

# *THE HELPING HAND*

## *Mission Statement*

Crossover Downtown Outreach Ministries, a faith-based, non-denominational mission established to help the neediest members of our community with free emergency food, clothing, household, personal items, & youth programs. Showing the love of Christ, restoring hope, and rebuilding lives.

### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

#### *Page Two*

- **A Word from Executive Director**
- **Feinstein Challenge**
- **Donation Needs**
- **Camp Sponsorships**

#### *Page Three*

- **Gifts of Memory and Honor**
- **Turkey Day Giveaway**
- **Ministry Wish List**
- **Feeding the Streets**

#### *Page Four*

- **Help for the Holidays**



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**Visit our website:**  
**[www.crossoverministriesflint.org](http://www.crossoverministriesflint.org)**  
**DONATE ON LINE**  
**You can make the difference!**

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### WORD FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Hello everyone,

I hope everyone had a wonderful and joyous holiday season. Here at Crossover, with the help of many of you, we were able to give a great holiday to many of the families that we serve.

While the Christmas season has finished, the season for giving has not. The need for food, clothing, and warmth continue to be here year round. It is because of these individuals that come through our doors on a daily basis that we exist.

Your constant support, allows Crossover to continue its mission. I would like to thank you ahead of time for your generosity as you look into ways you can support such a great cause. Writing a check, donating nonperishable food, and volunteering for a couple of hours all are greatly appreciated from all of us here.

Thank you and God Bless.

### THE FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE 2012

Good news! For the 15<sup>th</sup> year in a row, Alan Shawn Feinstein is once again issuing his challenge to agencies fighting hunger. Each year, Mr. Feinstein divides \$1 million dollars among hunger-fighting agencies nationwide. Why? To help these agencies raise funds as his donations match donations received locally. Although his money started this campaign, it is YOUR support that will help decide how many needy people in **Flint** will be fed this year.

What can you do to help? It's simple. **Donate! Any donations of money or nonperishable food items made to Downtown Outreach Ministry between March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> qualifies towards the Feinstein Challenge.** The more you give, the more we receive from the Feinstein Challenge. The more we receive, the more we food we can provide to those in Flint who are hungry and hurting.

To accept the Feinstein Challenge, please use the enclosed envelope; visit our web site: [www.crossoverministriesflint.org](http://www.crossoverministriesflint.org), and click the "Donate" button; or bring in a nonperishable food item to our office. And thank you again for your support in the fight against hunger.



For up-to-date information on Crossover, please check out our Facebook page. [Crossover Downtown Outreach Ministries](#)  
Just Like our page and you will see our latest news and updates.



### Donation Needs

**Winter Coats:** Men and Women Coats

**Children:** Girls sizes 2-8  
Boys sizes 2-8

**Men:** Casual and Dress clothes, shoes and under Garments

**Women:** Dress Shoes

**Household:** King and Queen Size Sheets

**Personal Care:** Deodorant, toothpaste and tooth-brushes, feminine products, shave cream and razors

### Camp Sponsorships



Each year Crossover sends about 40 kids for a week long camp experience for free. This year is no different.

At Bayshore Camp the 5th and 6th graders enjoy a week filled with canoeing, playing games, swimming, playing on bounce houses, singing, and riding the zip line. All while meeting new friends, experiencing nature, and learning about Christ.

We are looking for individuals that are willing to send a child to camp for \$170.

If you are interested, please use the enclosed envelope to make your contribution to this great cause. Any questions, please contact, Michael Crowe at (810) 234-2479.

Please give a child a once in a lifetime opportunity this summer.



### Gifts of Memory and Honor

#### Memorials

*We offer our deepest sympathies to those who have suffered the loss of a loved one, and we are truly grateful for the loving donations in their memory.*

- William Sharpe**—John & Joyce Riegler  
**Georgian Nowac**—Tasia Kalemis  
**Sophie Branoff Lazar**—Clark & Katherine Senter  
**Barbara Terry**—Jeanette Mansour & Joseph Green  
**Martin Vallee**—Rosemarie MacLean, Dennis & Teresa Wyatt, Graham & Jeanette Whipple

#### In Honor of

*Thank you for helping those less fortunate by remembering those people special in your life.*

- Kyle McCree**—Ruth & Joseph Thrash  
**Bob & Sherry Cottrelis**—Robert and Rosemary Lutz  
**The Four Harper Children**—Sarah Harper  
**Elaine Stermer**—Nancy Stermer  
**Bob & Betty Shaw**—Marilyn Howe  
**Dennis & Terry Wyatt**—Dawn Vallee  
**William Piper**—Gary & Jane Somers  
**Joseph & Ruth Thrash**—Keith & Winifred Baldwin  
**Sarah Harper**—John & Ann Briggs  
**Charles & Maryetta Mueller**—Marty & Mary Mueller  
**Dawn Vallee**—Dennis & Teresa Wyatt, Graham & Jeanette Whipple

### Thanksgiving Food Give-away

For the last three years Crossover has partnered with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan to provide food baskets for families during Thanksgiving. Each year we provide a box full of vegetables, gravy, macaroni, spaghetti sauce, soup, peanut butter, jelly, stuffing, corn bread, a dessert, and a meat voucher from Meijer to purchase their turkeys.

This year we were able to help 97 families have a thanksgiving meal on their tables, plus food to last for days after.

A special thanks to all of you that sponsored families with funds and food to distribute to the families. Without you we would not have been able to provide to so many families.

If you are interested in helping in reaching the 2012 goal of 100 families, please contact us at (810) 234-2479.

### Ministry Wish List

These are items that the ministry is looking to improve its productivity.

1. New Office Fax Machine
2. New Phone System with intercom capability
3. Steel Shelving that can withstand heavy weight
4. New Freezer

Any suggestions, please contact us at (810) 234-2479.

### Feeding the Streets

Throughout the spring, summer, and fall of 2011 we had 8 different locations provide space for our Mobile Food Pantries. We were able to serve over 12,000 individuals with two bags full of food.

The locations included St. Paul's Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church, Westside Baptist Church, Central Baptist Church, Wild Wind Baptist Church, and the new addition this year was Mt. Olive Baptist Church. Two of the locations ended up being canceled due to weather conditions; Washington Elementary, which was hosted by Westside Baptist Church and Court Street United Methodist Church.

Our Mobile Food Pantries are great resources to allow individuals to acquire food for their families and children. One of our great missions is to give the most essential requirement of individuals and that is food.

If you or your church is interested in participating in 2012 Mobile Food Pantries, please contact us at (810) 234-2479.



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***HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS***



Crossover has done it again! Thanks to all the volunteers that wrapped gift since October and those that sponsored families with donations and funds; the Christmas program was a great success.

We were able to help 69 families provide for their families on Christmas. Of the families that we helped we had, nine were sponsored by individuals, families, and church groups. Sixty eight of the families received bags of toys, books, candy, and hats & mittens, while the parents also received towels and small appliances. Twenty of the families received a food basket with a meat voucher from Meijer to purchase meat for their Christmas dinner.

Some of the families were referred from DHS and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint, while others were our regular clients.

A special thanks must be given also the 2nd graders of Dye Elementary for providing the large amounts of candy books that were given to the children. Another special thanks goes to Woodhaven and the ladies that knitted the boxes of hats, scarves, and mittens for the children.