

The Helping Hand



MISSION STATEMENT

Crossover Outreach shares the love of Christ by feeding, clothing, and providing services and programs to those in need, restoring hope and rebuilding lives.

VISION STATEMENT

Crossover Outreach envisions a community where basic needs are met, hope is restored and lives are rebuilt.

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You've known us as...



...Now we're:

Same Help, Same Hope, New Look!

For the last 30 years, you all have made a positive impact for thousands of families in need. You have provided food, clothing, and personal hygiene items to those who needed it most. You gave children backpacks full of brand new school clothes, shoes, and school supplies. You helped families feel peace during the fall, by providing them with Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas gifts. You provided warmth for children through winter coats, scarves, hats, and boots.

And that's just the beginning.

The difference you have made for these families truly can't be put into words. The kindness you have provided to them has been incredible, and something they will remember forever. As you continue to provide this hope to families in need, it is part of our vision that we make access to these resources as easy as possible. After receiving input from all of YOU, we have decided to update our name and logo. Having this updated look will allow us to reach even more families in need, while still focusing on a similar mission: sharing the love of Christ by feeding, clothing, and providing services and programs to those in need, restoring hope and rebuilding lives. As of today, we are officially Crossover Outreach: Providing the same help and same hope, now with a new look.

Providing Hope Since 1991

Director's Corner

Being entrusted with the position of Executive Director here at Crossover is humbling and such a wonderful blessing. I personally support Crossover because, each day, we see people struggling financially, mentally, emotionally, and more. A woman we will call "V" came in last week for help. After shopping for clothes and preparing to leave, our dock worker, André, handed her a chicken salad sandwich and "V" broke into tears. **That simple chicken salad sandwich was about to be the first thing she had eaten all day...she was starving.**

“ **This is like a million dollars to me!** ”

"V" recently lost her job and had never been in this situation before. After we provided her with a list of additional resources in the Flint area, she shared that she feels embarrassed to have to ask for help. We explained that she didn't need to feel

ashamed, and that this could happen to ANYONE. We are all one job loss, illness, or house fire away from being in her shoes, and there's absolutely no reason to feel ashamed to ask for help.

As she hugged each of us, she kept repeating how thankful she was; that this sandwich was like receiving a million dollars, like pure gold.

THIS is why we do what we do. Thanks to all of YOU, this woman left Crossover with clothing, food, personals and more importantly feeling uplifted and hopeful for her future. Thanks to friends like you, she was shown the love of Christ, her hope was restored, and her life beginning to be rebuilt. Why do we do what we do? Because of friends like you and "V".

Why do YOU support Crossover? Each one of you has a personal reason for uplifting those in need through Crossover...we'd love to hear your story! Give us a call or email us at info@crossoveroutreach.org with your story of why you choose to uplift others through Crossover!

Blessings & Gratitude,

Denise



Gifts of Honor & Celebration

Thank you for helping those less fortunate while honoring loved ones or celebrating the milestones in these peoples lives:

Craig Leavitt's Retirement: by Charles & Jayne Curtis

Doris Sain: by Gerald & Virginia Smith

Father Dan Scheid: Jane Bingham

Dawn Vallee: by Charles & Kathryn Hollitt

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

If you'd like updates on the day-to-day life at Crossover and to hear more stories like the one above, make sure you follow us on social media! We like to give shout outs to our donors, and also post updates on all of our programs! Follow/like us today!



peopleofcrossover



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Crossover Outreach

FLINT MINDFUL KAYAKING

Come Kayak and be Mindful with us!

We are so excited to be continuing our Mindful Kayaking program again this summer— with 2 paddles per month! Partnering with the Crim Fitness Foundation's Mindfulness Initiative and the Flint River Watershed Coalition, we hope this program provides children with the opportunity to enjoy kayaking while learning how to be mindful. Thanks to the support of HAP Empowered, Blue Cross Complete, MTA, and a few loving donors, we will be sponsoring 15 kids for each of these paddles. For more information, visit kayakflint.org/mindfulness



Back to School 2021

Before you know it, summer will be over and our children will be back in school! This year is even more crucial, as schools return back to in-person learning. In order to ensure this transition is as smooth as possible, we want to provide our children with the resources needed to have a successful return back to school. With your help, Our kids are blessed with two new outfits (including socks and underwear), a new pair of shoes, and a backpack full of age appropriate school supplies.

