



Building Awareness & Advocating Change for People with Disabilities

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What if there were no Summit?

Missoula Gives is just around the corner, and it's more important than ever to get involved and spread the word. In case you did not know, Missoula Gives (also in conjunction with Bitterroot Gives) is a great opportunity for the local community to give to nonprofits in the area. Any nonprofit can sign up and can benefit from the generosity of Missoula.

This year, in preparation for the big event, happening May 5 and 6, Summit has hired Gravity Media Productions to help film and create an ad that highlights the questions "What if there were no Summit?" We've already had Samantha Chase and Leanne Beers graciously offer to share their stories in front of the camera and emphasize the impact Summit has made on not only the local disability community, but throughout Western Montana. If you are interested in telling your story, and helping us to answer the above question, please reach out to Travis Hoffman (thoffman@summitilc.org) or Madison Morgan (mmorgan@summitilc.org).

Summit is also encouraging everyone to help us spread the word and create your own fundraising campaign to help Summit raise funds. If you head over to Summit's page on the Missoula Gives website, you can click the "Fundraise" button at the top of the page. There you can fill out your information and set a goal

for yourself on how much you'd like to raise on behalf of Summit. Tell your story and encourage your family and friends to donate. Every dollar helps us get one step closer to our new building at 145 S. Russell Street. Be sure to check out the campaigns created by others for inspiration, or email Madison Morgan if you have questions or need help.



Through Park Side Credit Union, there will be up to \$5,000 in matching funds for Summit Independent Living, which means your donations will have an even greater impact. Our goal this year will be to double this amount at \$10,000. We are also working toward partnering with other businesses and organizations to increase our matching fund pool. To double your impact be sure you are the first to donate on May 5.

Thank you all to your continued support of our efforts. We look forward to seeing the impact you all can make this Missoula Gives.

Madison Morgan

Scan this code to be taken to the Summit campaign page!



Blind & Low Vision Support Group

We invite all blind and low vision individuals to join our monthly support group meeting. Join our discussions on navigating daily life with little to no vision. We cover topics such as meeting daily challenges, finding possible solutions, and growing from our shared experiences.

**For more information contact:
Coreen Faulkner
Phone: 406-370-9305
Email: coreen.faulkner@gmail.com**



Senior Companions Volunteer Opportunity

Do you enjoy giving back to your community?

Do you enjoy spending time with people and have a passion for walking alongside someone in the journey of life?

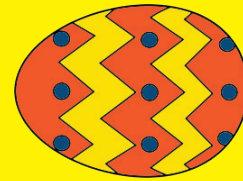
If you answered "yes" to those questions, then you could be a great fit for the Senior Companions program. If you are 55 or older and want to work with senior citizens in the community by providing companionship by doing daily activities like grocery shopping or you just enjoy activities like bowling, then this is the right volunteer opportunity for you. This opportunity will provide assistance and friendship to seniors in your community that have some difficulty with daily living tasks to provide them the opportunity to live independently longer.

Senior Companion volunteers must be 55 or older, and be income eligible. Senior Companions are required to volunteer at least 9 hours a week and will receive a small hourly stipend for the hours that they volunteer.

If you want more information on the Senior Companions program or are interested in volunteering, please contact Alyssa at 406-728-1630 ex. 116.

Summit Easter Egg Hunt

Look closely when reading through the newsletter. There are 8 Summit Easter eggs hidden throughout the newsletter. This is what the Summit Easter egg looks like. Good luck!



Summit Independent Living selected as Park Side Credit Union Partner

Summit Independent Living is one of six western Montana nonprofit organizations selected by Park Side Credit Union to participate in the 2022 Park Side Partner Program.

This program provides Park Side partners with a \$5,000 donation, Park Side volunteer employees to work with partners in support of specific projects and activities, cross-promotion, and shared advertising allowing partners to increase their visibility in the community.

Three non-profit organizations in Missoula, and three in the Flathead Valley were selected for as Park Side partners.

