

## Coins for a Cause

The Downtown Safety Alliance, including the Business Improvement District, the Great Falls Police Department, NeighborWorks Great Falls, Downtown Great Falls Association, Great Falls Public Library, Speaking Socially and others, are sponsoring the program, *Coins for a Cause*, as an alternative to panhandling. Giving your spare change to panhandlers is only a short-term remedy that can propagate the poverty cycle and does not create a long-term solution. We encourage everyone to donate to Coins for a Cause or to your preferred direct service provider, like those listed below. Your donations will go directly toward providing panhandlers with the services they need, including food, shelter and more.



All donations collected from containers set up in various downtown businesses as well as along Central Avenue will be given to local organizations that provide direct services and resources to people in need. 100% of the donations received for Coins for a Cause are donated annually to direct service providers; the Downtown Great Falls office covers the costs of administering this program so no donations are used toward administration.

For 2013, \$509.96 was presented to the Great Falls Rescue Mission; for 2014, \$522.07 was presented to the YWCA; for 2015, \$537.45 was presented to Opportunities, Inc.; for 2016, \$558.42 was presented to the Grace Home; for 2017, \$348.63 was presented to the GFPD Volunteer Program; for 2018, \$485.22 was presented to Family Promise; and for 2019, \$867.03 was presented to St. Vincent de Paul; for 2020, \$345.69 was presented to the Center for Mental Health; for 2021, \$417.63 was presented to Whittier Elementary School for their food pantry.

Donating **your** spare change to Coins for a Cause will help curb panhandling, support local organizations, and provide assistance to those in need. These changes will help make our downtown safer and more vibrant for everyone who lives, works, plays or visits here.

The Great Falls Business Improvement District (BID) is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 and therefore your donation may be tax deductible. Your donation will help make a real change in someone's life.

Donation containers can be found at the following downtown businesses, as well as several outdoor boxes located in the 400 & 500 blocks of Central Ave:

- Dragonfly Dry Goods 504 Central Ave
- BID/DGFA 318 Central Ave
- NeighborWorks Great Falls 509 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S
- Taco Del Sol 16 6<sup>th</sup> St S
- Inge's 600 Central Ave
- Feather Your Nest 311 Central Ave
- Belles & Lace 320 Central Ave
- Kaufman's 411 Central Ave
- Brighten Up Shop 618 Central Ave
- Celtic Cowboy 116 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S
- GF Lumber 310 6<sup>th</sup> St S
- O'Haire Motor Inn 17 7<sup>th</sup> St S
- Enbär 8 5<sup>th</sup> Street S
- Cassiopeia Books 606 Central Ave

To find out more about the program, schedule an informational session, or learn how you can host a donation jar, contact the Downtown Great Falls office at (406) 727-5430 or [info@greatfallsbid.com](mailto:info@greatfallsbid.com)