



Off The Streets!

A Newsletter for Friends and Donors
of the Idaho Falls City of Refuge
Men's Mission

Spring 2009

City of Refuge Discipleship Program

The City of Refuge is preparing to start a new discipleship program to give opportunities to men that are looking for a chance to change their lives. It will be a 12 to 18 month faith based program. Our students will go through several phases of increasing levels of learning, responsibility and spiritual growth. Unlike our emergency shelter program these students will not be required to immediately go out to work but will be given an opportunity to re-think their life and focus their attention on their relationship with the Lord. Their time will be very structured with teaching in life skills, bible study, physical exercise, and being involved in working within the City of Refuge. As the students get into the higher phases of our program they will be getting involved with a local church and the community. When a student graduates from our program they will have a job, be active in a local church and a responsible member of our community. This can only happen with the support of the Christian community. We need people to be willing to get involved in teaching and mentoring. Most of all we need churches that are willing to be open to our students and accept them into their fellowship just as they are, knowing that they will stumble and fall a few times on the way.

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Rom 8:31-35



Thanks from our Volunteer Coordinator

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers that have made my job so much easier in the past two years that I have been working at the City of Refuge. I have completely enjoyed working with and getting to know all of you. The Lord has been preparing me and has called me to work in a different part of this ministry as the Lead Supervisor of the Ruth House. I will miss you all very much. God Bless you in all that you do~Ami

“He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said...”
Matthew 28:6



From the Director



David McKinney

Most people resist change. It might be fear of the unknown, the feeling of losing control or being out of the comfort of a familiar routine. The truth is we are called to change. If we are following Jesus we are to be transformed into His likeness, growing more like Him each day (2Cor 3:18). The City of Refuge is in the midst of changes. Beds are moving around, staff is moving and our mission is adding a new dimension. Ami Keating has been promoted to Lead Supervisor at the Ruth House, Butch Rardin is heading up our new Discipleship Program and Ronnie Lloyd is stepping up to Lead Supervisor at City of Refuge. Add to this the uncertainty of our economy and I admit to some anxiety. Is this the right time to be introducing a new program? Are there enough resources to handle the new program and the increased demand for services? These were questions that needed to be asked and prayerfully worked through before we could move forward.

After careful planning and approval by our board of directors it was decided that City of Refuge could take on this new Discipleship Program by utilizing our current staff and facility along with volunteers from the community and tapping into reserves that have been accumulated for this purpose. We have 'seed money' to last us two years and believe an increase in donations will be seen as people see the value of changed lives. This is a much needed service for our residents and our community.

So, how do we handle change? First, we must be sure that the Lord is the one in charge of the ministry. That makes Him responsible and of course with that He gets all the honor and glory. Then we rely on His promises:

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus". Php 4:6-7 (NIV)

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?" Mt 6:25-27 (NIV)

Finally, we just enjoy the part we are privileged to play in God's plan.

Yours in Christ,



David McKinney



Keep praying for "Tim."

Our new thrift store hours are from 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, Monday – Saturday.



Amy Kaser

The extra hours seem to be working out so we will continue to be open these times. We appreciate all the clothing that you donate. In addition we can always use household items for people who are in need. This can be when they are just starting out on their own or have faced a crisis where they have to start over. Items could be old furniture that you no longer need or household items like dishes, pots, pans etc. When you do your spring cleaning this year, or if you are replacing your own furniture we would love to have you donate those gently used items to us. Just give us a call to make sure we have room to take your donations. There is always someone who is in need. I would like to thank all the people who do donate to our store already. If you haven't been in recently come and check us out.

