Finally! A long awaited first step towards a new family shelter took place on April 8th - the groundbreaking ceremony. The simple symbolism of putting a shovel to the ground, breaking into it, and lifting and shifting sand had a great significance to all in attendance. An act that will result in lives transformed and families reunited. A new beginning, indeed!

We had many friends join us for the occasion. Dignitaries and representatives from city, county, and state entities, and board members, took shovels and dug into the ground with hard hats on. There were many cheers and even some tears. But, without a doubt the most touching moment happened when Myra Garlit, Executive Director of Crossroads, invited Heidi and her son to come up and be a part of the groundbreaking. They were there to represent the women, the children, and the families that are to come to the shelter once it is built.

Heidi stood in representation of herself as well, as she and her son have called the family shelter home. With nowhere to go, she found the help and encouragement that she needed at Crossroads. She became employed, moved to her own apartment, bought a car, and secured daycare for her son. She had a new beginning.

Though the wheels have been put in motion, we still have a long way to go. The funding is not all there yet, and we will continue to work towards raising it. We’ll continue to work “for the least of these”. We’re trusting God to bring us to the end. Your support is the breath that keeps this dream alive and we thank you for it. Together we’ll get there!
Sunflowers, thanks, and more!

Welcome to the spring and summer edition of News for Our Partners. Azucena, our graphic designer, chose the sunflower as our color theme this edition. Aren’t these plants just one of God’s splendid creations? Have you noticed how they will follow the direction of the sun? In our Christian walk, we should remember the sunflower and follow the direction of the “son”, Jesus Christ, by always turning toward Him. We should be following the light of his direction in our lives just as the sunflower follows the sun!

We have combined the spring and summer editions of News for Our Partners to save publishing and mailing costs. In this edition, you’ll find information on our Easter service and the long-awaited, ground breaking ceremony for the Family Shelter.

There is one page which focuses on special events and donations to the Mission: Dr. Feinberg, Poisonous Pinups, Quality Development and Sober Riders—thank you! We also are highlighting the Crossroads Mission’s Alumni group. The alumni board and each of its members have given this group their unique group personality. They truly give back! I’m sending a special “thank you” to all of the alumni for their help with special projects at the mission.

Another important section of this newsletter is the story on the food drive held by the National Association of Letter Carriers. The postal workers in this county did an awesome job in giving us this opportunity. This nationwide, annual event helps feed many hungry folks across our country. The final poundage for Yuma County was over 32,000 pounds of food! Wow! This single collection of non-perishable food helps Crossroads feed hundreds locally. Food drives of all sizes are incredibly important to the Mission. A very special thank you to the Letter Carriers Association and the postal workers at the Yuma stations! God bless you for the work you do every day!

While you’re perusing through this edition, don’t forget to check out the report of the individual department numbers on Page 7. You can see by the numbers that Crossroads continues to provide services that help make our community a better place to live. With the emergency shelters, the number of meals provided, the transitional living homes, and services to those in the recovery program, Crossroads remains a focal point as a “crossroads” of many people’s lives! You are an important part of these services as you give to the Mission. To all of our donors, THANK YOU! Thank you for your time, talents, and treasures. Crossroads is blessed to have donors who believe in what we do and show that support through donations of money and in-kind goods. As always, remember the staff and volunteers of the Mission in prayer as we continue to provide a “hand up, not a hand out”. Thank you for helping us, help them!

Did you know... that we depend on your food donations?
Less than 3% of our food comes from the Food Bank, we purchase approximately 12%, and 85% comes from YOUR food drives and donations. Call Barbara today, we can help you plan your next fundraiser!

Please consider helping us with some of our basic needs:
- Food, for pantry and events.
- Jackets, blankets, and warm clothing.
- Socks & underwear (new) for men, women, and children—in all sizes.
- General toiletries, personal care items, and bath towels.
Perhaps you know someone who wears their alma matter’s colors proudly. They own the t-shirt and their cars boast the stickers. They are alumni, after all. Well, let us introduce you to a proud bunch, if there ever was one: the Crossroads Mission Alumni!

About 40 people make up this elite group that has conquered much. They have struggled with addiction and at one point participated in the New Life Recovery Program at Crossroads Mission. They made life changing decisions and graduated the program! Now they live a sober life of recovery and meet twice a month to share their struggles and their accomplishments with each other.