YOU can help our children in need return to learning prepared so they can achieve their fullest potential! Use the enclosed envelope to make a donation... donate a new backpack... coordinate a collection of new school uniforms or school supplies...donate school supplies... or give online via PayPal (visit www.crossoveroutreach.org and click the Donate Now button)...



However you choose to help, your gifts make a difference in the life of a child in need!





We offer our deepest sympathies to those who have suffered the loss of a loved one and we are truly grateful for the loving donations in their memory.

Donor Spotlight

This newsletter's donor spotlight is on the wonderful ladies from the Community Ministry and Friendship Circle from the Court St. United Methodist Church. These wonderful ladies along with the rest of our amazing church congregation provide our kids with sunscreen, towels, and bibles for camp. Year after year, these ladies continue to surprise us with their kindness! In addition to making blankets for our kids, these groups also hosted a donation drive for sunscreen and toiletries. Thank you for your continuous support!



And as always, thank you for helping to...

Show the Love of Christ • Restore Hope • Rebuild Lives

EASTER SUCCESS



Our 1st Annual Easter Program was a success! Thank you to all the amazing individuals who brought Easter goodies! We were amazed at the kind response we received. Thanks to the amazing support from all of YOU, we were able to bring joy to a total of 222 people. Of this 222 individuals, you provided 201 children with Easter baskets and 56 families with an Easter meal. We are grateful we were able to give Children in Flint a basket full of Easter joy to distract from the craziness of this year. With your help, we were able to ensure these families were able to enjoy Easter instead of having to stress on how they will afford a meal.



AP Journalist Pete Yost: by David Paul Petro
Mrs. Bobbi Schoolfield: by Don & Dee Lada, Robert & Karla Tinklenberg, Gerald & Virginia Smith, Steve & Janice Baillie, Ellin Kohlman, Lynne Hurand, Corinne Kage, Michele Igram, Bill & Peggy Anderson, Andy & Sharon Armstrong, David & Janet Nyholm, Dawn Vallee, Tim & Connie Pangle, Shirley Carpenter, Cheryl Christoff, Frederick & Karen Sherrin, Diane Heidenberger, Bruce & Holly Richardson, Linda Hill, JoAnn McIntosh, Susan Boyd, Lisé Dickson, Linda Gibbs, Joseph & Ruth Thrash, Dr. Clifford & Katherine Cox, Craig & Sarah Leavitt, Peter & Judy McLeod, Jennifer Reinhard, Genesee County Medical Society Alliance Inc., Caroline Sanderson, Denise Diller, and various individuals at First Presbyterian Church of Flint.

Charlene Bentley: by Bill Anderson
David Helzer: by Gene Dolby
Don Wolfe: Jim & Maureen Jarrard
Dorothy Cross: Floyd & Mary Robinson, Judy Clippard, Janet Williamson, Denise Diller,
Frank Hamilton: Leonard Thomas
Gerald Condon: Judy Clippard, Tim & Shirley Burchett, Mary Grace McFarlane, William & Karen Condon, David & Sarah Benjamin, Sheila Sanchez, Rev. Dr. Doug & Barbara Mercer, Richard & Arlene Ruhala, James & Mary Jarvis, Ryan Burchett, Steve Calvert, Denise Diller, Heather Stephens, Richard & Eileen Gibbs, Lenore Calvert, Christopher & Maria Czyzio.

Ginger Matar: by Russell Matar
Martin Vallee: by Charles & Kathryn Hollitt
Jennifer Jadrich: by Dawn Vallee
Jerry Ponder: by Gene Dolby
Jim & Mary Smith: by Rev. Wayne Larson
Joseph Marshall: by Robert Brewer
Loretta & Caroline (Dawn Vallee's Cousins): by Nancy Epstein
Maryetta Mueller: by Craig Mueller
Judy Randels: by Faye Jensen
Pat Keller: by Lenore Calvert, Allen & Joan Schuetz, Rev. Dr. Doug & Barbara Mercer, Floyd & Mary Robinson, Ken & Carol Smith, Tom & Deann Townsend.

