



## Center of Hope – Brett Rockvam

**A glimpse at what your support made possible:**

We have many things in the works that will expand our ministry. We are in the process of building relationships with local schools to better serve our new neighborhood. Our Geared-To-Empower Bike Ministry will be a great ice breaker to meet new families in our neighborhood. We are working with two agencies that help people transition out of prison. One is teaching recently released inmates job skills needed to find employment. The other agency is with drug court as addictions continue to be a big reason for our friends on the street.



**A life saved  
by a helmet  
that he  
received  
with his  
bicycle in  
our Bike  
Ministry!**

We acquired a free evening medical clinic that will reside at the Center of Hope. This is another opportunity to holistically care for the needy in Sioux Falls and beyond.

As people come into the clinic, prayer partners will greet them with the gospel of Jesus. Prayer partners intentionally pray for everyone in the clinic, especially for healing. I can't express my eagerness to make this clinic successful and to care for the needy in our community in new and exciting ways.

The photo to the right contains a couple of friends we have known for many years. They arrived in our Care Center on a cold fall day. For reasons I will not get into, they have chosen to live outside in the elements on the streets.



On this day, I was able to visit and check-in with them on how life was going. The lives they chose to live would not be what I would want for myself, but we each get to choose our path. My prayer is that one day they will surrender to God's plan for their lives and accept the hope found in Jesus Christ. Until then, I will continue to welcome them in and help them with little things like Bomba socks that were provided to us to give out to people living on the streets. The Center of Hope also gifted them with a sleeping bag that turns into a coat! The sleeping bag has a durable canvas shell like a Carhartt work coat, which will keep them warm on cold days.

I am praying for them and many others who have chosen tough lives. However, we will keep sharing the great news of Jesus with them as they continue to visit the Center of Hope. My prayer is that one day they will receive the Holy Spirit with open arms and live into their purpose of loving Him and others each day.

### **Our challenges of 2022**

1. COVID-19 and the move to a new location initially led staff and volunteers to uncertainty on the future of the Center of Hope and where God was leading the organization. However, as time passed, we are picking up speed on implementing new ideas (Examples: expanding Bike Ministry, created and implemented Earn-Your-Way program, expanding what we offer in our Care Center, new clinic for the uninsured, etc.). The Center of Hope has core areas of ministry, which we will expand to better reach our new neighborhood.
2. We had difficulties understanding the true needs of our new neighborhood. However, we are in the process of meeting the needs of our community while dreaming of what could be.



Sharing Christmas Store 2022

### **Please pray**

1. Pray that we continue to live into our purpose as an organization so that He is glorified in everything we say and do.
2. Pray for our staff and volunteers as ministry work is difficult and often lonely.
3. Pray for financial support. Our giving philosophy is different from many ministries. We ask our guests to contribute something to help them move forward (sweat equity). This could be done through community service to earn a bicycle or clothing item or purchasing the items at greatly-reduced prices. I feel this is the best practice at moving people forward in life. I believe in this model. However, what we receive only covers about 10 percent of ministry costs. Raising 90 percent of funds to move ministry forward gets harder each year as costs of ministry raise.

Thank you for your partnership in mission,

Brett Rockvam  
Executive Director of Center of Hope