

BRAVEHEART



CHAPLAIN  
MINISTRY™

Dear friends,

One day my ministry might include training with the Flathead County SWAT team as they practice transporting their team on a U.S. Border Patrol helicopter. Other days might find me sitting in on Kalispell Police hiring interviews. And other days ... or nights ... I listen and assist with situations such as these:

“Could you come ride with me on my next patrol?”

“Do you have some time for me to talk to you? Life at work is not going well and is affecting life at home.”

“Can you respond to a 10-58 (an unexpected death) for a senior adult from another country whose spouse suddenly died and she is alone?” (at 4 a.m.)



The Flathead County SWAT team trains with the U.S. Border Patrol helicopter. Photo courtesy of Daily Interlake, Brenda Ahearn, photographer.

“Their son’s remains were found six weeks after he went missing. Can you attend the debriefing to support the parents?”

“Her friend intentionally shot and killed her husband in front of her and her young children. Can you come to the station to talk to her?”

“We have a homeless man who has been living in a park, sleeping on the snowy ground. Can you help him find indoor shelter?”

“His wife died. Can you make an appointment with him to visit?”

“My wife left me! I am a substance abuser. What do I do now?”

“I am concerned about my neighbor whom I have not seen. How do I get someone to check on him?”

“The husband died of cancer and his family wants a chaplain. Can you come and be with them?” (at 2 a.m.)

“We have a WWII vet who is homeless and needs temporary housing. The shelters and motels are full. Do you have any ideas?”

“His parent is having emergency surgery. Can you go by and check on the family?”

The needs arise continually, help is requested, and responses are provided. This is the portion of being a chaplain to emergency responders, their families and citizens in crisis. Many of these encounters result in requests for prayer, spiritual counsel, and challenges to pursue the Lord.



Another form of need is to assist departments with their internal processes. I recently sat on the interview boards for the Sheriff's Office promotions and new hires. I also participated in a Kalispell Police interview board.

Participating on interview boards is an honor which came about as the result of investment in the departments. Another reward is financial expressions of appreciation. The police softball team donated their fall tournament prize money to Braveheart. Roger Nasset, Kalispell Police chief (with trophy), and

Anthony Gloschat of Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home presented me with the \$250 prize money.

As the opportunities expand, so does the need for additional chaplains. Mike Marrs and Randy Hohf will soon be joining me in serving in the Sheriff's Office. I am excited about the gifts and experiences that they bring. I will continue as the sole employee of Braveheart with them volunteering.

As the lead chaplain, I am responsible to provide training, organization and guidance. I wrote a chaplain training manual for the Sheriff's Office which lays out the essential classroom instruction as well as experiences needed in the field. I also co-labored with the Fire Department chiefs to produce a manual for chaplain responsibilities as they relate to various scenes.

I appreciate your ongoing interest in the chaplain ministry. Braveheart continues to be funded by the generous gifts of its donors. Please consider making a year-end donation to further this work.

Bless you,  
Drew