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Turning Point

February 2011



A Message From Stan Dawson

Dear Friends,

In December were you mesmerized by the incredible voice of a man in N.Y. who was homeless? He carried a sign proclaiming that he would 'speak' for money as people passed by in their cars at a busy intersection- much like the signs we see on street corners in Atlanta. He made the national news and immediately jobs started pouring in. His dream was to be employed in broadcasting and that happened. In January his success was interrupted by a return to alcohol and, thankfully, a rehab program.

Shortly thereafter there was another story about a pro golfer who was homeless. He

was living in large, water/sewer tubes in California. The tubes were 4 feet in diameter. In the evening he would crawl in and use his back pack as a pillow. By day his transportation was a bicycle which he used to find odd jobs, including the collection of cans. He remains homeless as domestic violence interrupted his dream.

Over the years we have learned that 'homelessness' is generally caused by multiple issues and seldom are the solutions simple, as the stories above indicate.

Yet moving into 2011 we are thrilled that God's grace and your support will again enable Crossroads to offer substantive hope and healing to those who



are homeless. Adding housing to our program mix will certainly bring about additional opportunities for our homeless guests to attain our ultimate goal of self-sufficiency,

Stan

If you would like to communicate with Stan, his email is:
Stan@
crossroadsatlanta.org

Would Your Group Like to Learn More About Crossroads?

If your church, company or group would like to learn more about Crossroads — Stan would love to visit with you to share more about our programs and services.

These presentations help dispel many myths and misconceptions about who is homeless, the primary causes of homelessness, and heartwarming stories of the differences Crossroads makes in the lives of Guests Crossroads serves as they move toward sustainably ending their homelessness.

If you're interested — please contact Stan@crossroadsatlanta.org or 404-873-7652

Cheers to Volunteers

...GE's Extreme Makeover Imagination at Work in the Help Office

GE's corporate tagline is *...imagination at work*. However, what the GE team of volunteers is doing in the Crossroads Help office is simply way beyond anything we could have imagined.



GE Energy

The Crossroads Help Office is an essential first stop for those homeless in metro Atlanta — and accommodates over 60,000 repeat visits each year. Thanks to GE, the Help Office is being transformed into a more inviting, welcoming place.

Thanks to a special gift from Jim Suci and the ongoing commitment of Mark Bellamy

— a virtual army of GE volunteers, friends and family are transforming our Help Office into a more inviting and welcoming place for newly homeless Guests to seek supports and services to help them move toward ending their homelessness.

Help Office Renovation Project volunteers include: Olajimi Amos, Erich Baldassarre, Pam Bellamy, Carlos Chavez, Bruce Fratto, Jack Fratto, Nicholas Fratto, Darold Ford, Mark Hamilton, Rajesh Harishkesan, Eric Kauffman, Harvey Klaer, Carol McNavish, Dave McNavish, Diana Mpofu, Ray Ostolski, Robert Schmitt, Chris Stammen, Rachel Stammen, Samantha Stammen, Kenneth Smith, Wilbert Tremble, Larry Valery, Kim Vines, Jim Vano, Gina Vano, Difei Wang, and Jack Weininger.



Pictured above are some of the terrific volunteers that worked day and night over the recent MLK holiday weekend.

Pictured back row: Chris Stammen, Mark Bellamy, Difei Wang, Eric Kauffman, Ray Ostolski, Kim Vines, Darold Ford.

Pictured front row: Rachel and Samantha Stammen, Jack Weininger, Pam Bellamy, Larry Valery, and kneeling Robert Schmitt

Volunteers Needed

...Homelessness to Home, New Apartment Start Up Sponsors



There's No Place Like Your Own Home

Thanks to extra funding received, through year end 2010 the Renewal Project was able to place 21 women and 35 children into safe, affordable apartments. A total of 56.

All are in need of essentials for their new apartments — and we are seeking Sponsor Teams to either donate \$2,500 — or collect and deliver essentials. To learn more please email:

CommunityRelations@crossroadsatlanta.org

People Make it Happen

...meet Crossroads' amazing Program Directors

Clyde's Kitchen — now serves over 74,000 meals each year. For over 22 years, Clyde Corbin has been the program director.

