

NEWS

Crossroads Mission ♥ Yuma, AZ
Spring 2012

for our *Partners*



Baptized!

Every few months the opportunity to get baptized is offered at Crossroads Mission. Those getting baptized do so after having accepted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Some hear the Gospel for the very first time at one of Crossroads' Chapel services or Bible studies. Others recommit themselves to God and to a new life by taking this step of faith. Robert Olague, of Community Christian Church, and Gilbert Taeger, Counselor and Spiritual Coordinator at Crossroads had the privilege of being there for these men.

LOOK INSIDE for more of what's been going on at your Mission!
Or, visit us at www.crossroadsmission.org for even more...

The Prayer CLOSET

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 in your prayers!

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

Our Basic NEEDS

Please consider helping us with some of our basic needs:

- Food, for pantry and events: especially ground beef and chicken
- Jackets, blankets, and warm clothing.
- Socks & underwear (new) for men, women, and children—in all sizes.
- General toiletries, personal care items, and bath towels.

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! (928) 783-9362, Ext. 57

Under God's Economy!



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

Greetings! I am pleased to present to you the newest edition News for Our Partners and let me say “we did it again”! This issue is out later than we had hoped. Even though last Thanksgiving and Christmas seem off in the distant past, we wanted to make sure to give you some of the highlights of those events. We served thousands of people during these events and hundreds of volunteers helped us to make them happen. We are truly blessed!

In our last newsletter, we told you about the grand opening for the new location for the thrift store, 2nd Chance. The store continues to help support the programs of the mission beyond our vision. If you're in town and can stop by the store from 8-4 PM, Monday through Saturday, please come see what we have to offer. We need your help spreading the word that we pick up in-kind donations: clothing, furnishings, household items and items that can be resold. We appreciate all donations. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The Success Closet has opened in the new thrift store. Alexis Iverson developed the concept for this back-to-work closet for anyone from our community. Alexis is a Girl Scout, Troop 8054 and is working on her Silver Award. She identified a need and put her ideas into action. As her grandma, I'm especially proud of her.

God continues to be the GREAT provider through the current economy. At a time when donations continue to decrease and the needs continue to increase, HIS economy remains stable. Thank you to our faithful donors who are helping us everyday meet the needs of this community. The homeless and the addicted come to us at a “crossroads” and many will make decisions that will be life changing. The choice is theirs but the Crossroads staff and volunteers show them opportunities for change. Crossroads Mission continues to be a hub of energy as our clients learn about changing their lives. Your donations help us, help them!

God bless you and your generous giving but especially your prayers!

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?

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.

YES! I want to help with: \$ _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone No.: _____
Email: _____

SEND THIS CARD WITH YOUR GIFT TO:

Crossroads Mission,
P.O. Box 1161, Yuma AZ 85366
For credit card giving visit our website or
call (928) 726-0491.

Working for Furniture!

With the move to the new Family Shelter now upon us, we have been frantically working to be ready! There has been cleaning, packing, organizing, planning, lots of paperwork, and events - lots of events.

Thanks to our wonderful supporters we've had many small scale efforts throughout the community to raise the funds needed to furnish the new building. They might be small but they made a big impact.

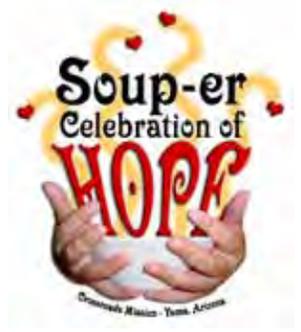
 **Here**
I lay me
down to sleep...

Some got involved in a grander scale by being a part of the two fundraising events that we have hosted. The first was the *Here I Lay Me Down to Sleep* banquet and silent auction that we held at the Gowan Corporation in October. We had a sold out crowd and the weather couldn't have been better. There was live music and delicious food and a very successful live and silent auction. The other event was the *Green Misconduct* mystery dinner theater that was held at the American Legion Post 19 this March. We had a great response! The many in attendance got to enjoy a play put on by students of Arizona Western College and Cibola High School, under the direction of Richard Fontane. The play was very original and very well liked.

