

Making lives better by giving support, offering hope and creating connections all day, every day.



Helpline Center News - Spring 2017

Helpline Center has some new and exciting things happening, including our upcoming walks to raise awareness about suicide and two Spirit of Volunteerism Award luncheons. Check out the stories below to learn more.

[Visit Our Website](#)

Helpline schedules Dakota Smiles Dental appointments in Brookings

Dakota Smiles Dental Program ensures that South Dakota children have much-needed access to dental care by bringing the dental clinic to communities throughout South Dakota. A dentist office on wheels, Dakota Smiles offers preventative and restorative dental care.



The Brookings Area United Way provides funding for the bus to visit a total of 4 weeks in Brookings County. This year, the Helpline Center has partnered with Brookings Area United Way to schedule those appointments through the 211 Helpline.

"The partnership with the Helpline Center has had so many benefits. Working with them on the dental van scheduling worked out so well, for us and for the parents. I'm very thankful for the opportunity to work with the Helpline Center," said Heidi Gullickson, executive director of Brookings Area United Way.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

Sowing the seeds of service in

Sioux Falls and Rapid City

Volunteers in the Sioux Empire and the Black Hills will receive a much deserved pat on the back during the 2017 Spirit of Volunteerism Awards luncheons.

Set for May 2, in Rapid City, and May 11, in Sioux Falls, the Spirit of Volunteerism Awards recognizes the amazing volunteers who make these communities tick.

Volunteers are nominated in the following categories - Adult, Youth, Group and Corporate Humanitarian. During the recognition luncheon, each nominee is recognized before the Spirit of Volunteerism Award winners are announced live. The Volunteers of the Month from the past year are also recognized.

To read more, click [here](#).



Walks to raise awareness of suicide

In 2016, Helpline Center answered 1,538 suicide calls from South Dakotans. Each and every day, we provide hope, healing and critical support to those contemplating suicide or grieving the loss of someone to suicide.

And each spring and summer, Helpline Center gathers suicide survivors and South Dakotans together during our four Step Forward to Prevent Suicide walks, raising awareness about suicide in our state. The money raised from our walks stays local to each community.

Each Step Forward includes a 1.5 mile walk, a 5K run and a remembrance ceremony. "The Step Forward Walks offer an amazing opportunity to bring people together to support each other and raise awareness that suicide continues to be a concern across our communities," says Janet Kittams-Lalley, president of the Helpline Center.

Click [here](#) to read more.



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