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Community Collaboration Tackles Pest Control Challenges

In a remarkable display of partnership and community spirit, the Silver Valley Fuller Center for Housing and the Pinehurst Lions Club have joined forces to support the *Silver Valley CARES Community Pest Control Fund*. This initiative addresses a pressing need for financial assistance for effective pest control solutions, particularly for people without the financial resources to tackle bedbug infestations, helping families and individuals maintain safe and healthy living environments.



Siobhan Curet accepts a check from Fuller Center President Bob Whitman, Board Member Kathy McPeak, and Treasurer Tami Atkins

The Silver Valley CARES Community Pest Control Fund provides financial assistance to those who may struggle to afford critical pest management services. This effort is particularly vital to address the needs of families and individuals without financial resources before issues spread, spiral out of control, or cause public health concerns and mental stress. Infestations can escalate quickly, impacting the health of residents and placing unnecessary strain on communities. By addressing these challenges head-on, the program ensures that homes remain livable and free of harmful pests.

It is vital that a fund like this exists to support individuals and families in vulnerable situations. Silver Valley CARES, a community mental health advocacy group, plays a crucial role in fostering these efforts. By providing support that reduces the stress and anguish caused by unresolved pest issues, the organization upholds its mission of promoting mental health and well-being in the community.

This initiative began when Siobhan Curet, a member of Silver Valley CARES as well as a member of the Fuller Center board, approached the Fuller Center about the issue. Recognizing the importance of the cause, the Fuller Center board held a unanimous vote to donate to the fund. Following the vote, Bob Whitman, President of the Fuller Center board, asked Siobhan to stay and announced that the Fuller Center would challenge the Pinehurst Lions Club to match their donation.

Continued on page 2 →



Siobhan accepts a check from Lions Club Members Debbie Mann, Bob Whitman, Kathy McPeak, and Glenn Smith

*Show Thy marvelous loving-kindness, O Thou
that savest by Thy right hand them which put their trust in Thee*

-Psalms 17:7

Community Collaboration Tackles Pest Control Challenges, Continued

The Pinehurst-Kingston Lions Club brought its legacy of service and local engagement to the table. The club matched the Fuller Center's donation to the fund. The Lions Club's involvement underscores the power of collaboration in addressing community needs.

Through this joint effort, families in the Silver Valley have already received support, allowing them to tackle pest issues effectively without facing financial hardship. These success stories highlight the tangible impact of combining resources and expertise to uplift our neighbors.

To learn more about the Silver Valley CARES Community Pest Control Fund or to contribute to this initiative, please visit Silver Valley CARES on Facebook, or on their website, svcares.org.

Why I Volunteer

by John Bourque



John Bourque

fence, chimney repair and installed a new door.

In 2014 while recovering from back surgery and looking for something that I could do, I started volunteering for Meals on Wheels in Coeur d'Alene.

This was my first experience "serving my community" and opened my eyes to what a small effort on my part can do to make a huge impact for those in need. Not only was I just providing a meal, I was building rapport. I also think that I was the only social interaction for many. A small effort on my part made a huge difference for those that I served.

I also served with the Youth Mentor Program through the Salvation Army Kroc Center. The commitment was only two hours a week. Beyond meeting at the Kroc Center, we would go fishing, fly stunt kites, and even go to the car races at state line. One Saturday we went to Lookout Pass and built an igloo. Again, not much effort but a big impact.

I have been a Board Member with the Fuller Center for Silver Valley for about two years now, being tasked with the Greater Blessing Program. This program is for small projects that people need help with. A few projects that we have done such as fixing broken water pipes, building a

What do I get out of it? Just seeing and hearing the joy from the people that we help, it gives me a feeling of such accomplishment. Yes, small commitment, HUGE impact for our community!

If you have a little extra time, have a skill (or not) and a desire to help our neighbors, Join the Fuller Center Housing for Silver Valley and help make a little invested time make a big impact for those in need.

Finding Love, Purpose, and Community in the Silver Valley

by Geri Cochrane



Geri Cochrane

After meeting John Bourque, I had no doubt that he was the man that God had planned for me to spend the rest of my life with. So a year ago, I moved from Montana to Kellogg and never looked back.

My late husband David and I had a thirteen year cancer journey of in which he lost his fight almost eight years ago. During those years we were on the receiving end of MANY blessings and help from friends, family and so many strangers. I vowed that I would pay it forward, some day. ...

You see when my two children were growing up, I had served alot in my church. That was before our lives were turned upside down. I didn't think that I would ever be able to serve or volunteer again after so many years of being David's caregiver. Until I met John.



John & Geri

John Bourque had my heart when I learned that he was a special needs bus driver. And that he also has a passion for dogs and cats and has rescued and loved many fur babies. But then he took me to a Fuller Center Board meeting. I think it was like the third meeting when the Board voted me in. They had me.

John and I chose to undertake the Greater Blessings program offered through the Fuller Center for Housing of the Silver Valley. What a year of being blessed with making a difference for several families! I'm thrilled to be a part of a great team of volunteers that also want to make a difference for families through the Fuller Center!

I have met some amazing people here in Silver Valley.

What a great place to live and serve!

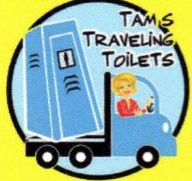
The Fuller Center is always looking for volunteers. Do you have a little extra time and want to help make an impact for our community? Get a hold of us and help us make a difference and help families in the Silver Valley! You will be blessed!

John & Geri with Owen Roach and Max Roach, who helped stack wood for a woman in Cataldo so she can heat her house this season. Thanks to Owen and Max for stepping up to help a community member in need!



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& Jerry White and Cathi & Tim Pierson
In Memory of Frank Norris

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George & Melody Blalack, Ron
and LaDonna Boothe, Myles &
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Whitman, Winnie Williams, Necia Wright

Brian Canterbury's Fund

Barbara & Gordon Canterbury, John Delaney

Greater Blessings Fund

Judy Blalack, Josephine Davis, Nancy Elliott, Nancy Hank, Christina and Josh Mace, and Lois White

Help Needed: We are looking for a **volunteer to adapt our website** for easier access - please contact Tahnee at 208-512-9869 if you can assist!

Here's Help for SVFCH...

I'd like to join the "300 Club" and pledge at least \$10 per month for one year. Please note 300 on your check.

- Here is my pledge for \$ _____ per month for one year.
- Here is my gift of \$ _____.
- I have a house and/or land to donate.
- I can make a no-interest loan for \$ _____. Please call about working out the details.
- I can provide construction materials either discounted or at no cost.
- I would like to help with construction and/or committee work. Please call me to help or send a volunteer form.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please return to Silver Valley Fuller Center for Housing, Inc. • P.O. Box 338, Smelterville, ID 83868 • 208-682-3240

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Upcoming Events

February 11th — Board and Committee meetings, 5:30 PM, Pinehurst Lions Hall, Pinehurst

February 14th — Valentine's Day

March 4th — Newsletter mailing workshop at St. Rita's in Kellogg 9:00 AM.

Wish List

Specific Needs:

- Construction Supervisors – need not do the labor.
- Construction volunteers to work with the Supervisor.
- PR Chair
- Ad payment bookkeeper
- And others –

Call Tahnee at 208-512-9869 & leave a message

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