

From: [Brian Green](#)
To: [Grp. City Council and City Web Site](#)
Cc: [Brian Green](#)
Subject: Introduction of Noah's Arc homeless Initiative
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 6:30:52 AM

Hello esteemed council members- Greetings! I am forwarding a letter to you concerning an interesting WSJ article that I read concerning your homeless situation there in Missoula. I also read where your homeless population has perhaps tripled over the past decade. Please allow me to give you this overview of my Noah's Arc Initiative that I am introducing to some key cities around our nation. My initiative, if properly implemented, has the potential to bring a more structured and realistic perspective to how a particular city addresses their particular problems with unsheltered citizens. My initiative is but a spirited recommendation..

The Source

The unsheltered dilemma is spreading across our nation- almost as never before: Multiple things can be attributed to the homeless surge: Drug addiction, alcohol addiction, and mental health issues..Not to mention, not being able to work due to these same dynamics.

Interestingly, most cities which are wrestling with this same human tragedy, seem to go at the issue with a "shelter first " approach. This in my opinion, the first mistake. At the risk of sounding harsh, people don't just wake up one day and find themselves homeless. Everybody has family - somewhere...Unfortunately, our friends and fellow citizens seem intent on blaming somebody in their family, or claiming to not being able to afford an apartment, or ,blaming the rehab program"s facilitators,for making the rehab process unreasonably difficult- so they-in turn, quit". What exactly is affordable housing to a person not able to work -due to their chemical addiction and mental health issues?

Rarely do you encounter a person without shelter that accepts the fact that their particular circumstance is the direct result of their personal decisions and actions. I too was once in this circumstance. I slept in my car for almost exactly one year. kept my membership active at the local spa, continued to work, pick up/drop off my son in my shared custody; didn't think once, about drugs, begging for money, hanging out at gas stations etc.and refused to go to the soup kitchen-even when my cash on hand was very slim.. What originally was supposed to be only a month or so, freelancing in the car, turned out to be one year. I had managed to get adjusted to this lifestyle. What gave me my inner strength, was my faith and zest for living / survival. Not only that, but I absolutely refused-then and now, to blame my misfortune on anybody but myself. I have not given this testimony in my hometown. Perhaps, one day when I feel it appropriate or helpful.Subsequently, part of my NAI calls for individuals to begin taking charge of their circumstances, and replacing self pity for self confidence, and self respect. Almost every shelter director, or elected official seems to readily accept the ideology of prioritizing a " shelter first" approach. Typically before any other avenue. Why is that ? because if you ask a typical homeless person what got them into their current demise, quite a few will say: " I couldn't pay my rent, or loss my job" etc - or, can't find affordable shelter" Probably, never will you hear one say: I put myself in this situation" , and I choose to use drugs". Hence, the status quo mindset is to blame one's homeless problem on lack of affordable housing, and not the family bridges they may have burned, in their refusal to receive rehab..One particular major city, that now has a major problem with homelessness, had the foolish notion to designate drug use areas, and even passed out needles. It should be no surprise that drug usage soared and the homeless crisis evolved into mega sanitation nightmare- including: sewages being stopped up with syringes..Sometimes, stupidity can be very costly and dangerous.In the midst of spending hundreds of millions of public funds on housing, rehab services, food banks etc, this particular city decided to directly contribute to the

source of the problem that they are trying to resolve. Hence, they are now referred to as the "homeless mecca".

Avoid the bottomless pit and rabbit holes

As I mentioned previously, most municipalities have chosen the route of "shelter first", in their quest to reign in their homeless population. According to various think tanks, and realistic elected leaders, the "shelter first" approach is basically a limited or temporary bandaid on a wound that requires a tourniquet. A Cicero Institute publication asserts that the approach of "shelter first" is expensive, ineffective, and counterproductive. Consequently, numerous municipalities find themselves pouring public funds into a sort of bottomless pit, or rabbit hole. Ironically, local governments find themselves facilitating the very problem they look to resolve..

Uncomfortable truth

Most homeless individuals seem to be connected by a common thread of -drug addiction- alcohol addiction-mental health issues. maybe even sprinkle in prostitution and other criminal activity, in some cases. Unfortunately, our citizens without shelter won't own up to the fact that drugs and or alcohol addiction is at the center of their circumstance. Simply providing shelter won't amount to much success. Most addicts seem to have decided that they're not looking to put the needle, smoke, or the pipe down, anytime soon. My NAI calls for the categorization of the various homeless groups. This way, a municipality can determine the homeless or the ones who appear to be homeless, into their proper category. This methodology is more structured; pinpoints real circumstances sooner, and helps determine who needs what kind of assistance. A sweeping -homeless mass registration is a good start. Mandatory registration card should be required for utilizing city resources including soup kitchens, food pantries, clothing giveaways etc. It seems that communities with limited resources, limited finances etc, seem to have limited homeless numbers. Cities with numerous all night gas stations and eateries, are all but asking for the homeless to populate that area. By the way, any municipality that does not undertake night time actions, are all but guaranteeing a breeding ground for the existing and future cases. The other powerful truth that is reinforced in my homeless plan, is the fact that there are no free drugs! If an individual desires a drug, that person is deciding what his /her priorities are. I would also wager that perhaps, most homeless people would rather sleep in a bed than on the ground. They want a clean place to live, clean clothes to wear, hot food to eat etc. but they don't want to be responsible for their addiction.. The law enforcement approach to lessening this same crisis, will not bring success. Rather, it will only further overburden a more likely already overburdened police force, and civil courts.