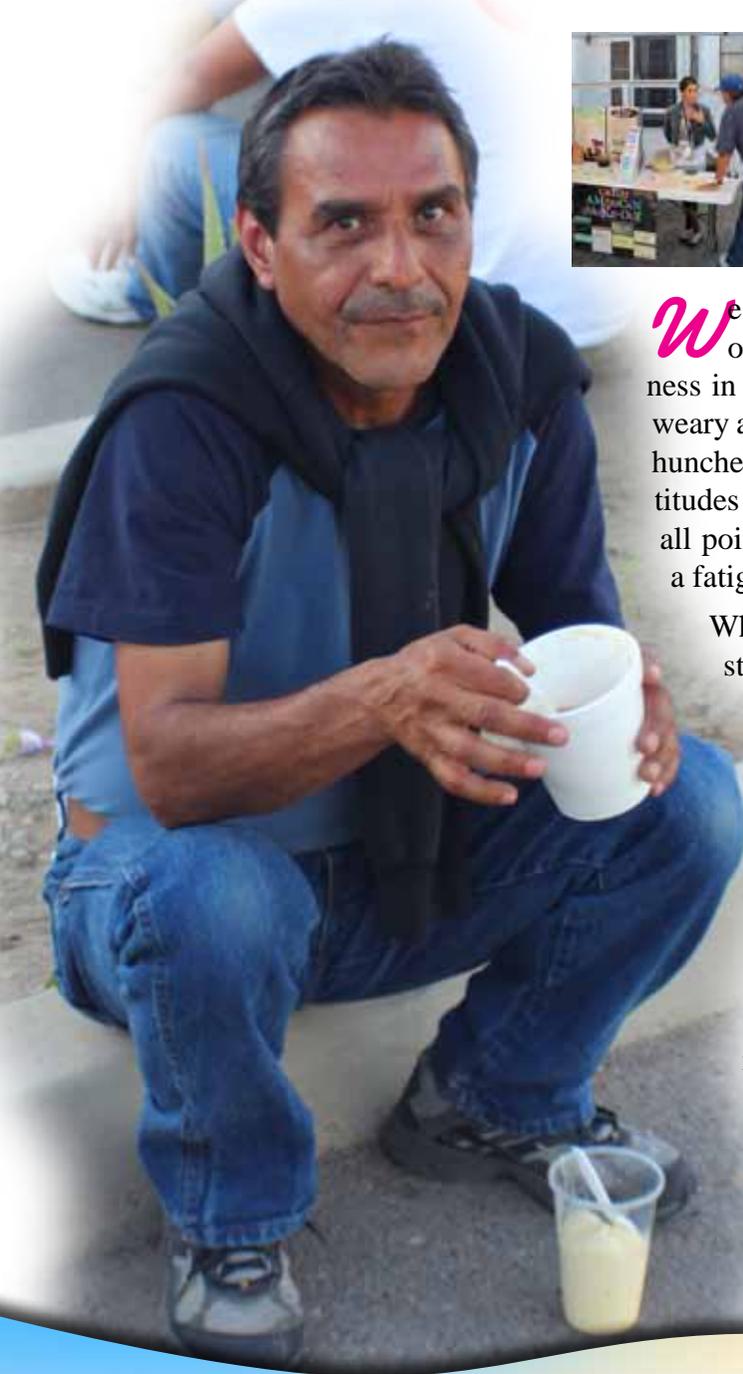
With God's help and that of our supporters we will surely be able to furnish the new shelter!



Hunger & Homelessness



Bringing Awareness to Our Community



We see it everyday: The effects of hunger and homelessness in a person's life. They look weary and hesitant, their posture is hunched, and sometimes their attitudes are somewhat defensive. It all points to empty stomachs and a fatigued bodies.

What brought them to that state? Was it mental illness? Addiction? Grief? Loss of employment? Divorce? Loneliness?

Some know exactly what brought them to our doorstep. Others have no idea where their life started to spin out of control. All of them are in need of help.

It's very easy to ignore the suffering of others. Though the Bible tells us that we are to love our neighbors as ourselves, as a whole we tend to be

selfish and focus on meeting only our needs.

