

Turning Point

Fall 2016



Board of Directors

Governance Board

Wayne Vason
Chair

Mike Ruberti
Vice-chair

Trey Shipp
Treasurer

Ashley Cummings
Secretary

Tony Johns
Executive Director

Jeronia Blue
Pat Brumbaugh
Saleitha Champion
Tracie Harps
Mary S. Hinton
Beth Hodges
The Rev. Lauren Holder
Livingstone Johnson
Kate Kennedy
John Mercer
John Moyer
Mary Norris
Jonathan Serrie
Al Sherrod

A Note from Our Executive Director

My first three months at Crossroads have been a whirlwind of meeting new people, getting to know an incredible staff and group of volunteers, listening to the stories of our courageous Guests, and sifting through endless rows of files to familiarize myself with every aspect of the organization. This has been a polarity of the joy of establishing new Kingdom relationships and the tedium of administration. But shining through every minute of every day is the unbelievable opportunity we have to see the lives of men, women and children transformed from chaos and lack to stability and abundance.

When seeking to communicate this "way of transformation", we often use the term self-sufficiency to communicate the economic ideal. But a more appropriate and sustainable ideal is communal sufficiency. This is the hope given to us in Scripture where we are taught to "open our hands" to our neighbors (Deuteronomy 15:7-11), "give to anyone as they might have need" (Acts 2:42-47) and create communities

of equal opportunity (2 Corinthians 8:13-15). This vision goes beyond a simple economic understanding to embrace a holistic hope for social, spiritual and physical sufficiency that is sustainable and available to all of God's children. This is the work of justice.

As an organization, Crossroads has been engaged for 20 years in this work of justice. The roots of this work go back 42 years to a simple act of kindness. Many thousands of our neighbors in crisis have found hope in a meal, an open door, a listening ear, a caring response. Upon that foundation of compassion we now have the opportunity to build stable lives and sustainable futures by taking the next step with our neighbors toward



Continues on page 2

Save the Date

5TH ANNUAL GALA ♦ CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

A Vision for Ending Homelessness: Reflecting and Looking Forward

Please join us Thursday, April 27, 2017 from 6–9 p.m.
Mason Fine Art | 415 Plasters Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30324

OUR 2016 GALA RAISED OVER \$200,000
THANKS TO YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

\$200,000 = 8,000 birth certificates

\$200,000 = 400,000 sandwiches

\$200,000 = 364 months of stabilizing support
for a homeless woman and her children

\$200,000 = 60 individuals per year on a path to stable
employment and independent housing

TIER II ASPIRES TO “DO MORE”

In reflecting on the services we provide our Guests at Crossroads and asking “What MORE can we do?”, an obvious answer presents itself: Jobs! Nothing empowers an individual more than the dignity of work. But for a person living in a shelter with little security and no place to go during the day, the obstacles to finding and securing employment can be overwhelming.

Our desire is to begin in January 2017 with the basics of providing access to a computer, assistance with building a resume, coaching on interview performance and classes to learn the basics of teamwork, time management and financial planning. This will provide the foundation of a Tier II program where we walk with our Guests on the path to a stable and sustainable future. The ultimate goal is to develop an employment resource center where Guests will have access to everything they need to achieve permanent employment without having to spend their day struggling to survive on the streets.

This goal invites the participation of the entire Crossroads community as we work to provide laundry services, clothing and shoes for work, showers, private lockers to store valuables, access to phones, computers and printers, classes on a diverse array of employment and financial skills, and maybe even a credit union! We will need those who can train individuals in hard and soft skills across many fields, teach computer skills, life skills and budgeting, be available at the employment center to answer questions and assist in developing a job search plan, and mentor those who secure jobs as they navigate the challenges of the workplace. More than anything, we will need employers who are willing to provide job opportunities to those who work hard preparing to be a productive member of the workforce.

If you are interested in being a part of this life-changing effort, please contact me (tony@crossroadsatlanta.org) or Dominic Heard (dominic@crossroadsatlanta.org) to learn **MORE**.



Thank you
to those who
joined us
August 25
for a tour of
Crossroads and
introduction to
our vision for
doing MORE.



