

OUR HOME TO YOURS

541-2828 www.stpatsfoundation.org

St. Patrick House Newsletter

Vol. 4 No. 1
Fall 2008



"Your place has truly given us hope...thank you so very much!"
Trout Creek, MT

"The house is beautiful, restful and a welcome sign of comfort in a time of need."
Butte, MT

"Unexpected miracle—amazing, gentle, loving home with staff that held the space of unconditional love."
Maui, Hawaii

"We would have been lost without you! Thank you for helping us in our time of need."
Kent, WA

"I felt like I had a home to come to at the end of the day."
Firth, ID

"You made me believe that your greatest joy was to be here for me. You will stay in my heart and prayers."
Hamilton, MT



House Update

What a special season it has been for us at St. Patrick House. The doors have opened just a little bit wider this year, as the beautifully completed five bedroom addition makes room for increasing numbers of patients and families in need of comfort and a place to rest. In July, we had our highest census to date, with 190 guests being welcomed through our doors! And just one week into August, we received our 10,000th guest here at St. Patrick House! It has been a time for staff and volunteers to celebrate the work that we feel privileged to be a part of and to reflect on the people and stories that have crossed our paths and touched our lives forever. We are deeply thankful to each person who has helped make this home a blessing for many. Thank you for sharing in this wonderful work. We celebrate you!



Volunteer Corner



Many guests passing through St. Patrick House have commented that if they ever moved to Missoula, they would love to volunteer at St. Patrick House. This is exactly what former guest Linda Hawkins decided to do when she and her husband, Gary, moved here from Salmon, Idaho. For the past year, Linda, who holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, has been volunteering through Volunteer Services at St. Patrick Hospital. Three days a week, she gives of her time and talents to care for this home and the people who pass through. When she's not volunteering at St. Patrick House, Linda is busy keeping up with her nine children and nine grandchildren! Linda is much admired by her fellow staff for her cheerfulness and servant's heart. Thank you, Linda, for all you do on behalf of patients and families!

Guest Feature

Like so many guests at St. Patrick House, Jack White and his wife, Kathy, have discovered the kitchen to be the heart of this place. Guests often gather there to find comfort and support from others who are sharing similar experiences. When plans for the new addition called for our beloved kitchen window to become a wall, Jack White had a plan. Jack, a talented artist, took it upon himself to create a painting that would rest in the window frame making a "scenic view" for guests to enjoy. He chose colors that would lend brightness and cheer to people in difficult circumstances. We couldn't be happier with the finished result and can honestly say we have not missed our old window! How special it is to have this wonderful gift which reminds us of a couple who is dear to our hearts. Thank you, Jack and Kathy!





St. Patrick House
501 West Alder
Missoula, MT 59802

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MISSOULA, MT
PERMIT NO. 220

Mission Statement

The mission of St. Patrick House is to provide compassionate shelter to patients and families in their time of crisis.

Inside this issue:

House Update

Volunteer Corner

Guest Feature

8th Annual St. Patrick Hospital Employee Golf Tournament



8th Annual St. Patrick Hospital Employee Golf Tournament

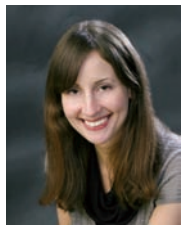
St. Patrick House was blessed this year to be chosen to benefit from the 8th Annual Employee Charitable Golf Tournament, held July 19 at King Ranch Golf Course. An astonishing total of \$15,000 was raised through sponsorships, raffles and in-kind donations to help continue to provide this shelter to patients and families. Our deepest thanks go to each of the hardworking members of the golf tournament

committee, to the many local area businesses who sponsored the event and to King Ranch Golf Course. You helped to make this year's event fun for all and made a lasting difference in the lives of the many patients and families who pass through this house. Thank you!

Thoughts

Reaching a total of 10,000 guests served is a bittersweet celebration for us at St. Patrick House. We know that for every guest there is a story of pain. Yet it is often these very individuals who remind us to rejoice in our work. They arrive on our doorsteps with burdens too great to bear alone. Together we prepare a home for them, meet their basic needs and stand by to listen and care. In the words of a recent guest, "This place just makes it better." So in the midst of this busy season, dear friends, it is not the numbers we celebrate, it is you. Each of you have seen the multitude of needs and have chosen not to look away but to be moved with compassion. It has made a great difference in the lives of thousands and *that* is worth celebrating.

I could not celebrate this work without mentioning the people I am so thankful to be working with. A special thank you to all the staff and volunteers of St. Patrick House, St. Patrick Hospital and Health Foundation and St. Patrick Hospital. You have all shown great grace and unwavering support in a time of transition and for that I am endlessly grateful. A very special thank you to Kathryn McCleerey, a dear friend and mentor, who has made her wisdom, joy and laughter available to me in this time. It is a rare privilege to share in this work with all of you. I hope you are celebrating your part in it today.



Erin Daniel,
St. Patrick House
Coordinator

Blessings,
Erin