That is why the Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week is so important. It is a time to be thankful for our blessings and to reflect on the needs of others.

This year we joined forces with several Yuma agencies and hosted events to bring awareness during the week of November 13-19. We had a prayer breakfast by the river, a conference for the agency workers, our Soup'er Celebration of Hope at the Mission, a housing workshop at the MLK Center, a community recovery meeting, and a family fun day at Carver Park.

Together we can end hunger and homelessness one person at a time. At Crossroads Mission we are very aware of this and we've made it one of our missions. Your support continues to be essential and we thank you for your generosity. Thank you on their behalf.

God bless you!

We love our Volunteers!



There is no question about it - our volunteers are the lifeline of Crossroads Mission! They can be found at the thrift store sorting and selling; at the kitchen cooking, cleaning, and serving, at the shelters helping and guiding; in our vehicles and their own personal ones transporting people and picking up donations; at our chapel and Bible studies doing ministry; at our special events participating and mingling; at our committees and boards advising and planning; and all over the community spreading the word about Crossroads Mission. **THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!** These are just a few of our many volunteers during the appreciation banquet that was held in February. Each one received a Dove Award for **Demonstrating Outstanding Volunteer Excellence!**



Holidays



The 3-Days of Thanksgiving: Meals			
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	TOTAL
1,029	1,740	1,704	4,473

The 3-Days of Christmas: Meals			
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	TOTAL
1,401	1,202	1,709	4,312



That Keep Growing

"Our biggest celebration yet!" That phrase might seem like a cliché but it was the undeniable reality for Thanksgiving and Christmas at Crossroads Mission.

Literally thousands of people joined us for our holiday celebrations. That so many people in our community responded to our invitation to share their holidays with us was both humbling and overwhelming.

We had the opportunity to fellowship with well known friends who frequent the Mission often. We got to encourage them and guide them towards a better life. We were privileged to see families that had been previously ripped apart by addiction share their first meal together in months. We could see the start of family reunification.

We saw veterans enjoy the company of their peers and their infusion of pride as they received well earned military gear. Many had not seen a veteran's services representative before and they got to get started right here at Crossroads.

We joyfully opened the doors to our outdoor thrift store where we gave away free clothes, shoes, and blankets

to everyone. We had gift boxes and fresh produce to give as well. It was good to see our guests walking away with their hands full!

But perhaps our biggest bitter-sweet joy was seeing so many families in need of help. We did our best to give each child presents and good memories through games, crafts, and yummy desserts. We got to see happy parents and happy children.

Many volunteers honored us with their support! Serving that many people would simply be impossible with just our staff.

Our holidays just keep growing. We would much rather have smaller events simply because there was no need for our services. Until that happens, we are ever thankful for your support.





Twice Chosen to Feed the Children

"It felt like Christmas!" That is what the people who received boxes from Feed The Children were saying. One box contained canned goods, pasta, beans, and cereal; a second box had personal care items like shampoos and lotions; and a third smaller box had Avon gifts like jewelry, shoes and accessories.

Crossroads was chosen to give away two truck loads of boxes. 800 tickets were given out to local churches and agencies on both occasions. By doing so, we were able to cover a wider area and reach out to even more people in need.

Founded in 1979, Feed The Children is one of the largest international charities in the U.S., based on private, non-government support. We are very honored to have been entrusted with the job of feeding the children of our community!



Celebrating Our Cultural Diversity!



Crossroads Mission is visited by people of all races, colors and origins. On any given day we are faced with different traditions, perceptions, and expectations. It can be challenging to connect with the many personalities and make a difference. Most of all it is very rewarding and worth celebrating!

And celebrate we have. Since 2009 we have hosted cultural meals at our dining room. We have paid tribute to Irish, Mexican, Native American, African American, German, Jewish, Filipino, and many more delicious cuisines. We decorate our tables and post posters with facts from the featured culture and try to have speakers and entertainers. Our guests really enjoy it!



A Welcome Addition!



The Thrift Store has been a most welcome addition to the north Yuma neighborhood.

