

# THE DNA OF BIBLICAL LOVE

The Greek word agape in the New Testament refers to love that comes from God, no strings attached. God's love is a part of His character. God loves from an outpouring of who He is. Agape love isn't concerned with self, it's concerned with the greatest good of another. Agape isn't born just out of emotions, feelings, familiarity, or attraction, but from the will and as a choice. Agape requires faithfulness, commitment, and sacrifice without expecting anything in return.

Because of you, our supporters in generosity, prayer and volunteerism, and because of His grace and agape love, we serve those in need in Western Montana.

You'll find this newsletter packed with Good News and advancements of all manner for serving those in need by the grace of Jesus Christ.

Many of these things are behind the scenes changes that result in great impact to those we serve. For example, you'll hear about volunteer impact, stories of new internal programs such as Virtuous, the new website, and the expansion and upgraded shelters for the TSOS.

## YOU + HIM = IMPACT

Thank you for partnering with us to serve, rescue and transform those in need by the grace of Jesus Christ.



Jim Hicks, Executive Director

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Lynsie is a previous graduate of the Grace House women's recovery home. Lynsie first came to Hope Rescue Mission just a few months sober and fleeing an abusive and toxic relationship. Lynsie had a two month old infant and was filled with fear, knowing this may be her and her daughter's last chance at survival.

Lynsie entered the Grace House program in 2017 and completed the program in 2018. Now, four years later, Lynsie continues to thrive in her recovery!

While in the program, Lynsie was able to begin reunification with her other two children. Now, God has graciously restored this relationship and the family is blessed to gather together on a regular basis.

Knowing that Hope Rescue Mission saw something in her that she didn't see in herself was a saving grace. Between her home church (River of Life), Hope Rescue Mission, and the incredible people she now surrounds herself with, Lynsie is living in the freedom that Jesus promises - free from addiction and living a life in surrender to Him!

Lynsie states that for people struggling in the same way she was when she first reached out for help, she'd tell them: "There is always hope, even when it doesn't seem like it. When life seems hopeless, give it to God and fully trust in Him. There is a way out and all the hard work of getting sober is 100% worth it."

When asked what she is most looking forward to in the next year, Lynsie said she "is looking forward to a season of rest."

For individuals like Lynsie, support from you provides what's needed to operate programs like the Grace House, the Temporary Safe Outdoor Space, 549-HOPE, and our Hope Thrift Boutique.

Lynsie and her family



# HOPE

RESCUE MISSION

Helping | Restoring | Transforming

## INTERNAL CHANGES

With God's grace and provision, Hope Rescue Mission was able to update the website to make it more user friendly, give you the information you need and want, and make it easier to connect to our supporters. The new look is clean and easy to navigate, so if you haven't already, head over to [www.hopemontana.org](http://www.hopemontana.org) and get to know the new site.

Again, by God's grace and provision, we are in the process of implementing a new donor management system across the Mission. The exponential growth over the last 2 years has made it clear we needed to change the way we organize information, communicate with supporters, and work cohesively as a staff.

After much research, Hope Rescue Mission will be working with Virtuous, a multi-faceted platform for giving, fundraising, marketing, and numerous automated features. Internally, this will reduce the number of staff hours doing repetitive tasks that can be automated, as well as keep all donor information in one place so we can better connect and communicate with each of you on issues that are important to you. For you, the giving platform is more streamlined, you can login to your own donor profile and update payment information or change details, obtain on-demand giving history, and more! Virtuous is a key partner with numerous missions across the country and we are delighted to join the team.



[www.hopemontana.org](http://www.hopemontana.org) | 406-542-5240



# MINISTRY PROGRAMS UPDATE

The **Temporary Safe Outdoor Space** has been in operations for two years now and we are gearing up for an expansion. The current operations will move off of the private land we've been leasing onto County owned land in town. This will be a notable change for many reasons, including the addition of utilities to the operations. Currently, there is no running water, electricity, or sewer at TSOS.

The new location will be connected to all utilities and will feature 30 hard-sided Pallet Shelters that are heated/cooled and run on electricity. This will mitigate many weather-related concerns at the existing TSOS location, but more importantly, it will provide a more dignified space for individuals to work towards transformational development. Additionally, the **50% capacity expansion (from 20 to 30 units)**, will allow more opportunities to serve, rescue, and transform those in need since it will serve a capacity of up to 60 people. The move is slated for Winter 2022/2023, barring any construction delays.



New Pallet Shelters

**Hope Thrift Boutique** continues to grow in donations received and sold, directly affecting ministries within the Mission. Additionally, more than 88,000 lbs. of textiles were pressed into bales so far this year, saving as many pounds from filling up our landfill! An additional 5,000 pounds of paired shoes, 2,400 pounds of accessories, and 9,000 lbs. of books have been sorted and distributed or sold when possible.

HTB held a winter clothing giveaway in October, **distributing 720 coats/boots/hats/gloves/socks/snowpants**. What a blessing to share with the community!



All this was sorted and baled over just one week!

The need for a new box truck to pickup donations, make deliveries, and transport items to the baler is great. Please join us in prayer that this need will be met.

**549-HOPE** has already served **1,100 people** in 2022, a **38% increase** from TOTAL served during all of 2021.

Hope Coordinators are working diligently to answer calls, meet needs, and help those in need find ways to advocate for themselves long term. The calls coming in far outweigh the manpower available to respond to them right away, and the requests for help continue to increase, especially when the cold weather hits. Please join us in prayer that we can continue to meet this need and for the right volunteers to be available to assist.

## Helping | Restoring | Transforming

Does your employer offer a match for your giving? Any gift you've already given (or new gifts!) may be eligible to be matched by your employer to **DOUBLE THE IMPACT!** Submit your request before your employers' cutoff date!

### DOUBLE YOUR DONATION!

Find out if you're eligible for a corporate match.

**I want to GIVE:**

- \$75 helps feed 30 people for the Holiday Meal
- \$150 helps someone like Lysie find long-term recovery
- \$500 helps a family stay in their home this winter
- \$1,000 will sponsor a Pallet Shelter at the expanded TSOS for 1 month
- I prefer to give a one time donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_/month

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to pay by  Visa  Master Card  
 Discover  AMEX

Name as it appears on the card \_\_\_\_\_



SCAN ME

You can also donate online at [www.hopemontana.org](http://www.hopemontana.org)

Union Gospel Mission of Missoula dba HOPE RESCUE MISSION is a 501c3 organization. Your charitable contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.