



FRIENDS IN SERVICE HELPING

GREETINGS FROM OUR DIRECTOR



I want to start this newsletter with a shout out of Bill Louis of Eagle Mountain, Utah. Bill participated in the Music and Murals Festival this past September and was assigned the FISH Carson City Thrift Store wall to adorn with what became a vibrant equestrian piece titled, "Runaway Stagecoach." His artwork was sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank and will be a long lasting staple to our location and this community. A huge thank you for making this possible! Check out an image of the mural on page 5 or if you find yourself in the area, take a drive by the FISH Carson City location.

Another shout out goes to our generous community; John Copoulos, Architect; and Plenium Builders. We are making great progress on our Student Housing Revitalization Project and expect to open the first apartment tower in November and the second tower by December. As of the printing of this newsletter, we only have two out of 36 apartments that still need to be adopted and 'sponsored' via a \$2,500 donation to cover the cost of furnishings (kitchen appliances, A/C unit, stacked washer and dryer). We have raised about \$12.7M of the \$17M project and with your help, we hope to have it full funded by early 2024.

The FISH commercial building, located on the same lot of the FISH Student Housing Revitalization Project, is currently scheduled to open in February of 2024. Local zoning required that FISH have the commercial building on the lot facing N. Carson Street and we are making the most out of it by inviting local restaurants and businesses to utilize and rent the space. In addition to generating revenue to keep other costs down, we anticipate to create part-time job opportunities for the students and their families within the business that will utilize the building

You may want to check out the brief videos on our Facebook page (Facebook/NVFISH) where I go into more detail on the Who/What/Why/Where/When of this project. Our goal is to revitalize the look of Carson City, revitalize the work force, and to help families reach their highest potential.

We encourage you to stop by our main campus for a tour and to meet some of our new staff members. Our thrift stores continue to have great bargains, and we love getting your harvested fruit and garden vegetables that we use in the Family Dining Room, and give out via food boxes. So, another big thank you to all of you who shop and donate locally!

The local elementary and middle schools in Carson are continuing to compete to be the "Trick-or-Treat for FISH" champions and earn the "Phil the FISH" trophy through a food drive that encourages students to collect non-perishable food items that will help feed needy families this upcoming Winter season.. This canned food drive runs through the end of October. Other Fall events include,

- 3rd Annual High Five Turkey Drive on Tuesday, November 14 sponsored by and taking place at Nisan of Carson City
- FISH Thanksgiving Day Feast at the Carson Plaza Conference Center
- Empty Bowls Carson City on Friday, December 1st at the Carson Mall
- KTVN "Share Your Christmas" Food Drive on Friday, December 8th at the Governors Mansion

FISH provides Food, Instruction, Shelter, and Healthcare to community members in need, so that they may improve their self-sufficiency through life-changing experiences.



Carson Admin & Thrift:
Minden Thrift:
Gardnerville Ranchos Services:
Mound House Thrift:

Locations

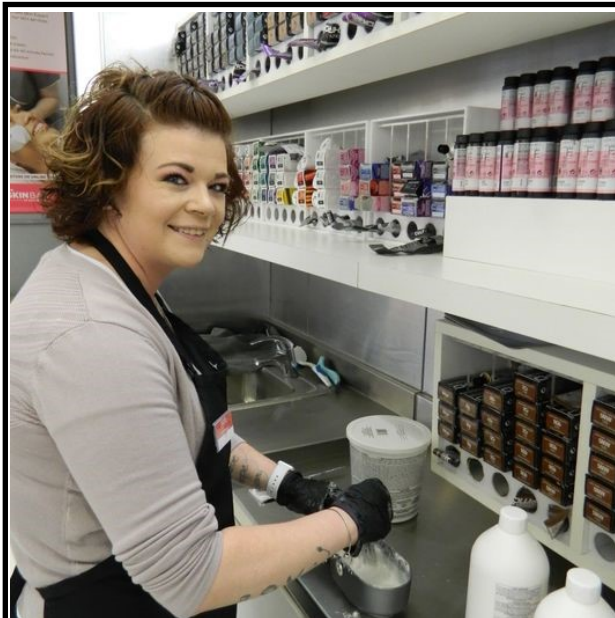
138 E. Long St.
1561 US Hwy 395 N
921 Mitch Dr.
10126 US-50 E

775-882-FISH (3474)
775-783-FISH (3474)
775-265-FISH (3474)
775-721-FISH (3474)



FRIENDS IN SERVICE HELPING

There Is Hope



Meet Keira Harrison. A FISH success story. This is her story.