“We’ve got a connection...It’s like we’re one big family!” he says that this makes it easier to share with each other at meetings and to bring down walls. “When you get out of treatment you feel alone. Here, you feel like you’re part of a group.”

The group is also giving back to Crossroads Mission. They have been doing car washes at Sam’s Club and restaurant take-overs at Lute’s Casino to raise funds for the purchase of emergency bed trays for the homeless shelter. Their goal is $10,000 and their anniversary celebration and fundraiser at the Scorpion’s Faith Night has brought them closer to it. Soon they will participate in support committees at Crossroads, too!

We’re very proud of them! Their logo is the Ocean-to-Ocean Highway which represents well their mission statement: “Helping bridge the gap to a clean and sober lifestyle!”
Celebrating Easter

We had a good crowd join us to celebrate Easter. We shared a good study of the Word of God and remembered together Jesus’ amazing sacrifice and victorious resurrection. We sang praise songs and enjoyed a delicious meal and plenty of desserts. We had gift baskets for the kids and even had a “bunny” make an appearance. Many of our program participants had their families join them and we also had many friends and volunteers. We served over 600 meals that day!
A huge food drive...

We had the honor of being selected as the beneficiaries of the National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive once again this year!

Each year the Letter Carriers designate one day to collect nonperishable food items right along with the mail. They collected 32,000 pounds of food - making this year’s food drive even bigger than last year’s 27,000 pounds! THANK YOU!

We are so blessed to have received all that food. We really need it, especially during these summer months when we’ll be cooking about 400 meals a day!

We thank the entire Yuma community and the many volunteers who helped. God bless you all!

A New Way!

There is a New Way at Crossroads Mission, a new opportunity for help. New Way is a new program for the homeless and the needy of our community. It is an outreach effort that provides case management, guidance and counseling, referrals to agencies and services in the community, educational support, job search help, and transportation access, among many others. To participate, it is not necessary to reside at Crossroads Mission. A person may come for one service of the program, or for all. This makes it possible to reach many who are opposed to the idea of a more traditional program.

New Way has been approved by Cenpatico of Arizona and we are proud of this new component to our array of services. We believe every little thing helps and if we can help one person not be homeless, then we have indeed succeeded.

For more information contact Rene Sonoqui at rsonoqui@crossroadsmission.org

Thank You Yuma Letter Carriers!
A special thank you to the Sober Riders for their “Run For Shelter” fundraising event to benefit the Family Shelter. They raised and donated $1,700. God bless you! ♥

Thank you to Poisonous Pinups for their $225 donation, the proceeds of their Marilyn Monroe Birthday Bash! Neomi Shaffer (right), presents the check to Barbara Rochester and Arian Lee of Crossroads Mission.

A special thank you to Quality Development for their $1,000 donation! Vanessa Shaffer and her daughters, present the check to Barbara.

The Arizona Department of Corrections presented Crossroads Mission 2nd Chance Bargain Center an award for their support of newly released inmates and their families. Domingo Moreno presents the award to Barbara Rochester.

Shoes, shoes, & more shoes!

A world of thanks to the Feinberg Foot Clinic for their donation of 200 pairs of Dr. Comfort diabetic shoes! We were able to provide many guests of Crossroads and needy people with diabetes with a top-of-the-line pair of shoes.

Picture: Dr. Dale Feinberg, his wife Julie Fritz-Feinberg.

THANK YOU!!! For your support during the last months. We could not have done the many special events and provided as many services without your help. Our promise to you is one of accountability, transparency, and good stewardship.

Did you know that for every dollar you donate to Crossroads Mission, only 3 cents are used for administration costs?

We are careful on how we spend because it’s not our money - it’s your money, and God’s money!
Help us help them!

We would not be able to do what we do without your help. When someone comes to Crossroads for help - we’re there for them! Through your donations, you are there too - THANK YOU! Will you please send your most generous gift today? You can help us help them!

