

INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Crossroads

A PLACE OF GROWTH. A PLACE OF SAFETY.

Spring 2021

A MOTHER'S WORRIES

How your support is helping to answer this mom's prayers

What's a mother to do when her son is making poor choices, hanging out with the wrong crowd, doing drugs, getting into Lord knows what kind of trouble, and staying out all night?

Pray.

That's exactly what Diane did when her son, Josh, fell into that lifestyle.

"As I would lay down in my bed at night," she says, "I would often worry that Josh had no place to be."

She prayed for his safety, and that he would land in a safe place where he could get the help he needed.

That prayer was answered when Josh ended up at Crossroads, where he was enrolled in a program to turn his life around. The program helps people address their addictions and the underlying issues behind them . . . and puts them on a path to future flourishing.

Josh was resistant and initially fought against it. But our team didn't give up on him!

"Crossroads is willing to take in difficult people, people that don't want to go along with their program," says Diane. "But they were steadfast in their love."

She appreciates that we not only addressed Josh's physical and emotional needs, but got him engaged on a



Josh's mom is grateful for your support and your prayers for her son!

Names and photographs in this newsletter may have been changed to protect confidentiality.

deeper spiritual level too.

"At Crossroads, Josh would pray with a staff member every morning," she says. "That was once again God's answer to my prayers."

Josh's story is still unfolding, and Diane asks that you join her in praying for her son. There are many moms out there who are concerned about their adult children. Thanks to your support, Crossroads is reaching out to them in their moment of need.

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From the Executive Director

“He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

— Philippians 1:6

I recently met with a man who'd been through our program. He had relapsed, and was found drunk, lying cold and wet in a field. Back at my office, I shared that the only way to be set totally free was to surrender his life to Jesus. Unfortunately, he ended our conversation by saying, “I'm not ready.”

A week later, I was helping this same man load a truck at the Mission. I asked if he'd given his life to Christ yet. I expected him to put me off again, but he said, “Yes!” I nearly fell over, and we all celebrated his new life.

This Easter, I am reminded that Jesus saw his work on Earth from start to completion. And now, with your partnership, we are working to see that the same work happens in the lives of the men and women who seek the Mission's help.

And as always, every \$2.17 you give provides a meal and life-changing care. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Daniel Buller
Executive Director

Larina Ballheim helps women find new life.



“There's a Different Way”



When a woman comes to Crossroads for help, she's usually got some urgent questions: *Where will I sleep tonight? Will I be safe? Where's my next meal coming from?*

Once those needs are met, the longer road to transformation begins, and that's where caseworker Larina Ballheim plays a crucial role. She works with women with all kinds of needs — broken relationships, trauma, substance abuse, mental health issues and more.

Larina — who has been on our staff almost four years — says true transformation takes time, patience, encouragement and a lot of love. “It's re-training them that there's a different way,” says Larina. “It can be a struggle, a lot of work.”

Once a guest establishes goals and goes all-in with the biblically based training programs, good things happen. “Once people buy into that,” says Larina, “you see how quickly and dramatically their whole mindset changes, and their life-track just completely shifts.”

Because of your support, people like Larina can invest in the lives of women who are hurting and in need of help. Thank you!



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I Want to Transform Lives

YES, I want to help people in South Central Nebraska who are experiencing homelessness and hunger this Easter. Here's my gift of:

☐ <\$XX1> ☐ <\$XX2> ☐ <\$XX3>

☐ \$_____ to help as much as possible.

☐ I'd like to give monthly. My first gift of \$_____ is enclosed.

Please make your check payable to Crossroads Mission Avenue.

To give online, visit crossroadsmision.com

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