



AALRM Newsletter

Issue #24, August 2017

Our Purpose

Statement:

“Alive Again Life Recovery Mission operates for the purpose of creating a safe Christian environment for individuals of all ages to fellowship, learn, and heal from addictions and addiction-related effects”

My name is Bryon Visser and I wanted to share about my journey. My Christ-centered recovery started after my last stint of incarceration. I got out and I knew something needed to change. I was tired of the revolving door of jails and institutions. I attended a number of recovery programs but there was no group I felt welcome in. When I talked about how Christ changed my life, my heart, and my thinking, I was told I couldn't talk about Christ in their meetings. I then found Alive Again Life Recovery and Steve DeBoer, who I soon asked to be my mentor. Steve has been a blessing from God. I have been going to AALRM meetings nearly every Friday since March 23rd, 2017. Since Steve began mentoring me about how Christ can lead my recovery, I have felt a real change in my heart. I want to serve more and help others, and I believe my testimony has helped other men in our meetings. The people that God has placed in my life through Alive Again Life Recovery have been a true blessing and I will keep going. I suggest AALRM to friends of mine in recovery who are looking for that "something else", that "something different" from the normal 12-step group. If Christ is not in my recovery I can't be in recovery.

Thank you and God bless,
Bryon

AALRM Has Close Ties to Treatment Court



Drug Courts are meant to keep offenders in the real world, instead of in jail or prison. In keeping minor offenders on the street, these people can be effective members of society, hold down jobs, pay taxes, and often receive better drug treatment than they would in prison or jail. Drug Court is assigned by a judge who sees an offender who has the opportunity to become a successful functioning citizen in society. Drug Court is sentenced by an offender agreeing to a guilty plea to the offense they committed. As long as the offender successfully completes drug court, the offense is often removed from their record. Drug Courts are incredibly successful so far with reducing recidivism amongst offenders by solving the issue often causing the criminal activity: the drug and alcohol addiction.

Gallatin

County Drug Treatment Court was founded sixteen years ago and in that time, has graduated 133 participants. Treatment Court takes place every other Friday in Judge John Brown's courtroom in the Law and Justice Center in Bozeman. Judge Brown states that to complete the 18-month program, participants "need to be clean, sober, have a job, and go to treatment and/or a 12-step program." Approximately one-third of Gallatin Valley's Treatment Court participants attend AALRM and are mentored by Steve and Marlisa.



Two Alive Again participants, Rain and Jason, recently graduated from Treatment Court with no violations... congratulations!

Steve DeBoer attends National Association of Drug Court Professionals Conference

Approximately 6,000 judges, social workers, case workers, physicians, and program administrators gathered in Washington D.C. in late July for the annual conference revolving around the drug treatment courts described above. With 30 tracks and hundreds of training sessions, Steve attended the 4-day program and participated in 18 training sessions. He said, "the information presented was incredible... I wish I had had more time to attend further sessions! I learned a great deal that I can apply immediately with AALRM."

Pre-release Center Men Volunteer in Helping Local Groups

The Gallatin County Work-Release and Re-Entry Program (Pre-release Program) provides opportunities for men coming out of prison who do not pose a significant threat to the community. It helps them transition from life inside prison to life outside prison. A number of pre-release participants attend Alive Again meetings and are mentored by Steve. As part of the program, Pre-Release participants are required to volunteer with local non-profits. Steve directs many of their volunteer activities, including helping with our fund-raising programs, such as the Run for Recovery, with our Friday evening programs, and with other community-oriented projects. Interestingly, many of these men continue to volunteer after they have completed their Pre-Release requirements.



Humorist Jeff Allen to Entertain at AALRM Event

One of America's most popular comedians, Jeff Allen, will present his hilarious clean humor for AALRM on September 9th at the Bozeman Commons. Jeff starts at 7:00 p.m. and doors open at 6:00 PM. For four decades, Jeff has been performing in theaters, on television and radio, and as a keynote for fundraisers around the world. Visit Jeff's website www.jeffallencomedy.com to see some hilarious clips, and you can register for the event at www.jeffallenbozeman.com. Join us for a laughter-filled evening that supports Alive Again Life Recovery Mission!



Run for Recovery



On Saturday, May 20th, AALRM hosted its 4th annual Run for Recovery at The Commons at Baxter & Love. It was another record-breaking year with 331 registered participants taking part in the event, including 12 different states. We were treated with beautiful weather, and the sun shined brightly as the participants ran and walked through the beautiful Black Bull course before finishing at The Commons.

Sarah Engholm won the Women's 5K, and Erin Wells defended her title in the Women's 10K with a record time of 43 minutes and 49 seconds. Chris Ottey won the Men's 5K, and Samuel Micka set a new course record in the Men's 10K with a time of 37 minutes and 56 seconds. The day was capped with Graham Groshart winning the trip to Mexico!



Thank you so much to our generous sponsors for their continued commitment to AALRM and the Run for Recovery, with special appreciation to the Gianforte Family Foundation and the Gilhousen Family Foundation. Lastly, thank you to all of the participants and volunteers who came out and made this our biggest and best Run for Recovery to date. We look forward to seeing you all again at next year's 5th annual Run for Recovery on Saturday, May 19th, 2018!