YES! I want to help them! Here’s my gift of:

- [$30]
- [$50]
- [$70]
- Other: ________

Please cut along dotted line & send this card with your gift to: Crossroads Mission, P.O. Box 1161, Yuma AZ 85366-1161. Ensure that the mailing label with your name and address is visible on the back of this card. For credit card giving visit our website or call (928) 726-0491, Ext. 23. All donations are tax deductible and you will receive a thank you letter confirming your gift. Unless otherwise specified, donations will be used to cover general operating and program expenses and may be used throughout the year.

What Your Gifts Made Possible:

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Memorial Gifts:

Our deepest sympathies are with those who have lost loved ones. A memorial gift to Crossroads Mission is a special way to offer hope to the needy in the name of a friend or family member.

In Memory Of:
- Audrey Podolsky .......................... By Charles & Sharon Craig
- Audrey “Trixie” Podolsky ............... By Charles & Sharon Craig
- Bryan Patterson ........................ By Sam & Synove Patterson
- Clayton Campbell ....................... By Karen E Campbell
- Connie Hey .............................. By Charles & Sharon Craig
- David Irr ............................... By Charles & Sharon Craig
- Don Mohr ................................ By Albert Prich
- Esther Brand ............................ By A.C. Brand
- Kathryn Hoppstetter .................... By Myra E Garlit
- Kirsten Leigh Sandstorm ............... By Charles & Sharon Craig
- Lu & Frieda Peters ....................... By De Los Faire
- Mary Stevens ............................ By Dixie West Martin
- My Mothers Sozan & Laura .............. By Dennis Faire
- Nancy & Kay Carlson .................... By James V Weather
- Nancy Kay Carlson ...................... By Joy French Miller
- Nancy Kay Carlson ...................... By Larry E Oberg
- Nancy Kay Carlson ...................... By Shirley Rienh
- Nancy Kay Carlson ...................... By Jim & Emma Case
- Nancy Kay Carlson ...................... By Virgil Calavan
- Robert Anderson ......................... By Charles & Sharon Craig
- Robert Anderson ......................... By Myra E Garlit
- Robert Figueroa ........................ By Charles & Sharon Craig

Gifts in Honor:

A Gift in Honor to Crossroads Mission is a great way to honor a special person with a gift that will help the needy. Honor gifts make great birthday, anniversary, or recognition award.

In Honor of:
- Noman Rockwell ........................ By “Jeanne Watterberg Yuma Square and Round Dance Association”
- Audrey "Trixie" Podolsky ............... By Charles & Sharon Craig
- Bryan Patterson ........................ By Sam & Synove Patterson
- Clayton Campbell ....................... By Karen E Campbell
- Connie Hey .............................. By Charles & Sharon Craig
- David Irr ............................... By Charles & Sharon Craig
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Chris Hoppstetter, Vice Chairman
Robyn Stallworth-Pouquett, Secretary
Doug Mellon, Treasurer
Dennis Krill, Past Chairman
Alex Montoya
Charles Craig
Gene Dalbey
Geerick Anderson
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Mike Skinner
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Betty Denise
Betty Furtwangler
Billy Badilla
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Dana Davidson
Dennis Sorrels
Donna Perrott
Ema Lea Shoop
Francisco Galindo
Frank Irr
Frank Orendain
George Davis
Jerry Tams
Joan Day
John McMarran
Judi Hipp
Lenora Werley
Lois Galyardt
Lynette Toepfer
Maggie Elmer
Mary Shane
Mike Friends
Paul Bensel
Renee Ray
Rick Parr
Robert Hayworth
Rose Hill
Sonya Grimaldi
Tim Conovaloff
Sam Day
Stewart Bradshaw

The purpose of Crossroads Mission is to help disabled, disadvantaged and disenfranchised individuals and families achieve a better quality of life. We are a 501(c)(3), Private Nonprofit Organization serving the homeless, needy and poor of Yuma County without regard to race, color, national origin, religious background, age, sex or handicap. (Alternative format and reasonable accommodations available upon request.) We depend on the contributions of concerned individuals and organizations. All contributions are tax-deductible. We are a member of good standing of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions. We partner with the State of Arizona, DES, Yuma Community Food Bank, FEMA & Cenpatico of Arizona. We do not solicit in front of stores or door to door. Please report any impostors to us immediately. News for Our Partners is a quarterly publication for the friends and supporters of Crossroads Mission. We welcome comments about the content of the newsletter. If there are issues you want to hear about, please let us know.