

"Now, life is the best. Perfect. The best thing that's ever happened to me, all thanks to God and the Mission."

Living a New Life

After years of addiction, Daniel learned a new way to live Pg. 4

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At The Forefront Of Services...



Myra E. Garlit
M.Ed., LISAC, BHP
Executive Director

I'm very excited to present to you the latest edition of **News for Our Partners**. In this partner magazine, you'll find that Crossroads is once again busy - not just because it's that time of the year but because we are on the forefront of services for the homeless, the addicted, the poor and the needy! We serve people who are at a crossroads in their lives. As partners, you are an important member of our team. In this edition, you'll meet some amazing people associated with the mission whether as volunteers or former clients.

You're invited to come to the Three-Days of Thanksgiving on 11/25, 26 and 27 or the Three-Days of Christmas on 12/23, 24, and 25. These 3 days are not just about eating. We work to reach people who need services. If you would like to volunteer just show up and we will find somewhere for you to be of service. Additionally, this year we would like to meet you, our donors, for a "Meet and Greet" time! You'll have a chance to meet me, other staff members, and some clients who will share their testimonies.

**Important
ARIZONA
TAX CREDIT
Information:**

Below you'll see information about tax credits. If you're single or married, you can take advantage of the Arizona tax credit. This credit is a dollar-for-dollar return on your donations. Single donors can donate up to \$200 and married couples can donate \$400. This is not a regular donation but a tax credit for each dollar you donate. As a tax payer, it is a great way to support your favorite non-profit, school or other eligible organizations. Of course, we hope that you will donate to Crossroads. By the way, if you have been donating throughout the year, that donation goes towards your allowable tax credit. Please consider Crossroads Mission when you are closing out the year.

I hope that you enjoy this edition but even more than that, I hope to see you at one of the events. God bless you for your support and please remember to keep Crossroad Mission in your prayers!

Your end of the year donation can be made online at crossroadsmission.org/donate, or you can use the card below:

WORKING POOR TAX CREDIT DONATION CARD

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Last Name First Name MI

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____ Phone # _____

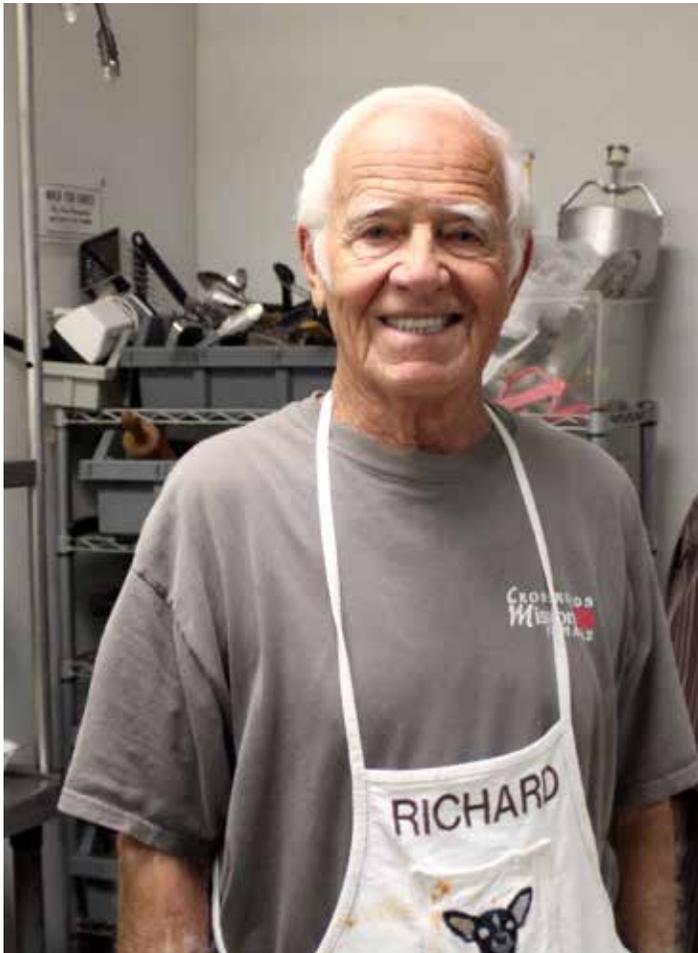
Participating donations will be used for covering general expenses of Crossroads mission, a 501 C(3) organization. The maximum Arizona State tax credit is \$400 per year if filing a joint return and \$200 if filing single or married filing separate. These donations are pursuant to A.R.S. Section 43-1088. Donations must be postmarked or delivered to Crossroads Mission by December 31 to be claimed as a credit for this year.

