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# Turning Point

May 2011



## A Special Message From Stan Dawson

Dear Friends,

Advocacy plus action: it is amazing to me how politicians, on both sides of the fence, always promise more than they actually deliver. They spend large sums of money telling us what they will do and then, within a year of their election, begin 'spinning' why they were unable to deliver on their promises.

A lady who was fleeing a domestic violence situation with her child came to CCM for help. The on-site staff and volunteers did what they **always** do, i.e., they became her 'voice', her friend and her advocate.

The lady had been visited by DFACS and, as a result, had begun a 'case' against her. Translation- such action is the first step in removing a child from the parent.

Crossroads' advocacy resulted in this woman obtaining a safe, affordable apartment, with a 'thumbs up' from DFACS. We know that this first step of obtaining housing, as important as it is, is just the beginning. Working only 32 hours/week at \$8/hour will require on-going support and guidance.

For us advocacy means action, and action means assisting a



person until self-sufficiency is obtained, not just promised.

Your prayers and support make this possible and we are very grateful,

Stan

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

## Creatively Helping Crossroads End Homelessness...

Often people want to help Crossroads but are not sure how to do that. From time to time we will share with you some unique ways to help us "raise new friends". Recently one of our graduate students, Pia, who was training with our Angels Program made a very special gift to Crossroads. She had a birthday party coming up and asked if all attendees would make a gift to Crossroads rather than buy her a present. Leslie Fletcher, featured on the next page, recruited co-workers at Invesco for a "sandwich build" for Crossroads — they built 1,000 sandwiches for us and also sent some volunteers to assist in the Crossroads Kitchen.

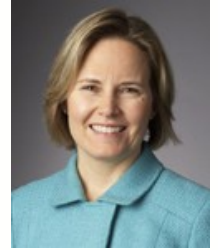
Please communicate with your friends through **Facebook** and **Twitter** and **email** anyone you think may be interested in learning more about Crossroads — ask that they tour our website.



## Congratulations to Crossroads' Board Member and Treasurer Leslie Fletcher...

In May 2011 Leslie was honored by Business to Business Atlanta as one of 19 Impact Leaders — true “total” leaders that demonstrate through their actions that true leadership is about serving their companies, their customers and their community.

Leslie has been with Invesco Ltd. for over 11 years where she is director of financial planning and analysis for the business of the company that manages over \$221 billion in assets for institutional clients.



## Cheers to St. Luke's



[www.stlukesatlanta.org](http://www.stlukesatlanta.org)

## ...the “Veggie” Volunteers

Our special thanks to St. Luke's Episcopal Church, and its members, for the tremendous support provided to Crossroads throughout each year.

Nearly 40 years ago St. Luke's started the Soup Kitchen — and in 1996 Crossroads Community Ministries became its own 501(c)(3) nonprofit. However, to this day, St. Luke's and Crossroads continue to have a strong partnership. Following are a few highlights of how St. Luke's and its members help...

## ...and more!



the  
*Mustard Seed*  
Garden at St. Luke's

**Garden Dig Day** — on a beautiful spring day a group of St. Luke's members gathered in the Mustard Seed Garden to harvest fresh vegetables, and add two more garden plots. Amazingly last year, the Mustard Seed Garden at St. Luke's produced over 300 pounds of fresh vegetables ...which they donated to Clyde's Kitchen.

**Members of the Mustard Seed Garden Steering Committee include:** Cappy Harmon, Jeff Hopper, Lauren Henriksen, Wes Henriksen, Averill Jones, Nina Lamson, Phil Lamson, Sue Sherrill, Elaine Swobe and Susannah Roberts.

## St. Luke's Members Help with Housing Solutions ... *New Apartment Start Up Sponsors Needed*



### There's No Place Like Your Own Home

Pictured are St. Luke's team members that delivered and helped with D'Ebony's new apartment set up: L-R Annabeth Balance, Averill Jones, D'Ebony the Crossroads Guest, Mark Jones who is also Chair of the Crossroads Board of Directors, and The Rev. Liz Schellingerhoudt.

The women and children we place into safe, affordable apartments need essentials and basic furnishings for their new homes. We are seeking Sponsor Teams to either donate \$2,500 per family — or collect items, deliver and help set up new apartments. To learn more please email: [CommunityRelations@crossroadsatlanta.org](mailto:CommunityRelations@crossroadsatlanta.org)

*...Crossroads' commitment to sustainably ending homelessness*

**Housing Solutions for Women and Children** — Crossroads has now placed over 100 women and children into safe, affordable, permanent housing.

Pictured to the right are D'Ebony and her seven-year-old son — she also has a three-year-old daughter. A St. Luke's Sponsor Team helped gather, deliver and set up basic furnishings and essentials for their new apartment — and special funding enabled us to provide them with the other essentials they needed to start their new life.

After first providing the emergency / essential services needed for newly homeless women and children — we are now getting ready to place another 50 women and children into safe, affordable, permanent housing.

Should you want to get more involved with our housing efforts — please visit our website [www.crossroadsatlanta.org](http://www.crossroadsatlanta.org) and click on the Housing Solutions page and Women and Children page.

**Angels Over Atlanta** *...for our Guests with physical and/or mental disabilities*

Program Director, Emily McIver, has helped Brenda pursue her goals for many years. Because of an extreme condition — often Brenda was paranoid and tearful. Today she'll tell you "...now I don't cry anymore!"

During the past year Brenda obtained her Georgia Driver's License and she completed her certification to become a Nurse's Aid through the DeKalb Education Center. In the photo she's proudly holding her certification. Emily also placed her into permanent housing, where she has stably resided for the past year and a half.

The Guests that participate with the Angels Over Atlanta program are also often those most likely to be chronically homeless. The program provides extended case management and as-needed supportive services — all targeted to help Guests live as independently as possible, and 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 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](http://www.crossroadsatlanta.org)

**DONATE NOW**

## 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 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: Safe, Affordable Housing Solutions 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.

Over the past two years Crossroads has placed over 100 women and children into safe, affordable apartments — and is now raising the bar to help them with essentials and basic furnishings needed for their new homes. And we have helped dozens of women and their children with temporary / supplemental support with rent, utilities and day care costs.

If you would like to learn more, and perhaps financially support our housing solutions for women and children, please call or email Stan Dawson 404-873-7652 [stan@crossroadsatlanta.org](mailto:stan@crossroadsatlanta.org).

Crossroads Community Ministries  
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Atlanta, Georgia 30308