Final perspective

Any city government that is grappling with this human crisis, of homelessness, and have noticed their homeless count actually INCREASE, after directing funds for shelter and other outreach programs, should realize that the homeless count will continue to increase -as a direct result of trying to shelter individuals who refuse to be accountable to themselves. There are esteemed research institutes and organizations that bare this ugly fact out. I am preparing myself to offer moratoriums, in cities that are willing to try a different approach to a human tragedy that tugs at the hearts of the compassionate, and simultaneously exposes the false compassionate, who believe in appeasement and political correctness.

I am currently making myself available to conduct moratoriums, where requested. The best

part of my Noah's Arc Initiative, is that the only upfront costs are travel /lodging/food, and a modest speaking fee of 750.00 for up to 3 days. During said moratorium, we will access all relevant and available local resources, visit areas of concern, and formulate a plan involving all pertinent personnel. Also, if this plan is initiated, you will almost see a rustling of individuals.

Please know this: when you slow down(not discontinue what you're doing), you might quite possibly see a number of your homeless conform to your new city plan, or, some may actually leave your city. This is by no means intended to simply run misfortunate individuals away. The brilliance here is that you are offering an olive branch along with a firm handshake. Hence, you will be able to better focus your city's resources on those circumstances most in need.

I am thankful and not high minded about this vision the Almighty has given me, and I do not take your time or situation for granted. Ironically, almost every municipality -big or small, seems to take a similar approach to our homeless crisis, and ironically, their numbers only seem to increase versus decrease.

Take care and be blessed.

Sincerely

Brian Green Noah's Arc Initiative facilitator

706-627-3859 briangreen2009@gmail.com

Ms Chapman assists me with contractual arrangements etc 706-990-0396

From: [Kristen Jordan](#)
To: [Andy Vale](#); [Grp. City Council and City Web Site](#)
Subject: Re:
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 12:55:56 PM
Attachments: [Referral - Pilot Project for Rotating Authorized Campsites Within Missoula City Limits.pdf](#)

Thank you, Andy, for your comments.

I would be upset too if my proposal really pushed for encampments in city parks, but it doesn't. It appears that you read about my referral in the Missoula Current, where Martin Kidston deliberately misled his readers solely for click bait.

I have attached my original referral to this email and [here is a link](#) to the meeting where you can watch what happened and decide for yourself if I am "privileged", or that I "will not care". I will also forward you the email thread where I asked Martin to change his story to accurately represent what happened in the meeting. If after reviewing all of this material, you still have questions and/or comments, please let me know.

Please call me if you would like to chat. You are not the only person I have met with and/or chatted on the phone with who is angry that a "city councilor pushes for homeless camps in city parks". This deliberately misleading article has been horrible for me and people have threatened my safety because of it. It is simply not true.

Kind regards,
Kristen

406.240.9070

From: Andy Vale <andyjvale@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 30 August 2023 8:30 PM
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site <Council@ci.missoula.mt.us>
Subject:

Dear Council:

The initiative to invite 35 unsupervised homeless to live in our city parks is ill-advised. The idea, brought forth by Council Member Kristen Jordan during the August 30th meeting of the Housing, Redevelopment, and Community Programs Committee, would destroy some of our city's most important public space. No supervision in these camps means no way to limit the number of camp occupants, nor their behavior, and the suggestion of a needle collection program suggests Ms. Jordan is aware she is facilitating drug paraphernalia in our parks. Regardless of the opinion on how to address homelessness, the camps Ms. Jordan refers to are unsanitary, fraught with illegal activity, and devastate the safety of the surrounding neighborhoods. If urban camping needs to be sanctioned in our city, look to outlying zones

that are less trafficked, where tourism, youth activities, and public recreation will be unfettered. Council, stay away from the parks. Ms. Jordan's idea is a bad one.

Sincerely,

Andy Vale

From: [Tim Toolman](#)
To: [Grp. City Council and City Web Site](#)
Subject: Johnson Street Shelter/Public land.
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 4:37:18 PM

Now that you have made this designated park land an emergency shelter that sits upon public land. The Poverello Center can not turn away or kick a unhoused person off this land. That is if this is done that would be in violation of the 9th Circuit Court. The Poverello has to follow the law, this is public land (bought with open space (park)money) . So I highly recommend that someone is working on a plan for the overflow of the building to the outside. They have a right to use the outside space for camping. You have made this a draw for the people to come there and the plan that I have heard was that if someone is not excepted into the building the Poverello Center is kicking them out into the neighborhood. The people they kickoff are the people that they consider the troublemakers. That is what the neighbors are complaining mostly about, the troublemakers on their property.

This is the best plan for this property (authorized camping) you have security already contracted for the sight, The Poverello told me that are going to always have at least 5 people on staff at the place (their manual says at least 2). The area will be cleaned every day.

Once a unhoused person knows that this is public land and the Poverello does not own the land, they will soon realize that the can set up outside camps on the property.

As the military saying goes, "embrace the suck". By going against the zoning set in place you have created a S**T sandwich so time to start eating it and not feed it all to the neighbors.

This email will most likely go unanswered but it is at least on record that this was pointed out, for anything that may end up in court.

From: [Ryan Sudbury](#)
To: [Grp. City Council and City Web Site](#); [Jordan Hess](#)
Subject: Comments during Public Comment
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 6:14:18 PM

I'm not aware of any homeless individuals being banned from emailing anyone in the City.
The commenter is also not currently banned from emailing anybody in the City.

The commenter requested all records related to police calls for service involving homeless individuals or issues for the last two years. There were maybe 1,000. The police department charges a set dollar amount per police incident report, which adds up...

Ryan Sudbury
City Attorney - Civil
City of Missoula