Amount: _____ | Check #: _____ | Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

To send your cash, check or credit card donation, please cut and fill out this form and mail to: Crossroads Mission, P.O. Box 1161, Yuma, AZ 85366.

* THIS TAX CREDIT IS ALLOWED IN ADDITION TO CREDITS FOR DONATIONS TO SCHOOLS AND FOSTER CARE ORGANIZATIONS.

Serving Smiles & Encouragement!



Meet Richard Frost. Three times a week you will find him serving lunch at the Crossroads Mission kitchen.

Originally from Washington, Richard is now a resident of Yuma. He does the whole “snow-birding” thing backwards. He lives in Yuma full time and goes and visits his family in Washington for the summer. The one thing that’s remained constant in Richard’s life is his love for volunteering. When he lived in Washington he helped out at “Feed the Hungry” and really enjoyed it. When he moved to Yuma he looked for something similar and he found Crossroads. That was four years ago.

Since then, Richard has been a staple at the lunch counter on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, between the months of October and April. Richard doesn’t just serve food, though. He adds a big serving of smiles and encouraging words that just change the mood of the lunch meals.

“I enjoy volunteering,” says Richard. “I like how they run the place. They do a good job here. I like seeing the people in the program and talking to them. They’re in a struggle, working through their steps, and that helps me as well!”

You can help too!

Like Richard, you can enjoy the benefits of volunteering. There is great satisfaction in knowing that you have helped out and made a difference through your involvement. At Crossroads Mission we rely on volunteers to accomplish all that we do. We encourage you to come and spend some time helping out. It will do your soul good!

Volunteering opportunities are available at the Thrift Store, the kitchen, the shelters, in ministry, as drivers, and at the various offices around the Mission. Another great way to get involved is during our special events, like the 3-Days of Thanksgiving and 3-Days of Christmas. We serve over 3,000 meals in just three days on both events and we could sure use your help!

Call today to sign up: 928-783-9362, Ext. 502. ♥

(Above) Richard takes a break from his volunteering to smile for the camera. He makes it quick and goes right back to serving lunch at the Crossroads Mission kitchen.



A New Life For Daniel

Living differently after years of addiction

Better known as “El Zurdo” or “Lefty”, Daniel lived a life full of drugs and alcohol.

He started drinking when he was 17, mostly in social situations and on the weekends. He was a typical young man enjoying life and having fun with his friends. His family was a typical quiet family from Somerton. Even Daniel can't explain how his life took a downward spiral that sucked him deeper and deeper into a life of addiction. “I was the black sheep of the family, el (the) destroyer,” remembers Daniel.

By the time he was 20, Daniel was not just drinking alcohol, he had added crystal meth to his weekend routine. Still, Daniel was able to keep a job in construction.

“I would work all week then starting on Friday I would go four days of non-stop usage. I would drink and get sleepy and then I would do some meth to keep going. I wouldn't eat or sleep at all. Then I would do some more meth to be ready for work and that was every week,” recalls El Zurdo.

Amazingly, Daniel never had to pay to support his drinking and drug use. His friends simply provided for him. This lifestyle became normal for him and he kept living this way for almost 17 years.

Eventually, Daniel got involved with the wrong people across the border and got caught at the U.S. Port of Entry with a 91 pound drug contraband. This landed him in federal prison. While in there, he

received divorce papers from his wife, who had up until then stuck by his side. “I would always tell her that it was the last time and that I wouldn't use no more. But in inside the prison, there was nothing I could do,” he says. His divorce became final.

When Daniel got out of prison he was pretty much devastated and started relying more and more on drugs and alcohol. He started mixing meth, cocaine, and alcohol. “I was using a lot of drugs and it got to the point that I got scared because I couldn't remember where I lived or even my Mom's face,” says Daniel.

He knew then that he was in trouble and he came to Crossroads Mission asking for help. This was the beginning of a new life for Daniel. That was back in April of 2013.

Daniel says he was angry and aggressive and didn't think he would last. But, he stuck it out and completed the four month recovery program. He relied on God, his counselors, and his fellow peers to make it. “They were like my family,” he says.