Rick Kibbe: by Mary Ohsam
Teresa Wyatt: by Ida Epstein, Nancy Epstein, Karen Robinson, Gene Dolby, Joseph & Ruth Thrash, Don & Dee Lada
Virginia Beadle: by Mary Ohsam

GIVING LOCAL KIDS THE GIFT OF CAMP!

Although this year looks a little different than usual, we know how critical it is for our inner-city kids to have the chance to attend camp. Attending summer camp provides our children with the chance to make new friends, experience nature, learn about Christ, and just enjoy summer. We are excited to share we provided 20 kids with an unforgettable week at our day camp with Camp Chickagami last week! Thank you to our friends at Camp Chickagami for coming to Flint to conduct this camp, and a special thank you to St. Paul's Episcopal Church for hosting them while they were here! Our children had fun singing camp songs, playing games, and making life-long memories! We even had 2 girls who became instant best friends— and are bunking together at our Bay Shore Camp! As we speak, they are on their way along with 8 other children to Bay Shore Camp & Family Ministry for our usual sleep-away Character Building Camp Program!

It is thanks to YOU ALL that these children get these incredible experiences!



STRATEGIC PLAN

Through COVID, we had the chance to finalize our strategic plan. As you saw on the front cover, we have updated a few aspects of Crossover, such as our name, logo, Mission and Vision. In addition to this, we also updated our values, and we would like to share them with you!

- **Faith**--providing services that are anchored in the spirit, hope and example of Christ.
- **Love**—demonstrating love, kindness, and compassion in words and actions.
- **Collaboration**--partnering with supporting churches and community agencies to identify and address the needs of those we serve.
- **Integrity**—maintaining honest and reliable processes and methods of service.
- **Respect**—treating every person with dignity, compassion, and equity, regardless of faith, age, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, or national origin.
- **Accountability**—stewarding the resources Crossover receives and maintaining a high quality of service.

As we enter this post-pandemic world and move on with our 3-year strategic plan, we want to thank you for uplifting our neighbors in need over the last 30 years. It is because of each of YOU that we are able to continue our work of love as we embark on this strategic plan.

Even as we work to put COVID behind us, there are still many families in need in our community. Join us as we continue the fight to uplift those marginalized by poverty, and help our families cross-over into a better life. Thank you for all your kindness, respect, love, and compassion these last 30 years. Here's to 30 more! ♥



Save the Date!



We are so excited to share that we will be hosting a harvest luncheon on Wednesday, September 22nd. Keep an eye out for an official invitation arriving in August. It has been far too long since we've gotten together, and we hope you can all join us! ♥

"Life Starts All Over Again When It Gets Crisp in The Fall"

- F. Scott Fitzgerald



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Reggie Smith

Urgent Needs...

- Girls Socks– ALL SIZES
- Girls & Boys Tops– ALL SIZES
- Clear glue & extra fine glitter- these items will be given to each child at our Mindful Kayak events to create a mindful jar
- 2 pocket folders
- Crayola Colored Pencils, Markers, and Crayons
- Childrens Safety Scissors
- Wide ruled single subject spiral notebooks
- Plastic Pencil Sharpener (Manual)
- Rulers
- Highlighters
- Pink Erasers

Building Update!

YES! We are still in our building campaign! Although we are in the silent phase, we wanted to provide you all with an update. Due to COVID adding additional costs to construction, our new goal for our 7,500 square-foot building next to our current location is now \$2.5 million. We pray that the building materials prices will go down as supply/demand levels out once again. For now, we must plan for the “worst case scenario” but hope and pray for the best! For those who have not heard about our building campaign yet...here are answers to two of our most frequently-asked questions:



WHY BUILD A NEW BUILDING?

Our little house has definitely been through a lot over the last 30 years. It is grossly inadequate for the size we require for our programming, and it is also falling apart around us. Long story short, we have “maxed out” this buildings lifespan.



WHY NOT DO AN ADD-ON/REMODEL INSTEAD OF A BRAND NEW BUILDING?

Over the years, we have considered purchasing an empty building in Flint or adding on to our current building. After plenty of research and speaking with our builder, both of these options would cost just as much as a new build, and would cost us more in the long run due to lack of efficiency in our current building.