

INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

# Crossroads

A PLACE OF GROWTH. A PLACE OF SAFETY.

Summer 2020

## A DARK PAST TURNED TO A BRIGHT FUTURE

*With Your Love and Support,  
Sonny Found a New Way of Life*

**S**onny had a dark past. At just 12 years old, he began drinking and smoking, and that was just the beginning. During his freshman year of high school, things got even worse. His family moved, and his brother graduated and moved out — leaving Sonny to feel isolated and alone. He made friends with a group of heavy drug users and things spiraled out of control.

For the next seven years, Sonny's life revolved around his addiction. Unable to keep a job, he slept in his car and resorted to stealing to continue his drug habits. After multiple arrests, he landed in prison.

But it was during his time in prison that Sonny finally started to see the light at the end of the tunnel. He dedicated his time there to learning more about God. And after two and a half years in prison, Sonny came to Crossroads Mission Avenue.

Thanks to the support of friends like you, Sonny felt loved and cared for at Crossroads. He began his days with devotion and took classes that would help him work toward a better future.

Today, Sonny's future is bright. He attended college and obtained his ASE certification. He now works as an auto mechanic and youth pastor and even saved up to buy a home for his wife and two kids.



You gave Sonny the love and support he needed to start over. Thank you!

"I don't know where I would be today without the help of Crossroads," he says. "All the help they gave me, everything they taught me, it allowed me a fresh start in life."

**Through your support, you show people like Sonny they are loved. Thank you for giving people who are hurting the encouragement they need to renew their lives.**

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**From the  
Executive  
Director**  
Jerry  
Bumgardner

*“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”*

— Hebrews 13:16

This time of year is particularly difficult for us at Crossroads Mission Avenue.

As summer rolls in and the weather improves, we usually see a drop-off in donations. It makes sense. Summer is the time of year when many of our kind-hearted supporters are traveling and spending time with their loved ones.

While we anticipate this decrease in donations, it doesn't make the strain on our budget any easier — and that strain is felt by the people we serve. People like Sonny and Spencer, whose stories are featured in this newsletter.

After you read their stories and see the incredible impact your support makes in the lives of those who are hurting in our community, I hope you'll take a moment to continue your support with a generous gift today. Every \$2.17 you give will provide a meal and life-changing care for someone in need.

Thank you for your kind and generous support!

In His service,

Jerry Bumgardner  
Executive Director



When life brought Spencer to a crossroads, you were there for him through your support.

## YOU HELPED SPENCER CHOOSE THE RIGHT PATH

**A**fter an argument with his ex-girlfriend got out of control, Spencer hit rock bottom when he landed in jail, but it was somehow exactly where he needed to be.

It was during his time in jail that he heard about Crossroads Mission Avenue. He wasn't sure about it at first, but he quickly learned that it was the right place for him.

He entered the program and was making good progress, but then he met someone new and decided to move in with her. That's when he says he felt the Holy Spirit and knew he wasn't ready to be on his own. So he made the life-changing decision to return to Crossroads, worried he'd fall back into the old habits.

Surrounded by caring people and the mental and spiritual support he needed, Spencer is now working hard to improve his life. He's even gaining job skills by working security and answering phones at Crossroads.

“If it weren't for Crossroads, I'd be in a world of trouble,” Spencer says. “I'm doing good now.”

**Your support is behind the care and guidance Spencer found at Crossroads. Thank you for helping him choose the path to a renewed life.**



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### I Want to Renew Lives

YES, I want to help people in South Central Nebraska who are hurting this summer.

Here's my gift of:

☐ \$25    ☐ \$50    ☐ \$100

☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ 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. **Thank You!**

To give online, visit [crossroadsmission.com](http://crossroadsmission.com)



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