However, Daniel wasn't sure what would happen if he moved back into his old environment. He reached out to his counselors and mentors at Crossroads and he was told about the New Way Program. This program is designed to help





"I don't like to be in the spotlight but I want everyone out there, those still in their addiction, to know that it is possible."



people get back on their feet. He did join this new program and spent an additional six months at the Mission. During this time he was encouraged to take a course to become a Certified Peer Support Specialist. At first, he didn't believe he had what it took to be a P.S.S., but he decided to go for it.

This certification and all the life-skills gained in both programs got Daniel ready for employment. It wasn't long before he was hired by a local mental health services agency as a P.S.S. for severely mentally ill individuals. Daniel now takes care of the building where they live and he helps them out with everyday support. An added benefit for him is the one

bedroom apartment he gets to live in rent-free.

Daniel is now living a new life of recovery and service to others. He has a good relationship with his ex-wife and says his 20, 16, and 13 year old children are now proud of him. He likes his life and is looking forward to his future.

"I don't like to be in the spotlight but I want everyone out there, those still in their addiction, to know that it is possible. You have to want it. At first it is hard, but it works. The staff really helped me out a lot. I will always be very grateful to the Mission. Now, life is the best. Perfect. The best thing that's ever happened to me, all thanks to God and the Mission," says Daniel. ♥

Travelling together in the Road to

Just like a long road trip, recovery is a journey best traveled with company. That was the motivator behind the first Road to Recovery Mini Conference at Crossroads Mission.

When we began to plan this conference we knew that we wanted to make it something special. Something that would be like the much needed rest area in the middle of a long interstate road. We wanted to have two days of spiritual, physical, and emotional refreshment.

The result was a great conference that took place at the main campus. There were workshops, meetings, special presentations, great food, and plenty of fellowship.

It became a reunion of sorts. Graduates from our recovery program got to reconnect with

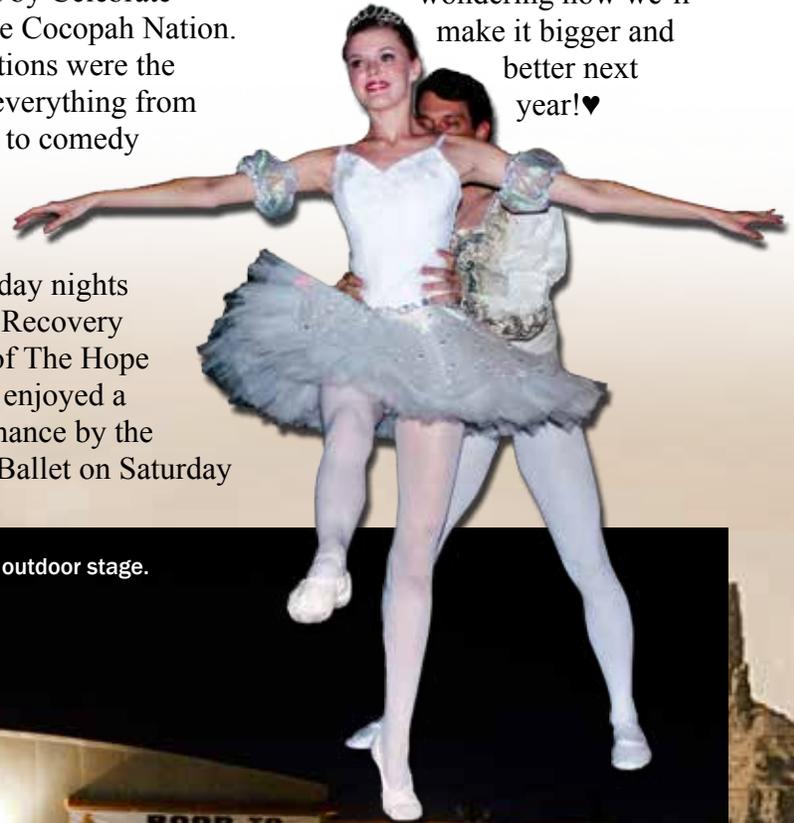
their fellow program participants. Those that are young in their recovery were able to interact and learn from those with many years of sobriety. Many brought their entire families!

We were honored to have the support of many in the community. We were able to offer workshops and conferences about Alcoholic Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and by Celebrate Recovery, and the Cocopah Nation.

The main attractions were the evening events, everything from bonfire meetings to comedy shows! There was a worship concert on both Friday and Saturday nights by the Celebrate Recovery Worship Group of The Hope Center. We then enjoyed a beautiful performance by the Arizona Classic Ballet on Saturday

night. The Rock Church of San Diego brought the main message and entertainment with keynote speaker Tim H., followed by the Rock Comedy Ministry. We even had a performance by local Christian rapper Edgar Santoya, a graduate of Crossroads Mission.