SUMMIT STAFF**Missoula County****Interim Executive Director**

Travis Hoffman

Program Support Specialist

Mike Giddings

SD-CFC/PAS Program Manager/HR

Beth Anderson

SD-CFC/PAS Coordinator

Patti Montgomery-Stewart

SD-CFC/PAS Coordinator

Carrie Dyrud

SD-CFC/PAS Assistant/Insurance

Jessica Workman

Development/Outreach Director

Madison Morgan

Advocacy Coordinator

Travis Hoffman

Peer Advocacy Coordinator

Bronwyn Troutman

Independent Living Specialist

Tyler Stosich

Independent Living Specialist

Alyssa Judd

Grants/Community Living Specialist

Alan Fugleberg

Youth Coordinator

Michael Beers

BASE Coordinator

John Howard

Pre-ETS & Employment Services

Gavin Workman

Administrative Assistant

Laurie Swanson

Financial Officer

Scott Fels

Accounting Assistant

Jon Vivas

Flathead County**Coordinator**

Lynae West

Independent Living Specialist

Dianna Kintzler

Independent Living Specialist

Vacant

SD-CFC/PAS Specialist

Aleya Raymond

Ravalli County**Coordinator**

Vacant

Independent Living Specialist

Vacant

People First Advisor/IL Specialist

Mary Millin

Lake County**Coordinator**

Susan Morris

Independent Living Specialist

Mariah Armstrong

New Summit Staff**Alyssa Judd****Independent Living Specialist, Missoula**

Alyssa is Summit's new Independent Living Specialist in Missoula. Alyssa grew up in a small town surrounded by farmland outside of Great Falls. After she graduated High School she moved to Missoula to attend the University of Montana. She showed great interest in communication and helping others so she went into the field of psychology. Alyssa greatly enjoys working with people and shows great compassion in her work.

Alyssa enjoys spending time with family and friends. She also enjoys going for long drives, singing at the top of her lungs and dancing. Alyssa leads a Bible study group at her church for people with disabilities and enjoys spending some downtime reading scriptures. She has two cats, Luna and Misty, and she is currently engaged to be married in a couple of months.

Alan Fugleberg**Community Living Specialist, Missoula**

Alan joined Summit as part-time Grants Coordinator and Community Living Specialist. Alan has personal experience with disability after sustaining a traumatic brain injury nearly 30 years ago. He served as a Summit peer advocate before beginning his vocational rehabilitation program.

During his vocational rehabilitation, Alan earned three degrees from the University of Montana in Missoula (UM) including Master of Public Administration. He completed additional graduate course work in political science at UM, and community and rural development at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Alan served in several positions at UM including Associate Dean for Missoula College; and Assistant Director for Academic Affairs / Assistant Professor for Kodiak College, a community campus of the University of Alaska Anchorage. In 2018, he retired as Campus Director/Senior Administrative Officer for Kodiak College.

Alan is excited to join Summit: "Summit provided me excellent services when I was a consumer in the 1990s. This opportunity makes life in retirement more meaningful through the opportunity to help Summit deliver critical services across our service area."

BRANCH OFFICE UPDATES

RONAN



South of Summit's Ronan branch office resides the National Bison Range. During the 1870's, a tribal member from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes named Ataticce crossed the continental divide and brought bison calves back with him. This was the one of the last small herds during this time in history to roam the reservation. These efforts would later lead to the formation of the National Bison Range. The actions he took is a lesson that the actions we take today benefit the communities of the future.

Ronan Office offers a Virtual Art Day on Zoom every Thursday from 1pm-3pm everyone is encouraged to bring a craft and come join the fun! For more information contact (866) 830-6936

KALISPELL

Summit in Kalispell is looking for new members for YODA (Youth Opening Doors Through Advocacy) group. Groups include independent living, advocacy, social events, and trainings. This is a great way to make friends and to learn how to advocate for yourself and others.

Two to three peers are needed to provide community outreach and to participate in community awareness activities. This is a paid position through Summit.

If you are interested in participating in one of Kalispell Summit's classes or if you are interested in becoming a peer please contact Lynae at (406) 257-0048 ext. 2

HAMILTON

We are currently looking to fill our County Coordinator and our Independent Living Specialist positions in our Hamilton office. For more information about these open positions and to download application materials, please visit our Employment Opportunities page.

We sincerely apologize the gap in our services as we look to fill these positions.

If you live in Hamilton or the surrounding area and are looking for services from Summit, please call our Hamilton number, 406-363-5242, and select 0 from the menu to be transferred to our Missoula office or you may contact the Missoula office directly at 406-728-1630.