We have been surprised at the difference that “location, location” has made! We’ve seen an increase in people,

donations, and sales. Shoppers are surprised to find such great variety to choose from. Even though our goal is still to make money to support programs at Crossroads Mission, our items are carefully priced to stay affordable to those in need in our community.

Thanks to our wonderful donors the store is filled with good and high quality items. We are very thankful for each and every one of them, whether they bring in a bag of clothes from their closets, or call in for a full truck-load of items - God bless you!

Our first parking lot sale held the first week of February was a huge success! We had a warehouse full of items to clear out in preparation for our move to the new family shelter and we were glad to have sold it all in two days. We had so many people coming to our sale that we had to put some of our volunteers out there to direct traffic - it was awesome!



Showing Off Our Fashion!

Never underestimate the power of a Girl Scout with an eye for fashion!

Alexis Iverson Hilpert taught us that. Fashion is something that Alexis enjoys so she decided to base her Silver Award project on the need for proper fashion and attire for job seekers. The project had to benefit the community, it had to be sustainable, and measurable. The result: the Crossroads Mission Success Closet.

Applying and competing for jobs is hard to do when you are homeless or in poverty. Good looking attire is often at the bottom of the list of priorities. Through the Success Closet, eligible candidates will receive appropriate job hunting, job interviewing, and business attire free of charge. All thanks to the efforts of a Girl Scout.

The new program was launched into existence with a fashion show. The show featured models from our programs and clothes from our thrift store.

The Success Closet is housed at the new Thrift Store and is open by referral to participants of other agency’s programs. Clothing, shoes, an accessories can be donated towards the Success Closet.

We congratulate Alexis on her project and we thank her for choosing us!



THANK YOU - EACH AND EVERYONE OF OUR DONORS!!! 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!



THANK YOU LIBRARY QUILTERS for your continued support! They have quilted over 100 beautiful and bright coverings for our shelter beds and for the needy that come to Crossroads.



THANK YOU CANDY CAMARENA, ATTORNEY! Mr. Camarena is one of our faithful supporters and we are honored to have received his latest \$5,000 donation.



THANK YOU YUMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL! They took it upon themselves to do something for those less fortunate and collected money in our coin boxes and held a food drive as well.



THANK YOU YUMA SOUTHWEST CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION for choosing Crossroads Mission as one of your selected charity recipients. We appreciate each and everyone of you.



THANK YOU AEA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION! For their constant support and raising to the challenge of our many needs. We appreciate the \$500 given towards the purchase of milk.



THANK YOU AMERICAN LEGION POST 19! They are one of Crossroads strongest supporters. They allow us use of their facilities for our trainings and help out financially.

WHAT YOUR GIFTS MADE POSSIBLE!

DEPARTMENT	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
KITCHEN						
MEALS	11584	10397	8383	10046	12576	12562
FAMILY SHELTER						
BED NIGHTS	717	878	914	760	866	857
INDIVIDUALS	34	52	43	39	44	40
CHILDREN	14	18	12	16	11	10
MEN'S SHELTER						
BED NIGHTS	2014	2750	2421	1304	1322	1601
INDIVIDUALS	87	105	96	78	93	128
DRUG & ALCOHOL STABILIZATION UNIT						
ADMITTED	28	30	33	33	46	38
COMPLETED	20	13	17	24	31	28
NEW LIFE RECOVERY PROGRAM						
ENTERED	4	3	7	12	19	11
GRADUATES	10	9	5	13	3	1
CAREER & ACADEMIC CENTER						
STUDENTS	112	114	96	72	74	75
HOURS STUDIED	863.75	950.25	788.25	703.5	677	782.5
GEDs	5	6	3	1	1	2
SERENITY COMPLEX						
BED NIGHTS	217	155	150	195	176	170
INDIVIDUALS	7	5	5	9	7	7
HARMONY HOME						
BED NIGHTS	140	124	104	123	90	93
INDIVIDUALS	5	4	4	3	3	3
GIVING						
CLOTHES	188	130	153	237	546	594
FURNITURE	31	71	0	31	40	103

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.