Continued from page 1 - A Note from Our Executive Director

realizing *communal sufficiency*. We do this first by strengthening our core services of serving meals, providing a place to receive mail and offering documentation services and case management. Then we take the next step of providing a pathway to employment. We are initially calling this effort Tier II, and we will be sharing more details in the coming months about this exciting opportunity to end homelessness for our brothers and sisters one life at a time.

To make this hope a reality, we need each and every one of you. We need your **time** in volunteering your unique skills as a resource for others; we need your **voice** in sharing this work of justice with others and inviting them to join us; and we need your **financial support** to make sure that we do not simply offer “crumbs from our table,” but that we honor the image of God in every human life by providing the very best that we can give. May we rise to the opportunity!

Grace & Peace Be With You,

Give now at CrossroadsAtlanta.org/donate

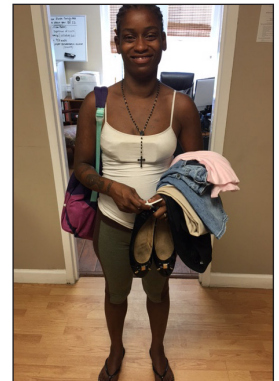
Empowering people who are homeless to progress on the road toward economic and personal self sufficiency.



PROVIDING THE BASICS: THE CROSSROADS CLOSET

We love our renovated Family Resource Room and Ty's Closet! New shelving and closets make it easier to provide our guests ACCESS to the BASICS. Under Ty Rutledge's leadership the closet is already hard at work helping our guests. Six Guests signed-up for a recent shopping day and eleven were helped!

The closet is in need of casual pants, shirts, socks and underwear for men. Cash donations allow us to purchase garments needed for emergency situations - like the young boy who recently had an accident in the cafeteria and needed clean clothes.



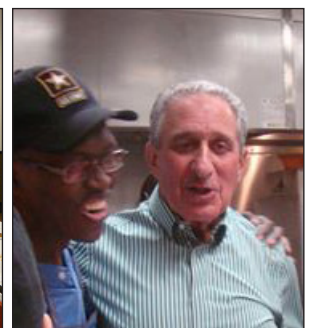
A young lady receives clothes for a job that she has with our partner, Top Job Hospitality.



WHAT'S IN A SIGN?
OUR NEW
SIGNAGE MAKES SURE GUESTS,
VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS CAN
FIND THEIR WAY TO CROSSROADS!



FALCONS (WIVES) ARE IN THE KITCHEN!
A big thank you to the Atlanta Falcons wives, Freddie Falcon and Arthur Blank for spending time serving our Guests. We are thankful for your continued support and know our Guests enjoyed the time you spent with us.





Phone: 404-873-7650
Email: info@crossroadsatlanta.org

For more information, to volunteer or to donate:
CrossroadsAtlanta.org

Ways you can make a big difference!

10 MOST WANTED

- Bottled water
- Infant formula in pre-made bottles
- Diapers
- Baby wipes (*small packages*)
- Feminine products
- Travel-size toiletries (*shampoo, body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, lotion*)
- Travel-size tissues
- Backpacks
- Socks and underwear (*men's, women's, children's*)



RECURRING MONTHLY DONATIONS

help us plan to do **MORE** for our Guests. The more consistent support we have the **MORE** we can do!

A consistent gift of any amount - 10, 20, 50 or more dollars has a tremendous impact. Ten dollars provides identification, \$20 a birth certificate, \$50 equates 100 sandwiches.

*Please consider supporting Crossroads as a monthly donor by visiting CrossroadsAtlanta.org and clicking **DONATE NOW**.*



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Crossroads every time you shop, at no cost to you. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible purchases.

To set up your account, go to smile.amazon.com and sign up. Be sure to choose to support Crossroads Community Ministries. And remember, when you purchase something at Amazon, you must do it from smile.amazon.com.

Kroger will donate a portion of what you spend to Crossroads - if you have a Kroger Plus Card, designate Crossroads as your organization of choice and make sure you swipe your card when you out. If you don't have a Kroger Plus Card, you can get one at any Kroger and then activate it online. You have to buy groceries, why not allow Kroger to give to Crossroads when you do!