Overall, the goal was accomplished and we can say it was a success! Now we're wondering how we'll make it bigger and better next year!♥



The front parking lot of the Family Shelter was transformed into an outdoor stage.



RECOVERY!

(Below) Throughout the conference there was a prayer station where anyone could go over and be prayed for! (Right) The evening events felt like a true celebration with colorful lights and live music.



(Above) Christian Rapper Edgar during his performance. To his left: three of the members of the ROCK CHURCH POSSEE, who brought the main keynote message and a great comedy show. (Left) This is how full our tables were for dinner those days!



A special thank you to the following conference sponsors:

- A Touch Of Glass
- Bare Naked Soap Co.
- Bravo Productions & D.J.
- Button Up Boutique
- Celebrate Recovery – The Hope Center
- Cenpatico of Arizona
- Cosmetic Boutique
- Da Boys Pizza
- Dillard's
- Franklin's Automotive Center
- Jennifer Blackwell Photography
- Julianna's Patio Café
- Lute's Casino
- Mad Tacos
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- Rocky's Pizzeria & Italian Food
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- Shelly Shook – ACTS
- Stan's Grocery
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- The Chili Pepper
- The Hair Loft Salon
- The Mr. Fish & Chips
- The Oak Tree Inn
- The Olive Garden
- Ultimate Nails
- Waylon's Water World
- Wendy's
- Yuma County Chopper Hair Studio



Lety: Reunified & Reconciled!

"I see Crossroads Mission as the gate that opened for me to put my foot in heaven!"

To describe Lety's house as full of activity would be an understatement. A "happy chaos" would be more like it.

Sound is all around as the children are running around in different directions. Some are off to play outside, others are working on their homework, the little ones are coloring at a small kid's table, and the older ones are getting dinner started and filling the house with the aroma of fried potatoes. Lety

is guiding the cooking, resolving conflicts, answering questions, and going to find things that only Mom can find.

But Lety is not ruffled by any of this. In fact, she relishes each moment of it because she has all her kids around her and she has a home to live in. This was not always the case.

There was a time when Lety was homeless. "There were nights when I would walk the streets all night. I

Lety and her boyfriend take a moment to pose with their blended children: Stephanie 15 years old, Jessica 12, Leon 11, Kennan 10, Juan 8, Tyler 7, Aaliyah 6, and Naomi 4.



couldn't forgive myself. I would put myself in dangerous situations purposely. I wanted to die," remembers Lety.

The reason? In January of 2013, Lety had her kids taken away from her and placed in foster care. Her mother was the one that made the call that would change everything.

Lety had been using drugs. What started as recreational use every few months had evolved into weekend use. Then Lety started working hard and long hours in agricultural field work and her drug use became daily. She was functional and hid it well from her kids, but her mother knew she was getting worst and that something needed to change.

Lety was facing the possibility of losing her kids for good. She needed to prove to the family court that she could be a good mother to

her own children. She knew she needed help and that is how she came to Crossroads Mission.

She was accepted into New Way, a program designed to help participants get out of homelessness and back on their feet. But, Lety was not content with just getting back on her feet. She wanted change and she sought after it. She voluntarily signed up for Bible studies, parenting groups, relationship groups, and any other group she thought would help.

Her strategy worked and after 15 long months without her kids she was able to bring them all with her to the Family Shelter.

Shortly after, Lety got a job as a kitchen supervisor and moved out of the Mission to her own house. She didn't just get reunited with her children. She reconciled with her mother and her long

time boyfriend. She and her five children, and he and his three children are now living as a real-life Brady Bunch of sorts.

"I see Crossroads Mission as the gate that opened for me to put my foot in heaven! They didn't just give me a place, they gave me hope, they pushed me, encouraged me, and motivated me. Every support I needed came from there," says Lety.

She is now focused on her recovery and on being a good mother. It's been hard to deal with the kid's questions about their separation, but Lety is lovingly making it work. She's even thinking of future goals now.

"I want to do something in life where I can help. I want to go back to school and continue being a part of my kid's lives." ♥

Lower Prices at the Store!

If you haven't been to the 2nd Chance Thrift Store lately you have to go.

