

INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Crossroads

A PLACE OF SAFETY. A PLACE OF GROWTH.



**I had nothing.
Not a dollar
in my pocket.
by Jordan**

Seeing myself the way God sees me

My name is Jordan. I've spent my entire life believing that everybody I meet will eventually give up on me. Until I came to Crossroads, nobody had ever given me a reason to think otherwise.

Dad left us when I was in sixth grade—the same year I tried my first cigarette. Mom was always doing drugs and drinking and eventually sent me to live with my aunt and uncle. I loved it there, but two years later, they sent me right back to my mom's place.

By then, I was a ward of the state. I lived with my mom, but anytime I did something wrong, she sent me to a foster home. With all the trouble I was getting into—drugs, alcohol, probation—I was in and out of foster homes every other week, if not every weekend. As an adult, I started doing meth, caught a felony charge, and spent a year in lockup.

When I was released, I had nothing. Not a dollar in my pocket. I came to Crossroads with the clothes on my back and a broken spirit. At first, it made me angry that everyone here cared so much about me. I was used to people giving up on me and didn't know how to react when they stuck around. But after a while, I started to accept the help they were giving me, and that support has given me the strength to build a better life.

It's been a long journey, and I owe so much to Crossroads and to people like you who make their work possible. I have a great job now. I'm clean and sober. And the unconditional love I've received here has given me a glimpse into the love of God, who will "never leave [me] nor forsake [me]" (Deuteronomy 31:6). Seeing where I came from and where I am now, I feel such a sense of accomplishment. I can't thank you enough for making my new life possible.

A MESSAGE FROM MY HEART . . . Jerry Bumgardner, Executive Director



**"ONCE THEY GRASP
WHO THEY ARE IN CHRIST,
THEY HAVE HOPE."**

Dear Friend,

I love to come here first thing in the morning and just walk through the halls of the Mission. I just pray for different guests, and I just sense the peaceful presence of the Lord.

And our guests feel it too. Especially at this time of year, after trying to survive the summer heat. Some have been living underneath bridges. Others have been standing out on the side of the road with nothing but a cloth to protect their head.

When they come to us, exhausted and hungry, I'm reminded of Matthew 11:28: "Come to me all you who are weary and heavy-laden, and I'll give you rest." Many come to Crossroads seeking physical rest, but our prayer is that they would ultimately find the rest that only He can give. Once they grasp who they are in Christ, they have hope. Not for

a day. Not for a week or a month or a year, but for a lifetime. That's the greatest gift you can give.

Without friends like you, Crossroads would not exist. Your support allows us to share the Gospel with suffering neighbors who are hungry for His life-transforming love and grace. To share the Gospel and to watch the stress leave their faces and then to see their lives change because of that hope. There's just nothing like it.

So thank you. Thank you for your compassionate heart. And for paving a way for homeless neighbors to finally know true hope in Him.

Your servant to the homeless,

Celebrating 35 Years!

**Crossroads Center is
celebrating its 35th
anniversary!**

Thirty-five years ago, Crossroads started as a soup kitchen in a local church. Keep an eye out for details on our celebration in August!

GIVE HURTING PEOPLE HOPE AND NEW LIFE THIS SUMMER

Thank you for all your extraordinary acts of love and compassion for hurting men, women, and children at Crossroads. As the Apostle Paul promised, **"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up"** (Galatians 6:9). Your support means new hope, health, and life to our guests struggling with poverty, addictions, and homelessness.

Many of these precious souls have spent years, sometimes decades, believing their lives don't matter, that no one cares for them. But your kindness shows them beyond doubt they do matter and they are loved — by you and by God.

For most of us, summer is a time to relax, enjoy backyard barbecues, and take hard-earned vacations. But people burdened with homelessness and poverty don't get a vacation from their misery. Every day is another challenge to hold on to hope or even to survive. They need our help—they need your help. We dare not become weary in the face of so much need.

To give your generous gift today, please use the remit slip enclosed, or make your donation online at crossroadsmission.com. You may also call us at **(402) 462-6460**. Thank you for being caring friend to men, women, and children who need your help this summer.

