THE GIFT OF YOUR TIME!
Volunteer with Friendship House

Do you want to make a difference? Do you want to feel needed? Do you want to give back? Wonderful! Will you volunteer at Friendship House? We have many ways to volunteer, whether individually or as a group. You could read to our preschoolers in the morning. You could serve breakfast, lunch, or dinner to kids. You could answer phones mid-day. You could work on homework with our elementary students in the afternoons. Or perhaps you want to mentor some teens in the evening while shooting some hoops or over coffee in our café.

What about your group? Almost all of us belong to a business, a social service club, or a church? We could use you! Every day we need help around our facility such as painting, cleaning, landscaping, gardening, sorting, and organizing. Your group could come for as little as an hour and get so much accomplished to help the children and families of Friendship House.

Think about it. Do it!
Give us a call and say,
“I WANT TO VOLUNTEER!”

BETTER STEWARDS OF YOUR SUPPORT!
New Ventures between MRM and Friendship House

I want to take this opportunity to let you know about an exciting venture that Friendship House of Christian Service and Montana Rescue Mission (MRM) are embarking on. With the desire to be good stewards of your financial support, Friendship House and MRM have decided to partner by sharing back office support staff. We are not merging. Rather, we are collaborating at a deeper level, but remaining independent.

What does this mean? While the programs you know and love will remain distinct as a time tested way to serve “the least of these” in our the community, MRM and Friendship House will each save some administrative costs. This will allow us to direct more of your gifts to Friendship House towards our individual programs. We will do this by sharing staff for human resources, resource development, finance, and operations. The outcome will be more robust client services and greater collaboration between the agencies. This “sharing staff” is a trend in non-profits nationally, and we are excited to lead the charge locally.

Because your generous donations are so vital to our operations, your gift to Friendship House will continue to support our children and families. In fact, it will make your contribution more effective than ever through this partnership.

Thank you for your continuing support Friendship House, where we are stretching your gifts further and serving better than ever!

Rev. Matt Lundgren, Executive Director

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Val Caylon

I’ve been involved in Friendship House all my life, starting when I was 9 years old. I lived across the street from Friendship House. My friends and I would go there every day. Grandma Mary showed us love, and she would tell us the stories of our faith from the Bible.

I credit much of the success of my life to being a Friendship House kid. I’ve been married to my husband for 53 years with five children, nine grandchildren, and three great grandchildren! I’m involved in various ministries through church. I have worked at the Montana Rescue Mission for over 15 years overseeing the Bargain Centers. You could say I have a servant’s heart.

My life has been successful, and it all started when I walked through the doors of Friendship House. Thank you for supporting Friendship House kids like me!

Counseling

Kids and Families showing Amazing Results with Counseling

Inevitably, a child will start to cry or maybe throw a tantrum or have a meltdown after school. It happens for any number of reasons. Kids miss their parents, they’re having a bad day, they feel sick, someone teases them, or another reason. In years past, kids who acted out enough would be sent to the front office, where our busy front office coordinator would do their best to take care of them, but the root of the problem never went away. But because of you, this does not happen anymore!

Because of your generosity, Friendship House’s counselor has been counseling kids and families for almost a year now. When a child acts out, our counselor, Mrs. Carolyn, steps in to ask them about their day, what’s upsetting them, and how to best work through those emotions.

You see, social and emotional maturity is a skill that can and must be learned for kids to succeed. Unfortunately, many of our kids have never been taught how to cope. That’s where Friendship House counseling steps in. Because of your support, Friendship House kids are learning to self-regulate, to keep their emotions in check, and to speak their need instead of acting out.

As you know, the foundations of positive lifelong behaviors are laid in childhood. Because of your investment, kids and families in counseling are learning the skills they need to succeed.

Your Giving, Your Way

The Many Ways You Can Give

You support Friendship House kids and families with your giving, and we can’t thank you enough! But did you know you can give in more and varied ways than a check in the mail? For instance, do you have an IRA and are required to take your minimum distribution? You can give directly from your IRA to Friendship House. It’s called a IRA Charitable Gift Rollover, and it will help lower your taxes. Or another option is to place Friendship House within your estate plans as a portion or percentage of your estate. Or you could set up a planned gift, such as a Charitable Gift Annuity that will provide you income for life if you like. Or you could give a gift of property, such as a vehicle, land, or stock. All of these are excellent ways to make your giving even more impactful to the kids and families of Billings’ south side. Should you want to make a gift in one of these many and varied ways, see your financial advisor and give us a call. We’d love to talk to you about it!