

Staff Highlight - Isis Wilson

When you hear the word “team” a lot can come to mind, depending on your life experience. In our world at Crossroads, this word carries with it the theme of family, diversity, strength, collaboration and much more. One of our teammates is Isis Wilson. Isis is a transplant to Atlanta, Georgia from the bay area of California. Growing up in a single parent household led by her mother, she was mildly aware of some challenges her family faced, but in many ways she was unaware of just how hard her mother worked to provide a loving and safe environment for her. It was in this environment that she began to develop a mindset and desire to help others but never in a formal career capacity. As she grew and began to embrace her own queer identity, deciding how to exist in it around others, it became clearer that she desired others to feel cared for, heard and supported.

Entering university, she initially focused in on Child Psychology but later changed to Liberal Studies with the intent of jumping into social services as it had a broadness to it which would allow for many areas of impact and exploration. Nearing graduation, she began to search for graduate school options and had a desire to further explore and understand her black identity. Her mother was Latina and her father black, but she had no connection with her father so her childhood experience centered primarily around the Latinx community and culture and she felt a draw to understand more of her black history. She searched around and found the right program, at the right school, and in the right city - Georgia State University in Atlanta. Naturally this was going to be a major shift in many ways, but it was a step she knew she needed to take.

While in graduate school, pursuing her master's in social work, the passion surrounding homelessness began to grow. From both courses and internships, she began to see her life experience growing up in a single parent household with limited resources play out more and more through those seeking support. She noticed a disproportionate of these individuals being people of color with very limited, if any opportunities to gain stability. It was during this time; she began to focus in on working towards ending the episode of homelessness for one person or household at a time. After completing her MSW, she secured a contracted position through United Way here at Crossroads which would lead to her coming on full-time as a Door-To-Door Case Manager and now overseeing the entire Door-To-Door Housing Initiative. She shared what drew her to Crossroads and remain is the overall sense of community among staff and guests, the value we place on treating our guests as individuals rather than problems to be solved or numbers we track in a database, and lastly the freedom she is given to be herself and have agency to lead as she needs to.

Not all spaces give such freedom or hold such values, but with the leadership Crossroads has and with great, unique, caring and experienced teammates like Isis, we truly will accomplish our mission by helping our resilient guests walk on a path towards personal and economic stability. Isis reminds us that behind every person is a story, and that's true for our brothers and sisters we pass by daily asking for someone to see them.

Program Highlights

Renewal Project

The **Renewal Project** continues to provide fundamental stabilization services to our guests in the local community. These come in the form of individual assessments, case management, a mailing address along with mailbox access, identification and documentation services, and direct referrals to various partners in the Atlanta area.



Door-To-Door

Our **Door-To-Door** Housing Program continues to grow and expand as we provide support to individuals, families and veterans who are experiencing homelessness. This support comes in the form of case management, emergency rent, move-in costs, utility assistance, employment navigation and much more. Our goal is to provide our direct services well and partner with other top rated organizations who handle the other supports our guests may need.

Clyde's Kitchen



The dining table has been a staple of Crossroads. We believe a loving and trusting relationship can greatly impact one's journey to stability. **Clyde's Kitchen** has maintained and enhanced the environment in which our guests receive more than just a meal. Through great leadership, supportive staff and seasoned volunteers, we're able to create a safe, loving and trusting environment for guests as they take advantage of the supports available thru The **Renewal Project** and the **Door-To-Door** Housing Program.



Honoring Clyde!

Crossroads has been successful throughout the years due to many individuals. One which sticks out is Mr. Clyde Corbin. For 24 years, Clyde came to serve our guests, sometimes upwards of 300 a day, with love and grace in his heart. With a smile on his face and an apron around his waist, he helped mend the hearts of many by offering hope and an amazing meal! Below you'll find our mural honoring both our community of beloved guests and Mr. Clyde. We're hopeful this mural will inspire those passing by to question what it means to truly come alongside your community.



Before

After



Empowering our guests towards economic and personal stability!

Numbers with A Story

October to December 2022

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

- 741 New Guests served
- 4,277 Mail room visits
- 797 Birth certificates/ID's provided
- 81 Mobile site engagements

Clyde's Kitchen

- 3,975 Meals served
- 221 Volunteers
- \$18,901.61 in food donations



Door-To-Door

- 79 Households assisted
- 40 Households secured new housing
- 32 Employment connections
- \$74,161.14 in housing support



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

P.O. Box 55397
Atlanta, Ga. 30308
info@crossroadsatlanta.org
www.crossroadsatlanta.org

