

Executive Director's Insight

July 1 of this year marked my 7-year anniversary as Executive Director at Crossroads. In those years, we have enjoyed incredible growth in programming, staffing, and budget, along with 3 facility renovations and the launch of our first major capital campaign. That campaign, the Pathway to Dignity Project, truly encapsulates the spirit of the past 7 years by putting the good of the neighbors we serve front and center in all we do (for more information, please visit crossroadsatlanta.org/pathway-to-dignity-project/).

The most important and empowering way Crossroads has always served our neighbors is through taking the time to sit with them one-on-one to hear them and to help them see a clear path to a place of stability in life. Of course, the heroes of that story are the courageous individuals and families who choose to move forward and take the difficult steps to overcome the barriers in their lives. But there is another group of often unsung heroes who make their journey possible - the dedicated and caring staff here at Crossroads. The 13 individuals with whom I have the privilege of serving give of their time and talent each day to ensure no one who walks through our door walks away without the help they need.

It is difficult to find many people who are willing or able to make the sacrifices necessary to face the trauma of homelessness day after day. The expertise, patience and persistence it takes to walk with someone through crisis is truly a talent and a gift. Our staff does that with almost 6,000 guests each year. Meals, birth certificates, ID vouchers, MARTA passes and housing assistance are all great resources, but they are useless without professionals who are there to provide access to them, talk through the best path forward, and remain available for as long as needed.

It is only through your generosity that we are able to maintain that vital human connection. Please consider making a gift today, or becoming a monthly donor, and help us continue to be here to welcome our neighbors.

Peace,

Tony



Guest Highlight

In April of this year, our Door-To-Door Housing team had the opportunity to engage with Ms. Tiffany. She was directed to us by a friend in her apartment community once they became aware of her challenge of making rent while temporarily being without employment. She contacted our team; a full assessment was conducted and she was then connected with our Housing Manager, Isis Wilson, to begin the journey of providing support. Within a short period of time, we were able to provide the necessary support to prevent her and her family from losing their housing. As part of our ongoing care, we reach out and touch base with our guests to see how things are going, as well as to evaluate our own process. In our conversation, Ms. Tiffany shared more about her story which paints a picture we believe more folks in the world need to see and hear.

For the past 20 years, Tiffany has lived in Atlanta. She moved here from Indiana as a young child as her mother sought to gain some stability. Unfortunately, this move brought with it much trauma for Tiffany and her siblings. Separation, abuse, neglect and instability was the reality for her and her siblings. In all of this, she found a way to move forward as best she could in hopes of progressing towards her own goals. As she grew, her family grew as she brought 4 beautiful children into the world. She was met again with difficulty as she had little support from her children's father and had minimal connections with family or friends. Still, she worked hard, sometimes 3 jobs, working every day of the week to provide for her family and still making time to be involved in her kids' lives: loving, teaching and investing in them.

You would think in a world and society where it's taught that hard work will yield success, stability and comfort, that Tiffany would eventually make it. Unfortunately, for those of us who live in reality, we are aware that inequity and injustice play a major role in one's "success". Tiffany is one of too many who have unique challenges due to race and gender. Progress has been made in these areas of society and culture, however there is still much left to make right. Therefore, we - those of us who are aware of such atrocities - have an obligation to respond by not only coming alongside and offering tangible support but allowing our renewed minds to share this truth with others who have yet to see the injustice taking place around them each and every day.

Thankfully, Tiffany maintains hope and refuses to let past happenings and current circumstances dictate her desires. We're glad to share that she is stable, making strides towards her own personal goals as well as goals for her family. This news should be celebrated, and while we celebrate, we should also realize the work is not over. We should work towards ensuring that fewer of our neighbors have these types of experiences. Join Crossroads as we work towards this every day. Join in recognizing the life and journey of Ms. Tiffany while also choosing to fight for her.



Crossroads Tailgate



Register NOW!



SEPTEMBER



THUR | 21 | 6-8 PM
2023

AT DAS BBQ - 350 MEMORIAL DR. SE



**SCAN TO
REGISTER**

CAMPAIGN UPDATE!

PATHWAY TO DIGNITY PROJECT

Creating a space where ALL are welcome



Check Out **The Progress!**

\$379,000 RAISED

We're making some great progress on the campaign front due to partnerships from foundations and individuals who have invested through donations and pledges to make this vision a reality!

With a number of invite only foundations responding to our invitation, we fully expect to have this campaign wrapped up by the beginning of 2024!

Thank you for helping make this a reality.



Scan to see more



Numbers with A Story

May to July 2023

Behind every number lies a story! These stories belong to the amazing resilient guests we have the honor and privilege of coming alongside each and every day. Below you will find the ways this has been accomplished.

Renewal Project

- 797 New Guests served
- 4,914 Mail room visits
- 794 Birth certificates/ID's provided
- 31 Mobile site engagements

Clyde's Kitchen

- 7,908 Meals served
- 220 Volunteers
- \$20,214.11 in food donations



Door-To-Door

- 89 Households assisted
- 41 Prevention households served
- 48 Households secured new housing
- \$127,335.65 in housing support

We ALL need a hand!
Join us as we seek after hands left empty.

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