SUMMIT BOARD

Mark Cash
Jenny Montgomery
Susanne Meikle
Molly Blair



Peter Drakos
Michelle McLane
Kelly Sellars
Gabrielle Broere



SUMMIT INDEPENDENT LIVING



PROMOTING FUN AND FRIENDSHIP IN THE TIME OF COVID-19 2022

All-Abilities Yoga

Mondays 1pm-2pm, Tuesdays 2pm-3pm, Wednesdays 4pm-5pm

Role Playing Games

Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm, Thursdays 1:30pm-2:30pm

Audiobook Club

Mondays 5pm-7pm

C.H.E.W. Cooking Class

Tuesdays 11:30am-1pm

Starting April 5

FriendZone

Fridays 1pm-2pm

**All programs are FREE
and available VIRTUALLY**



For additional information, visit:

basemissoula.org

To Sign Up, Contact John Howard at:
jhoward@summitilc.org
or Call:

406-728-1630

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



BASE EVENTS

725 West Alder, #4 Missoula, MT

BASE stands for home base, like in hide and go seek. In life, you have to establish a BASE first, that's where we come in.

BASE Virtual Activities

YODA (You Opening Doors through Advocacy)
Tuesdays 4-6pm on Zoom

All Abilities Yoga
Wednesdays 4-5pm on Zoom

BASE Wrestling Foundation BWF
1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly 5-6pm
On Zoom

Virtual Photography Group
2nd and 4th Wednesday monthly 5-6pm on ZOOM

BASE Virtual Game Night
Thursdays from 1-4 pm (call for dates and times)

BASEment Improv
Thursdays BASEment Improv 5:30pm-7pm.
Join us for Improv, games, and laughs.

For BASE schedule updates and additional events go to

www.summitilc.org/calendar

or check the BASE Facebook page at
<https://www.facebook.com/base725>

To get involved or to share ideas of new BASE programs, contact BASE
jhoward@summitilc.org or mbeers@summitilc.org.



CLASSIFIED ADS

Symmetry Stander, Quickie Powerchair, Invacare Powerbed, Hoyer lift

Comfortable, easy-to-use seat stander Call/leave message: Tejeanne (406) 865-0221

Power Scooter

\$500 obo. Please contact Adrian:
(406) 263-8650

Adult Tricycle

Schwinn 26" tricycle, bike pump included.
\$500obo (406) 721-1698

Wheelchair Lift

Ricon wheelchair lift model #S1231
G00100100. \$400obo.
Contact: Cory (406) 471-3314

Silver Spring wheelchair ramp 10' L x 36" W

Made of high-strength light weight aluminum. \$297obo. Contact: tamera144@gmail.com or 406-363-4898

Smart Talker text scanner

Slightly used, \$700. Contact Larry at 406-633-4036 or ketch1969@gmail.com

Nova Walker, Quantum 600 power wheelchair, Commode, 2 Transfer Benches, Beezy Manual Wheelchair. Call Gary (406) 224-5527 or garylee032051@gmail.com

Garaventa Super-Trac Portable Wheelchair Lift for stairs. Purchased new for \$12,000 and used only a few times. Will sell for \$2,500 OBO. Contact Jacob Francom, Troy Public Schools, jfrancom@troyc12.org, (406) 295-4520.

Acorn Stair lift

For going up to 6 stairs while seated. \$300 OBO. Call John at 546-7003.

To get listed contact Tyler Stosich at (406) 728-1630 or email tstosich@summitilc.org.

Or, list and find items on the MonTECH exchange:

<http://montech.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/mtddb/>

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SUMMIT INDEPENDENT LIVING

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THE SUMMIT INDEPENDENT

April 2022

This publication is available in alternative format on request. Please call 1 (800) 398-9002.



Fresh Food Box

Summit Independent Living and Missoula Food Bank & Community Center are working collaboratively to make the Fresh Food Box program available to more people with disabilities.



Eligibility requirements:

- must have a physical or mental disability that impacts your ability to live independently;
- live in Missoula
- sign up for Summit service;
- be experiencing challenges to your health, safety, ability to live independently, receive vital services, gain or continue employment, or participate in community activities due to COVID-19;
- be experiencing food insecurity due to lack of income, and
- need home delivery of food due to sheltering in place or lack of transportation/assistance to obtain food in the community.

For more information or to apply please call the Summit office at 406-728-1630 or send an email to missoula@summitilc.org.



You can always sign up to get this newsletter by email by visiting www.summitilc.org and signing up