

Changed lives

SUMMER 2023

COMMUNITY IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY



Lexington Store Open

Our new thrift store in Lexington is open, representing our next step in bringing Crossroads Mission Avenue's homeless services to Dawson County — our fourth location.

The store, located at 907 W 8th St., is the first of several phases at the location. We aim to be ready for occupancy sometime in 2024.

Your thrift store purchases will support the project and our homeless outreach overall. Every Wednesday features a \$12 bag sale. Don't miss it!

Store hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

crossroadsmission.com/ thrift-stores

"I Missed Being at Crossroads"

One man's tale of displacement ... and coming home again.

obody likes to be awakened in the middle of the night. Especially when it's Christmas Day.

But that's just what happened to 82 residents at our Hastings location. A pipe had burst, spilling water on our main electrical panel, shutting off all power. Local officials deemed the building unsafe, so everyone had to evacuate — immediately.

Local churches stepped in by setting up emergency shelters, and some of our residents had to travel up to 100 miles for shelter.

Kevin was one of them. He slept on a mattress on a church's gym floor ... for over a month. It took about five weeks to repair the electrical and plumbing damage at our Hastings facility.

"I missed being at Crossroads," says Kevin, 56.
"I was so glad to get back."

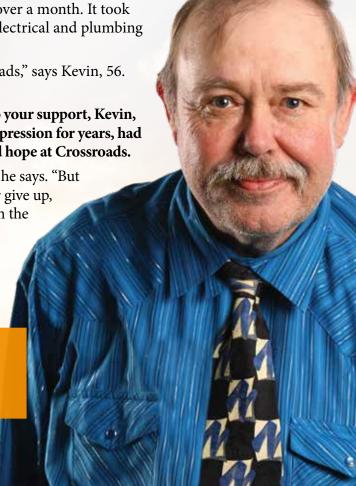
And no wonder. Thanks to your support, Kevin, who had battled alcohol and depression for years, had found a fresh start and renewed hope at Crossroads.

"I've had a lot of hardship," he says. "But Crossroads has told me to never give up, and I always keep those words in the back of my mind.

"Without Crossroads, I'd be homeless. I'm very happy here."

Your support helps Kevin feel at home at Crossroads!

Thank you for making Crossroads feel like a home for our residents!



HASTINGS CAMPUS 702 W 14TH STREET HASTINGS, NE 68901 TEL: 402-462-6460 KEARNEY CAMPUS 1404 E 39TH STREET KEARNEY, NE 68847 TEL: 308-236-5688 GRAND ISLAND CAMPUS 1910 W 9TH STREET GRAND ISLAND, NE 68803 TEL: 308-675-1973

SERVING THOSE IN NEED SINCE 1983



From the **Executive Director**

We Came Back Stronger Than Ever

As you read in our cover story on Kevin, we had a Christmas Day crisis at our Hastings shelter when a pipe burst and a breaker panel fried, forcing evacuation of all 82 residents. After five weeks away, we finally returned in February.

Was it hard? You bet. Imagine being awakened in the middle of the night to find that your home is no longer safe. But because of our strong community and your support, our residents were able to find shelter, and we eventually reopened.

We came back stronger than ever. God had it all worked out and used people's availability and generosity in a huge way.

This adventure made me think of 2 Corinthians 4:17: "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an **eternal glory** that far outweighs them all."

God is in control, and we witnessed his glory in coming to the rescue of the poor and needy. Thank you for playing such a vital role in all of it.

Sincerely,

Daniel Buller **Executive Director**

Famil Buller



eresa believes her on-and-off struggles with alcohol are over, thanks to Crossroads Mission Avenue.

"Drinking, then not drinking, relapse after relapse," she says. "But when you're someplace where people care about you, it's all good."

That "someplace" is our Kearney shelter. But Teresa's from Lexington, where we purchased property and opened a thrift store last fall. Work is underway to open a Lexington shelter in 2024, but that wasn't soon enough for Teresa.

So she traveled the 35 miles to Kearney where her son had received help and recommended Crossroads to her.

Teresa, 57, has struggled with multiple health issues, including a brain aneurysm in 2021 that left her blind in one eye, and, more recently, back problems that resulted in surgery this spring.

She hasn't been able to work in a couple years because of those struggles, and Crossroads is helping her get disability benefits.

Teresa hopes to live independently again someday, but she's in no hurry to leave.

"Being in a shelter, I never dreamed it could be so good," she says. "It wasn't something I envisioned for my life. But Crossroads is exactly what I needed.

"It's like a big family here. They give people hope."

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