amazing experience and I hope many others seize this opportunity for themselves.

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