



THE Beacon

A newsletter for friends and donors of Great Falls Rescue Mission

Summer 2025

Don't miss...

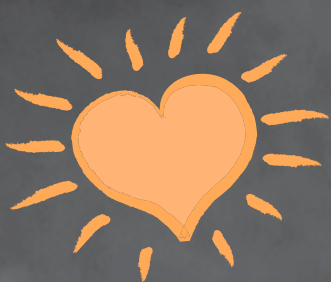
YOU can show a hurting neighbor they're not alone! **2**



"Now I'm more confident in myself." **3**



You Can Make a Child's Summer Brighter! **4**



Your love helps Twila know she is not alone...

LOVE  YOUR
NEIGHBOR
SUMMER CAMPAIGN





“NOW I’M MORE CONFIDENT IN MYSELF.”

At the age of 10, Twila lost her father to brain cancer, which impacted the course of her life and her faith. “I was mad for a really long time – mad at God, mad at doctors, mad at everybody.”

She turned to alcohol for the first time the following year. “I got drunk with a friend when I was 11,” she says. “My mom was a drinker, so we found it in the house... Life was hard, especially my teenage years.”

Twila’s alcohol dependency came to a head many years later. Her marriage ended and she had broken her leg. Through several surgeries and severe depression, she couldn’t work and started drinking more and more. Eventually she lost her

apartment.

Twila came to Great Falls Rescue Mission and found a refuge where she could begin to heal. “I feel safe here and I know there will be food and a warm place to sleep.”

She joined our Christian Discipleship Program for women and has been sober for two years.

Thanks to the Mission, she has found a community to support her recovery for herself and her family. After she finishes the 16-month program, she hopes to get her own place where her six grandchildren can visit.

Thank you for loving neighbors like Twila “as you’ve loved yourself.” Your kindness has reminded her that she is



not alone and that a better life is possible!
“I’m thankful to the Mission because they’re there to help people learn how to live life again, like they’re helping me.”

“I’m learning to trust God. I’m learning to forgive those who hurt me and also myself.”



A meal served with LOVE for a neighbor in need... **just \$2.49!**



A Message from JIM MCCORMICK

You're sharing **God's love** this summer.

I don't have to tell you that our community is special. You see for yourself local acts of care and compassion. When neighbors feel lonely and forgotten, we step up to show love. It's what makes North Central Montana strong.

But people like YOU make the greatest difference... generous friends who go above and beyond to show love to neighbors in need. That's why I know I can count on your support over these crucial summer months – when so many local men, women and children remain hurting, hungry and homeless.

This month we're kickstarting **our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign** to help meet the unique needs of our guests this summer season – like shelter from the heat, nourishing meals and clean water. Each month

is an opportunity for you to respond with a generous gift that reflects the words of Matthew 22:39... to *"love your neighbor as yourself."*

Your support will show struggling people in our community like Twila that they are never alone. Read her story on page 3 of this newsletter – then consider how you can best respond to help more people like her this summer. We'll be so grateful.

"A Beacon of Hope Since 1963"

Jim McCormick
Executive Director

"Love your neighbor as yourself..."

- Matthew 22:39



COMING SOON:

Summer is in full swing, but the new school year will be here soon... Help local children and families in need prepare at our Back 2 School Blast!

The Mission is partnering with Alliance for Youth, Great Falls Association of Realtors, United Way of Cascade County, Great Falls Public Schools, SCHEELS and Alluvion to provide 1,500 backpacks filled with school supplies to help students in Great Falls start the school year on the right foot.

You're invited to get involved!

- Donate school supplies & backpacks.
- Volunteer to help fill backpacks August 11-13 (shifts available 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., 1-3 p.m., 3-5 p.m.).
- Donate to sponsor the event.

Please contact Lynne in the Volunteer Office at **(406) 761-2653** or lynne.staigmiller@gfrm.org with any questions or to sign up.

Our Back 2 School Blast event is on Friday, August 15, at 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Montana ExpoPark. This is a pre-registered event for school-aged children.

Thank you for helping local children start the new school year strong!



YOU CAN SHOW A HURTING NEIGHBOR THEY'RE NOT ALONE!



It starts with a meal...



and ends with a life renewed!

Your gift of \$2.49 provides a hot, nourishing meal – and can lead to other life-changing services like shelter, Christ-centered counsel and recovery.

Give to our Love Your Neighbor summer campaign... and show local people who are homeless and hurting that you care.



Give now!
greatfallsrescuemission.org

LOVE  YOUR
NEIGHBOR
SUMMER CAMPAIGN



You Can Make a Child's Summer Brighter!



Our annual children's Summer Day Camp runs June 16 through August 14, 2025, for boys and girls staying at Great Falls Rescue Mission Cameron Family Center.

Kids entering first through sixth grades will enjoy activities like swimming, gardening, field trips, crafting, Bible lessons,

sports, hiking and family days with parents. Our summer camp season ends with a one-week overnight camp at Camp Rotary on August 4-8.

You can help make a child's summer brighter at camp!

Sign up as a volunteer or camp counselor, and make cherished memories for these precious children. Volunteers will supervise kids at our Cameron Family Center and other locations throughout the community.

To learn more, please visit **gfrm.org** or contact Athena Ayers at **athena.ayers@gfrm.org** or **(406) 205-0667**.



You're allowing kids to dream again

Childhood is a time of innocence... full of hope and dreams. A healthy childhood is foundational for overall development – physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually.

Yet children experiencing homelessness are robbed of this time. Without the stability of a safe home, they lose confidence in themselves and lose hope for their future.

Your support of Great Falls Rescue Mission helps protect our youngest, most vulnerable guests. You help provide a safe, nurturing environment where children can learn, grow and thrive! These kids have hope for a brighter future through academic tutoring, spiritual encouragement and counseling to heal from emotional trauma.

Thank you for caring for children in our community whose futures are at risk. Together, we're providing child-focused care that restores their innocence and reignites their dreams.