When I first came to Fish I was living in my car with my two daughters and only had a little over 3 months of sobriety. I started in the women's homeless shelter July 2018. Got into transitional housing Oct. 2018. My family moved out of transitional housing Nov. 2021 into our first "home!" I truly utilized the program for what it is there for a "HAND UP NOT A HAND OUT!" Today I am proudly a certified peer recovery support specialist with over five years of sobriety and live in a beautiful 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house with our 4 children!

THANK YOU FISH for giving me the opportunity to change my life, teaching me how to live a successful, self-sufficient, stable and healthy life! I also learned how to properly manage my finances through Circles and taking the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University during my time in the program. Those programs have been a true saving

grace for our family and assisted us to maintain our stability! My family wouldn't be where they are today without FISH. I'm beyond proud to be a success story for FISH (Friends in Service Helping)

Homeless in Carson City

Howdy! I'm a 56 year old homeless woman living in Carson City, Nevada. Been homeless since May for 3 months now. I'm writing this journal as a project for Linda, our Life Skills teacher at F.I.S.H. At this time I've been fortunate enough to live in their women's homeless shelter and safe house called The Wylie House. I'm here for a 90 day stint to get my life together until I can get a place of my own. The shelter is great, all us girls get along and share our food with each other. We talk about our situations and who to avoid out on the streets. I have 2 jobs. I work for Walmart and the United States Census Bureau. I can well afford a studio apartment but I have 2 evictions under my belt and bad credit. Medical bills and student loans have destroyed my credit.

The very worst part about being homeless is when the night comes. You sit there and retrospect about life and all it's "what ifs" and "if only I had", etc. Oftentimes I would cry myself to sleep because the loneliness is unbearable. No one wants anything to do with you when you're down and out. You'd be surprised at how many people live in their cars in this town. Carson City is in desperate need of rent control.

Still, life goes on and I wake up every day at 3 AM to go to work at Walmart then after that I do Census work. I work and pay F.I.S.H. a very small fee to stay there. If it wasn't for them I'd still be living outdoors. I don't know where the hell I'll end up but I'm very thankful for my car, my 2 jobs and F.I.S.H.

Thank you,
Robin Christy—Wylie House resident (July 2023)



Total Food Donations by
Northern Nevada Food Bank
March 2023-October 2023: **\$155,691.54**



Fresh Produce Donated to FISH by
The Greenhouse Project
2023: **767lbs** Since 2014: **7,443lbs**



FRIENDS IN SERVICE HELPING

There Is Hope cont.

“

Thank you for your unconditional support throughout the years. I feel blessed to be firmly planted in the community and to be able to watch FISH build the Student Housing buildings. It's been amazing to watch the growth of this program. Thank you.

- FISH CLIENT

”



“

Thank you for helping me out with a place to stay and a job back in 2007-2008. In 2007, I was completely homeless and dropped off in Carson City. God led me to FISH House and you all helped to make me a better person. Thank you.

- FISH CLIENT

”



FISH Receives First Place for Most Philanthropic at Best of Carson City

This is the third year in a row that FISH has received this honor. This recognition means a great deal to FISH because it tells us that the community sees what we are doing with the donations that come in. The combination of every dollar generated from our Thrift Stores, in-kind donations of services and goods to our program operations, and monetary contributions helps us continue to give back to our community members in need. We can not do it without you!



**Because of Your Support, We Have Been Able to Make A Massive Impact
The FISH 2022-2023 Report Shows a 21% Increase in Services!**



342,670

Food Pantry Meals

16,460

Dining Room Meals



\$102,894.19

Amount of funds spent on water, gas, and electricity assistance for

510

households



3238

Households Served



5675

Total People Served



849

Total Homeless Served



FISH STUDENT HOUSING COMPLETION IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

By the time you receive this newsletter, each of the 36 apartment units will have the installation of kitchen appliances including a dishwasher, stove, microwave, and refrigerator, as well as a stacked washer and dryer, an A/C unit, and bedding and living room furniture as needed. The units will just about be 'move-in' ready. However, there will be final touches to make to the exterior of the FISH Student Housing buildings.

Once the pavement is completed, we will build and install and children's play area, designed to improve their focus and imagination. Then, we will install a dog walking and play area, as each resident will be permitted to bring a pet 30lbs and under. Lastly, we will install a high-speed Electric Vehicle charging station for the public to utilize when within the local businesses of the commercial building. Needless to say, it's all coming together at the construction site.

