

INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Crossroads

A PLACE OF GROWTH. A PLACE OF SAFETY.

Summer 2021

“God Has Something More for Me”

How your support helped Danny find hope despite his struggles

As this newsletter went to print, we received the sad news that Danny had passed away. We still want to share his story in his memory.

Danny spent a lot of time in his '84 Dodge pickup truck. He loved that truck, and practically lived in it. And he almost died in it — twice.

He slept in the truck once when temperatures hit a record 30-below zero — more than cold enough to kill a man — and yet he somehow survived.

Another time, he had a massive heart attack in the truck, an attack so severe he turned blue and stopped breathing several times.

By divine providence, Danny just happened to be right outside Crossroads Mission Avenue when his heart failed. Someone saw him slumped forward over the steering wheel, ran inside and yelled, “Call 9-1-1!”

Daniel Buller, the executive director at the Mission, ran outside, found Danny lying on the ground and started CPR . . . and kept it up till the ambulance arrived. Paramedics told Buller that he had certainly saved Danny's life.

Danny, who had a long battle with intermittent homelessness and has been in and out of Crossroads for years, was grateful for the Mission's unconditional love and support despite his ongoing struggles.



Danny struggled with intermittent homelessness, but always found hope — and a home — at Crossroads.

After every setback, he kept returning to Crossroads, “because I think there's some reason I'm supposed to be here,” he said. “I feel God has something more for me, and it's here at Crossroads.”

Danny was saving his money to someday buy a trailer and drive across America.

“But,” he said with a laugh, “I think maybe I ought to get a newer truck.”

When Danny was still with us, he always expressed his gratitude for your support.

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From the Executive Director

Some people who come to Crossroads for help are with us just a short time — like Braden, who was only here a few months before landing on his feet. (Read his story at right.)

Some need longer — some quite a bit longer — before they're ready to go back into the world. And still others, like Danny, come and go frequently over the years. (Read Danny's story on the front page.)

We're all "in process," and some journeys to hope and healing take longer than others. Whatever one's timetable, we're here for them, no matter how long it takes — to help them practically, emotionally and spiritually.

Right now, we have an **urgent need at our Kearney Campus**. We are expanding and renovating the Lodge, which will provide 15 much-needed units of long-term housing and 10 beds of transitional housing.

The facility will be a place to land for graduates of our emergency shelter, a step of supported housing before moving into complete independence and self-sufficiency.

Will you help us meet this vital need with a generous gift today?

I am so grateful for your support. May the Lord bless you and your loved ones!

Sincerely,

Daniel Buller

Daniel Buller
Executive Director



Thank you for helping Braden, here with puppy Sam, land on his feet!

From Pain to Hope

I come from a dysfunctional family."

That's how Braden describes his upbringing. His mother had six children by four different men. Braden never met his biological father, and his stepfather abandoned Braden when he was 12.

He also says his mom "was never very kind or caring, and didn't seem interested in anything I liked. And she essentially disowned me about a year ago."

Saddled by depression and a job loss due to the pandemic, Braden emailed a suicide note to family members. Someone called the police, who came to his home before he could harm himself.

Braden ended up at Crossroads, where he has found hope.

"I don't think my life would've taken a positive turn without Crossroads," he says. "They helped me get back on my feet."

Now employed and living independently, Braden got a puppy to keep him company. Sam, a Great Pyrenees/border collie mix, is registered as an emotional support animal.

"I take care of him," Braden says, "and he takes care of me."

Thank you for being there for hurting souls like Braden.



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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 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

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