Clyde, his small staff, and dozens of volunteers rise before dawn each weekday morning to prepare and serve a hot, nourishing meal to about 200 Guests each day.

To learn more, visit the Clyde's Kitchen and Volunteer at Crossroads pages at the website: www.crossroadsatlanta.org



Renewal Project — each year the Renewal Project assists over 3,500 able-bodied homeless men, women and children through a 90-day stabilization program directed by Dominic Heard.

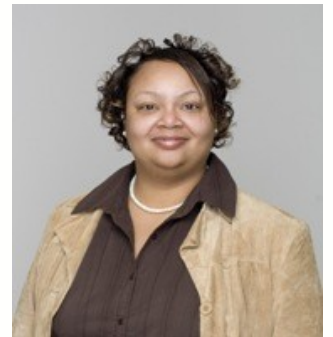
Those who are newly homeless in metro Atlanta first attend a required orientation which lets them know what emergency / essential services Crossroads can provide — or how Crossroads can help connect them with other needed services in the community.

It surprises many people to know that last fiscal year 43.5% of those served by the Renewal Project were homeless women and children. During the past year the number of children turning to Crossroads for help has continued to increase by 16% — with a multi-year sustained increase of over 149% for children turning to Crossroads for help.

Angels Over Atlanta — is our program for homeless Guests with a physical and/or mental disabilities and is directed by Emily McIver, MSW.

Each year the Angels program provides extended case management for about 135 Guests — which are also those most likely to be chronically homeless.

As funding is available, Guests with physical and/or mental disabilities are placed into safe, secure housing — and as often as possible into housing arrangements that also provide essential supportive services. The goal is for Angels Guests to live as independently as possible — and to help them sustainably end their homelessness.



Plan to Leave a Legacy

...Where there's a Will, there's a way to benefit your family, your heirs ...and support Crossroads

When you create or update your Will — would you please consider including a special gift for Crossroads?

Including Crossroads in your Will is a way to plan to

leave a legacy — and help those most in need, even after you're gone.

If you have any questions or would like to let us know you have included Cross-

roads in your Will or estate planning — please contact:

Carol Redman
770-655-0027
CommunityRelations@
crossroadsatlanta.org

You can help
by making your
online donation today
at our website

www.crossroadsatlanta.org

Click here to
DONATE NOW
using Just Give

Our Mission

*Empowering people who are homeless
to move to economic and personal self sufficiency*

Key Crossroads Statistics

Over the past fiscal year — thanks to your generous support Crossroads:

- Kitchen served over 74,000 hot, nourishing meals — plus thousands of sandwiches were made and donated by groups
- Helped 3,508 homeless men, women and children — a sustained 24% increase for the past two years
- Served 461 children — and a sustained 149% increase in the number of children turning to Crossroads for help
- Helped 1,006 women — 42% of those we help each year are now women and children
- Assisted 259 Veterans
- Acquired 1,527 birth certificates, and 1,616 Georgia ID's, both essential to ending homelessness
- Provided 6,528 MARTA passes to help our Guests get to where they need to go
- Provided a mailing address for thousands of metro Atlanta homeless Guests to ensure they can receive Social Security benefits, food stamps, employment and healthcare communications, as well as letters from family and friends
- Placed 307 Guests were placed into detox/addiction treatment programs
- Partnered with St. Joseph's Mercy Care to offer free healthcare services to any Guest without insurance
- Placed 50 women and their 31 children — and 14 Guests with physical and/or mental disabilities — into safe, affordable housing

What's New: Services for Women and Children

Years ago nearly all of the Guests served by Crossroads were men. However, over the past few years increasing numbers of women are being served — and for two years we've had a sustained 149% increase in the number of children turning to Crossroads for help.

Crossroads has created services tailored for the needs of women and children who are homeless. And as special, additional funding is available — we help place women and children into safe, affordable housing — and provide ongoing supports to help them sustainably end their homelessness.

If you would like to learn more or have any questions please call Stan Dawson 404-873-7652 or visit us at www.crossroadsatlanta.org

Crossroads Community Ministries
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Atlanta, Georgia 30308