Back at FISH headquarters, our Client Service Director and team work together to brainstorm and create Student living guidelines, codes of conduct, agreements, and new staffing. To ensure that this new system works, we need to make sure our current system has a strong heartbeat and is ready to manage both FISH Client Services and the new Student Housing operations. With the expansion of our team and placing team members in the right seats, we are well on our way to becoming a high-functioning, efficient system for this new endeavor.

Then there is the commercial building that faces N. Carson St; a spectacle of new confusion as to how it ties to the housing project. The truth of the matter is, it's a requirement from the City. With the first and second floor being home to local businesses, we anticipate these businesses will offer part-time job opportunities to our new residents while they focus primarily on school. The third floor will be used as a training and development center for the residents and public opportunities.



Leave your
legacy and
make a
donation





FRIENDS IN SERVICE HELPING



From Top Left to Right:

1) Nature's Bakery delivers 1,500lbs of Blueberry Fig Bars to FISH Food Bank (July) 2) The final beam to the FISH Commercial building is signed by local supporters and hoisted up in place. 3) The FISH Student Housing units begin cabinetry and appliance installation. 4) FISH Quarterly Shoe Drive donates over 13,000lbs of shoes to third-world countries through Give2Org. 5) United Services Inc donates over 800 rolls of toilet paper to FISH temporary shelters. 6) FISH teams up with Pets of the Homeless to provide a Free Pet Clinic (May) 7) Dr. Colleen Lyons offers her time at FISH Ross Medical Clinic every Tuesday to help those without insurance. 8) The FISH Family Dining Room serves up a daily hot meal. 9) Utah based muralist Bill Louis transform the FISH Thrift Store with a new mural titled 'Runaway Stagecoach' during the Carson City Music & Murals Festival (Sep) 10) Volunteers from Grace Works gather to repair the FISH Focus House fence (May).



FRIENDS IN SERVICE HELPING

A Special Thank You to Our FISH Members!

All these Donors qualify as a "FISH Member" when as a family they donate at least \$500 a year, or as an organization,

Alpine Insurance	First Presbyterian Church	NNDA	George & Barbara Allison	Alvin Craig
Bearings & Related Components	Flavors of India	Parasol Tahoe	Alisa Andrews	Cindy Chowder
Benson's Feed & Tack	Food Maxx	Pax Christian Church	Patricia Areias	Susan Crowell
Berger North Foundation	Funds2Orgs, LLC	Plenium Builders	Richard & Cheryl Arguile	Marcia Bernard Cuccaro
Blue Adobe Foundation	Genoa Community Church	Simon Family Trust	Mary & Jim Atkins	Paul & Bernice Dahl
Bourgeois Interior Design	Great Basin Consulting Group	Simple Generosity	Jim & Lori Bagwell	Fred & Renate Daniels
Bread of Life Church	Harley-Davidson Financial Services	Snap-On Tools	Shirley & Larry Baldwin	Nina Davis
Briggs Electric, Inc	Hedco Foundation	Southwest Gas Corp	Richard & Sharron L. Baldwin	Ellen DeChristopher
Calvary Chapel of Carson City	Helen Close Charitable Foundation	St. Teresa Avila Catholic Church	Jeanne Baret	Richard Dernbach
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Carson City Elks Lodge #2177	International Church of the Foursquare	The Cracker Box	Michael Bertrand	Greg Dye
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Evergreen Studio	Nevada Women's Fund	Western Nevada College	Patricia Carpenter	Brian & Holly Hall
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First Church of Christ, Scientist	Nicholas Consulting Engineers CHTD	Mary Adams	James Clark	Vernon & Patricia Hamilton
	Nissan Carson City	Mary Aguilera	P J & D J Clarke	Verna Hauser
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		James Allen	Thomas Cotton	



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Eric & Carolyn Ingbar	Michael & Mary Lewis	Michael Pegram	Gary & JoAnn Sheerin	Peggy & Carter Twedt	& All Who Wish to be Anonymous
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Friends In Service Helping

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www.nvfish.com

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The FISH Manifesto

FISH believes hope is the most empowering approach to self-sufficiency. Without it, there is no igniting the fire underneath each one of us.

We believe that goals, action plans, and accountability can help our clients that are willing to help themselves.

With our “hand-up” mission, our clients find renewed hope. With this hope, clients can better assess their behaviors and skills, and, in turn, develop a willingness to change behaviors that lead to self-sufficiency..



Make a donation to FISH direct from your device!

Stay up to date with FISH events, programs, and volunteer opportunities by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

@NVFISH | @CarsonValleyFISH