A Gift In Memory Of:	Kindly Given By:
Amanda Mendoza	Carmen Martinez
Barbara Cameron	Jean Ford
Bennie Mellon	Charles & Sharon Craig Craig Family
Bernard Howerton	Patsy Howerton
Brandon Herndon	Billie Jean Investment Company Darlene A keele Frank Hayes Harry & Elaine Venable
Carol Buttler	Alice Barry Anonymous (4) Brian Hefner Carol Davis Cheryl Foster Jeffery Martin Geyer John & Lois Thiel John P. Lois M. Barry Mary Connolly Mr. & Mrs. Korsmo Myra Garlit Richard Swanson Shirley Morris
Clayton Campbell	Karen Campbell
Clint Curry Sr	Donna Curry
Dennis Todd	Friends at Rivers Edge RV Resort Kathleen MCarthy
Dolly	Ray & Jackey Lewis
Faris & Patricia Summers	Scott Sommers
Frank Lariviere	Agnes Lariviere
Frank Ordendain	Betti, Cyndi, Wendi, Paul, Amy, Anna Carol Davis Sharon & Charles Craig
Franklin Woods	Mary E Woods
Garry White	Charles & Sharon Craig Craig Family
Grandma Gisel Burhans	Dennis Burhans
John Concannon	Frank & Betty Colegrove
Joyce Hilinger	Catherine S Roman
Joyce Weathers	Opal Muir & Family
Ken Mota	Mesa Del Sol Realty
Larry Hood	Vera Shuck
Our Son Matt	Richard & Laura Parsons
Patricia Callahan	Jon & Tammy Heidrich
Russell Copley	Dean & Barbara Oliver Elain Croppley Elmer & Marie Baumgarden Joanne Harrinton Jon Session Keith & Linda Shook Sylvian & June Olson
Ted Putman	Cliff & June Aubuchon
Tommy White	Darlen Abdelnour
Wilma Sheldon	Jon & Tammy Heidrich



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

Honorary Gifts:

A Honorary Gift is a great way to honor a special person with a gift that will help the needy. Honorary gifts make great birthday, anniversary, or recognition awards.

A Gift In Honor Of:	Kindly Given By:
Fidelis Zeta Alpha Delta Kappe	Yolanda Desmari
Patrick & Sandra Rook & Family	Barnicle Family

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

CROSSROADS Mission

NUMBERS TO KNOW

Executive Director

Myra Garlit (928) 783-9362, Ext. 11

Ministry Opportunities

Chapel and Devotion Speakers, Special Presentations, Church Events & Worship Teams (928) 783-9362, Ext. 11

Public Relations & Special Events

Fundraising Events, Group Presentations, Gifts of Goods, Food, Services and Vehicles.

Barbara Rochester (928) 783-9362, Ext. 57

Major Gifts & Development

Financial Stock & Property Contributions, Planned Gifts & Charitable Trusts

Myra Garlit (928) 783-9362, Ext. 11

Newsletters & Website

Azucena Solorzano (928) 783-9362, Ext. 55

Volunteer Involvement

Individual, Church & Corporate Volunteer Groups, Service Clubs & Community Service
Barbara Rochester (928) 783-9362, Ext. 57

2nd Chance Bargain Center & Pick-up Line

(928) 726-0491, Ext. 10

Administration Offices

(928) 726-0491

Career & Academic Center

(928) 783-9362, Ext. 31

Harmony House - Women's Transitional

(928) 783-5906

Family Shelter

(928) 783-9362, Ext. 30

Main Campus

(928) 783-9362

Men's Shelter

(928) 783-9362, Ext. 13

First Step Center - OPEN 24 HRS.

(928) 783-9362, Ext. 22

Serenity House - Men's Transitional

(928) 783-5642

www.crossroadsmission.org



P.O. Box 1161 . Yuma, AZ 85366-1161

CROSSROADS Mission 2ND CHANCE THRIFT STORE

The Best Prices in town!

OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
550 W. 8th Street

To Schedule a FREE pick up of your donations call: **726-0491**

Credit Cards Accepted!
Square
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Crossroads Mission is committed to glorifying God by serving those at their crossroads of life

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Mary Cordery

Ralph Williams

Tom Anderson

Summer Mellon

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, DES, 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.

Member of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions. www.agrm.org



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