

THANK YOU NOTES



Stories of Connectional Giving

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VICTIM OFFENDER MEDIATION, ROCK VALLEY

Easter is a time of reconciliation with God. Maureen Hansen writes of a modern story of reconciliation supported by a Matthew 25 grant from the Northwest District:

“Amy and Michelle live in a rural community. Their children go to school together. They see each other downtown. They had a genuine respect towards each other as community neighbors. Neither of them thought they would ever be sitting with a facilitator talking about harm, affect, accountability, and restoration.

“Amy, overwhelmed by recent life events, chose to “scam” a credit card

account billed to Michelle (twice). Not understanding “why” – why me, why twice – Michelle was able to talk about the impact the crime had on her emotionally and on their family. Amy was accountable for her actions – what she did, what led to her decisions, what needs to be done to repair the harm, and what changes she is making so this wouldn’t happen again.

“As a facilitator, I believe that there is a time when the hand of God blesses a victim offender mediation meeting, a time that both parties recognize each other as human beings, working towards reparation and redemption.”

For more about this program visit www.hopehaven.org.



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