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." LK 12:32-34 (NIV)

COR Needs

- Coffee
- Salad Dressing
- Eggs
- Dried Pasta
- Canned Fruit
- Paper Plates
- Bleach, Laundry Soap
- Jeans, Sleeping Bags
- Copy Paper
- Thrift Store Volunteers- Thursday & Friday
- Volunteer Cooks
- Prayer for: Finances, Leadership, Volunteers, Staff

Your 2008 Gifts at Work

(For January 1 2008 - December 31, 2008)

- 4185 bed nights provided
- 207 different residents stayed
- 65% of residents moved to more permanent housing
- 19% were veterans
- 28% were under age 30
- 52% were age 31-50
- 17% were age 51-60
- 3% were age 61 and above
- 553 Bible devotion attendees
- 13,116 individual meals served
- Over 1075 requests filled for food boxes and store vouchers

2008 Financial Results

Income	2007	2008
Individuals	93,700	70,800
Churches	28,600	19,200
Businesses	35,100	17,900
Thrift Store	50,200	40,200
Grants	83,400	85,200
Other	11,300	14,000
Total	302,300	247,300
Expenses		
Salary/Wages	202,500	186,700
Utilities	10,900	13,000
Assistance/consumables	4,200	4,900
Repairs/maintenance	7,700	8,100
Building rent	5,400	4,900
Fundraising/advertising	5,800	4,500
Supplies/printing	5,900	4,800
Depreciation/other	28,000	10,100
Allocated Expenses	14,900	13,300
COR Carryover	17,000	(3,000)
Total	302,300	247,300

Memorials

(Through March 21, 2009)

In Memory Of:

Ted Harder given by Vicki Harder, **Betty Zimmerman** given by Ramon Howard, **Don Schorzman** given by Charlotte Schorzman, **Mrs. Margaret Billman** given by Bill Babuck, **Ann McKell** given by Norma Davis, **their son Chris LeWayne Looslie** given by Larry and Donna Looslie, **Bernard Mael** given by Patsy Mael, **Earl and Exie Soelberg** given by Bruce Soelberg, **Mary B. Hess** given by Tom Hess, **Destry Hansen** given by Steve and Karen Hansen, **Jerry Harker** given by Craig Harker, **David E. Stolworthy** given by Brenda Stolworthy, **Craig A. Pew** given by Robert Pew, **Donald Peck** given by Marilyn Peck, **Bill Donney** given by Robert and Rosalie Donnelly, **Rodney Lysfjord** given by Edna Magnelli, **Jay C. and Alice Hawker** given by Lynn Hawker, **Ben McKinney and Mr. and Mrs. Carson Russell** given by Eileen McKinney-Gardner in the name of Sandra and Ben Russell, **their son** given by Keith and Carol Robertson, **Maurice"Mac" McLain** given by Paul and Penny Pinson, **Bruce Soelberg** given by The Winston Soelberg family.

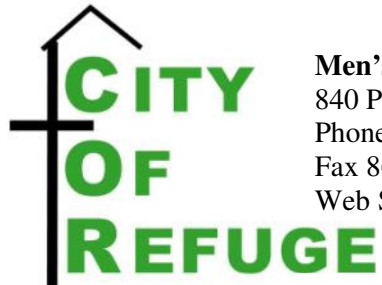
In Honor Of:

The Sunnyside Teachers given by Mr. and Mrs. Barry Black, **The Sunnyside Faculty and Staff** given by Ken and Patsy Watts, Connie McLellan and Lyn McIntye, **Tommy Snouffer** given by Robert A. Long, **The Messiah** given by Don and Carol Fox, **Jesus** given by Farrel Murray.

The City of Refuge is a non-profit organization committed to providing emergency shelter, essential services, and hope to homeless men. COR is the only emergency shelter of its kind in a nine-county region of Eastern Idaho. Meals, food, and personal items are also provided to the hungry and hurting in our area.

Our Mission Statement

Demonstrating the love of Christ by providing opportunities for the homeless and impoverished to become self-reliant through the utilization of resources provided by God's people, for God's glory.

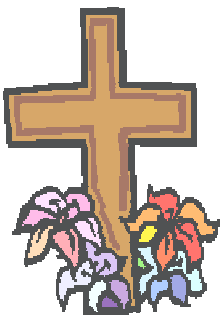


Men's Shelter & Community Outreach
840 Park Avenue, Idaho Falls, ID 83402.
Phone: 208-552-5575
Fax 866-888-8483
Web Site: www.cityofrefugeif.org

Director: David McKinney
david@cityofrefugeif.org



City of Refuge is a self-supporting outreach of: **Family Care Center, Inc.** 1675 Curlew Drive, Idaho Falls 83406
Interim Executive Director: Sue Lancaster



Blessed Easter To You!