We recently remodeled the sales floor and moved things around to make for a more pleasurable shopping experience. Our volunteers have been great in defining different departments. They even started to organize all the clothes by size to make it easier to find what you're looking for. We are also having daily sales and we put them all in a monthly calendar. Our most popular promotions have been the Military & Senior Tuesdays, and Lady's Choice Wednesdays! Everyday there is a different promotion going on. Don't forget to ask for your calendar when you come to the store.

Most importantly, we lowered our prices on almost everything! We can safely say that we have the lowest prices of all the thrift stores in town. **Of course, this means that we go through**



inventory faster and we depend on people's donations now more than ever. Please keep us in mind when you do your next interior remodel or closet cleaning! ♥

We can pick up your donations for free! Call today to get scheduled: 928-726-0491

This is what the store sales calendars look like. If you haven't seen this month's you can find it on our website: crossroadsmission.org/store-calendar. Happy shopping!



The Prayer CLOSET

But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.
—Matthew 6:6 (KJV)

We invite you to share your prayer requests with us on our website. You may also call us or write to us. Please remember Crossroads Mission's special requests:

- **Our outreach projects and special events**
That we may reach the many people who need services through our outreach efforts and special events and that they accept our help.
- **An increase of donations, especially for our special events**
That our in-kind and financial donations increase to continue the many services that we offer. (in-kind donations are donations of goods such as food, clothing, blankets, furniture, etc.)
- **All the people involved with Crossroads Mission**
All of our clients, guests, volunteers, Board members, staff, and staff's family members.

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.
—Romans 12:12 (NIV)

Memorial Gifts:

A Gift In Memory Of:	Kindly Given By:
Alan Underkoffler	Charles & Sharon Craig
Dorthoy Sheltor	Jon Tyer
Glenys Shmidt	C. Moyer
	Dale Harvick
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	Susan Barbour
	Susan Taylor
	Thomas Tyree
Paul LeBlanc	Joy LeBlanc
Robert freeman	Martin Lowry

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.

Every effort is made to assure that all names are correct. We apologize for any errors that may have occurred.

What Your Gifts Made Possible:

DEPARTMENT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Kitchen									
MEALS	11227	11105	11551	12671	12826	11651	12830	12885	12037
Family Shelter									
BED NIGHTS	2313	2304	2292	1772	1984	1653	1628	2369	2453
INDIVIDUALS	117	114	105	92	116	89	87	119	105
CHILDREN	54	47	40	41	42	41	43	44	41
Men's Shelter									
BED NIGHTS	2967	2633	2856	2466	2737	2563	2752	3159	2929
INDIVIDUALS	171	191	190	163	169	171	179	195	191
Drug & Alcohol Stabilization Unit									
ADMITTED	40	38	51	43	40	50	37	48	43
COMPLETED	23	23	31	29	29	30	23	34	25
New Life Recovery Program									
ENTERED	16	20	31	26	30	15	17	18	13
GRADUATES	6	6	2	6	8	9	23	12	11
New Way Homeless & Transition Program									
PARTICIPATING	38	33	33	26	29	31	33	41	53
Career & Academic Center									
STUDENTS	124	116	128	131	163	166	161	147	145
HOURS STUDIED	1333.75	1242	1379	1638.5	1462.5	1237.25	1589.25	1505	1804
GEDs	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Giving									
CLOTHES	18416	16431	18460	17646	11609	9305	10331	5403	6880
FURNITURE	15	71	71	19	18	31	37	60	21

Thank You for your support during these past 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. We are careful on how we spend because it's not our money - it's your money, and God's money!



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.



Help us help them!

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) 259-5608. 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.



NUMBERS TO KNOW

MAIN PHONE NUMBER: (928) 783-9362

Executive Director

Myra Garlit (928) 783-9362, Ext. 101

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Planned Gifts & Charitable Trusts
Mike Simpson (928) 239-9362

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(928) 259-5608

Kitchen & Food Donations

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2nd Chance Thrift Store

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For every dollar you donate to Crossroads Mission, only 3 cents are used for administration costs

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Crossroads Mission is committed to glorifying God by serving those at their crossroads of life

Crossroads Mission is 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 in good standing of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions. We partner with the State of Arizona, Yuma Community Food Bank, FEMA & Cenpatco 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. --This project was funded by the Arizona Department of Economic Security, Office of Community Partnerships and Innovative Practices Homeless Program. Points of view are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the Department. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Crossroads Mission must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service, or activity. For example, this means that if necessary, Crossroads Mission must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that Crossroads Mission will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. Please contact Crossroads Mission.

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