



Idaho Falls Area Humanitarian Center

Monthly Newsletter

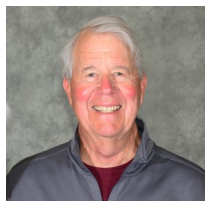


Volume XI

Issue 4

April 2025

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Kent Durst

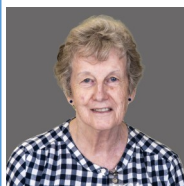
It never ceases to amaze me how blessed we are to have the opportunity to volunteer at the Humanitarian Center. How material comes to us in bags or boxes, is sorted, cut into squares, and matched to make quilt tops. How wood comes in and is made into toys and animals. How people carefully paint them for children to enjoy. How mats and jump ropes are made from plastic bags. How folder games are made for early childhood students. How hundred of quilts have been made to provide warmth and comfort to families in need. How every week a wide variety of items are lovingly sewn and assembled.

Who can forget the cute little puppets?

The knitters, who have undoubtedly knitted enough product to cover the U.S. from sea to shining sea. How the quilters and binders have made a beautiful product ready for use.

(Continued on page 2)

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Madelyn Newman's began serving at Idaho Falls Area Humanitarian Center in March 2010 as a missionary, eager to serve others. With a heart full of compassion and a spirit of service, she quickly became a valuable part of the IFAHC team.

Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, Madelyn's life has been rich with experiences.

(Continued on page 3)

GUEST SPEAKER



Joan Ozmun from St. Vincent de Paul recently shared insights into the vital work the organization does in the community. Operating under the Catholic Church, St. Vincent de

Paul serves as a beacon of hope for individuals and families in need. On average, they assist 200-300 people per month, but in 2024, the organization reached an impressive milestone, helping over 3,600 families.

Among the wide array of services provided by St. Vincent de Paul are food boxes containing enough provisions for three meals a day over three days, and essential items like toilet paper and laundry detergent.

(Continued on page 2)

UPCOMING EVENTS

1 APR APRIL FOOL'S DAY
1 APR 6:30 PM IFAHC YOUTH NIGHT BY RESERVATION
9 APR 8 AM IFAHC EXECUTIVE MEETING
10 APR 6:30 PM IFAHC OPEN EVENING FOR ADULTS ONLY
15 APR 6:30 PM IFAHC YOUTH NIGHT BY RESERVATION
15 APR TAX DAY
17 APR 5 PM IFAHC BOARD MEETING
20 APR EASTER
22 APR EARTH DAY

Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10 am – 3 pm

Phone: 208-497-2868 Website: ifareahumanitariancenter.org

The Idaho Falls Area Humanitarian Center is a non-profit / non-denominational organization

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(Guest Speaker continued)

St Vincent de Paul also offers limited rent assistance, support for utilities, bus tickets, clothing vouchers at their thrift store, and assistance with unexpected expenses that families or individuals may face. Additionally, they provide help with prescriptions, assistance in obtaining identification (such as a driver's license), and even newborn baby kits and hygiene kits in partnership with the Humanitarian Center.

One of the core values of St. Vincent de Paul is their holistic approach to helping others. While they consider all requests, they emphasize the importance of self-sufficiency and encourage recipients to work towards helping themselves as part of the process. Through their compassionate efforts, St. Vincent de Paul continues to be a vital resource in the community, offering support, dignity, and hope to

LAST MONTH'S IMPACT

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Individual center workers..... | 343 |
| First-time volunteers..... | 7 |
| Onsite service hours..... | 5,171 |
| Offsite service hour | 11,507 |
| Total center items produced..... | 3,284 |



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Tuesday Evenings by appointment only

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Page 2

(Assistant Director's Message continued)

And how the donated items are organized, packaged, and delivered to the organizations that need them. The Center also provides an opportunity to socialize with friends and brighten someone's day, even if it's just saying, "Hi."

And how can we not forget to mention the unnamed donor of the baked goods we get every week and for Theron for delivering them to us.

For many of us working here, it came because of an invitation to participate and has changed our lives for the good. You never know a simple invitation can change another person's life.

I would invite you to give some thought to how your life has been blessed for being here and how it has blessed countless people's lives that you probably never know or will meet.

DONATIONS NEEDED

ALL PURPOSE CLEANER
LAUNDRY DETERGENT
DEODORANT
SHAMPOO
DISH DETERGENT
TOILET PAPER
4 PLY YARN
COTTON YARN
HYGIENE KIT SUPPLIES

WAYS TO DONATE

ifareahumanitariancenter.org/donate

In person or by mail
1415 Northgate Mile
Idaho Falls, ID 83401



venmo

(Volunteer Spotlight continued)

Having lived in various places such as Virginia, Weatherford, Mineral Wells, San Antonio, and Baumholder, Germany, where she lived for three years. Her love for travel has taken her to Switzerland and Austria, where her passion for music led her to visit Mozart's home in Salzburg and explore the historic salt mines.

Professionally, Madelyn worked as an Accounting Technician for the Utah State Industrial Commission's Second Injury Fund. She brings a wealth of personal experience, especially from her blended family, which includes three daughters from her first marriage and five stepchildren from her marriage to Stan Newman. Madelyn's time at the Humanitarian Center has been marked by memorable moments, including the story she shares during her tours. She often tells visitors about the humble beginnings of the Center, where many years ago in the small town of Mt. Pleasant, Utah, a group of women saw a need, likely making quilts to help others. Word of their efforts spread to Idaho Falls, where Don and Mozelle Neville were called to lead what would become the Humanitarian Center. For Madelyn, the inspiration behind her work at the Center is the opportunity to serve and make a difference in the lives of others. She says, "I am grateful to be able to serve at the Humanitarian Center! It has been a blessing in my life." Outside of her work at the Center, Madelyn is an avid reader, having completed 270 books to date. She also tutors nine 4th-grade students at Sunnyside Elementary and plays the violin, showcasing her love for music. One of her most unique and profound experiences came when she and her husband, Stan, were invited to speak to hardened criminals at a prison in Poughkeepsie, New York—an experience that left a lasting impression on her. A little-known fact about Madelyn is that she had the little toe on her right foot amputated when she was young, and she humorously notes, "I can honestly say that I'm not all here." Madelyn is also inspired by a poem she memorized long ago, which continues to guide her in both her work and life: *"Supposing today was your last day on earth, the last mile of the journey you've trod. After all of your struggles how much are you worth, how much can you take home to God. Don't count as possessions your silver and gold for tomorrow you leave these behind and all that is yours to have and to hold is the service you've rendered mankind."*

We are blessed to be able to serve alongside Madelyn.

Thank you to all those
who donate to the
Center!

EVENING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Youth Groups—1st and 3rd Tuesdays 6:30-8:30

Adults Only—2nd Thursday of each month

Reservation Required—Contact Randy 208-589-4974

FOLLOW US



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