



Crossroads
of Crawford County

Community Outreach for Life's Journey



great is thy faithfulness



Pouring into Our Work

“How can I pray for you?”

What a beautiful and powerful question! If you have been asked that, the affirmative hope and encouragement likely led you to step out of a fog or funk and take on a fresh view.

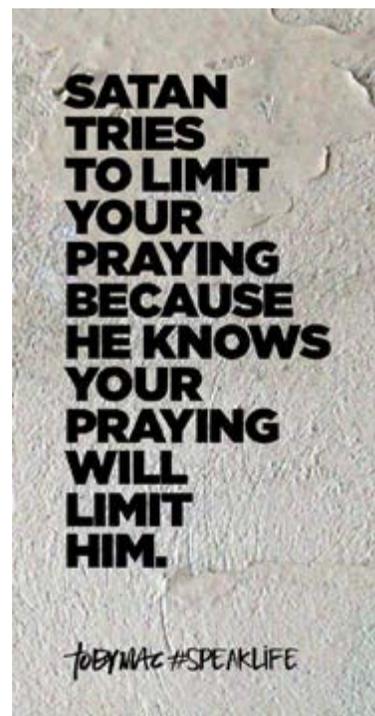
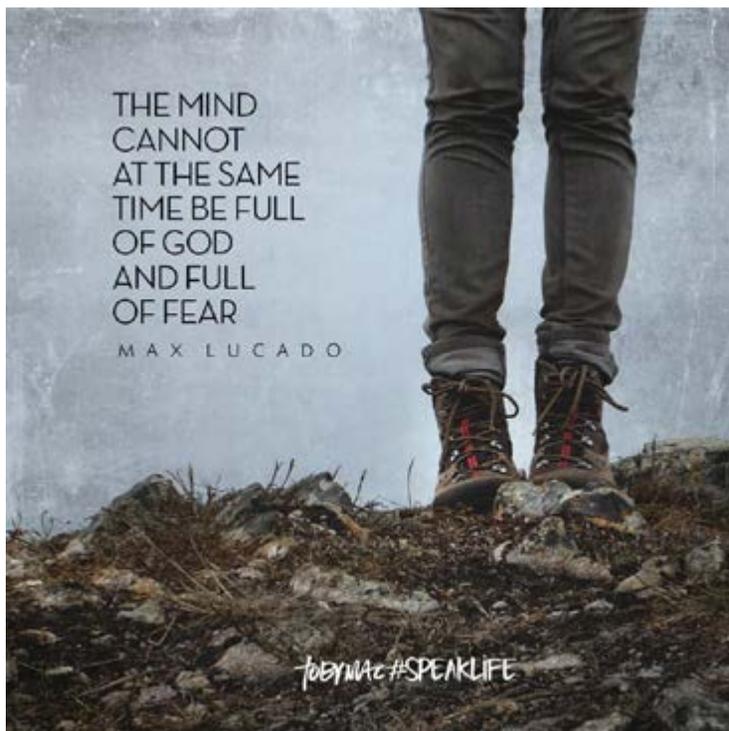
At Crossroads we are blessed to be building two programs that are responsive to needs we have experienced and seen within the community around us. Sometimes the chaos of so many things to do for the center programs intersect with the crisis someone is experiencing in their life, or our own lives.

Arnie Cole, the CEO of Back to the Bible (BacktotheBible.org) said ‘When a person is in crisis, it’s such a volatile

time in their lives, where even well-intentioned and good advice can send someone spiraling away from God.’ Change requires trusting relationships. If we hurry and set our work according to a pace based on other circumstances around us, we can miss how deeply hurt people really are. It takes empathy and kindness when interacting with others who are hurting and trying their best to rise above their circumstances.

We need your prayer support, your financial backing, and your involvement to pour into us so we can pour into our mission. We believe a Christian, pro-life pregnancy and parenting center that also serves elderly or exhausted caregivers needs an army of a whole Christian community.

We have a seedling of the big picture started, and it will thrive, with God’s grace and plan, with your blessings of time, monies, and prayer. Please consider how you can help us teach that God’s peace, which surpasses all understanding, even in toughest valleys, is there for them. You can use the return form located in the last section of in this newsletter issue. Thank you, for praying for us, with us toward building a ministry that prays for them.



Pouring HEART Into LIFE!

Understanding the cost of services through Crossroads

Shared Overhead Expenses

- Personnel management
- Travel/mileage
- Professional training, liability
- Center Operations
- Programs, Procedure oversight
- Community Relations & Fundraising

Education

- Healthy Family
- Safety
- God in Our Home
- Brightcourse Parenting Curriculum
- Developmentally Based
- Child Focused Energies

Training • Required & Relevant

Special Supplies

Group Support & Supervision

Support

- 'Learn & Earn' Redemption Stock
- Housing suitability
- Mentoring
- Staying Afloat When Life is a Struggle
- Community Resources
- Relationships

Coaching

- Emotional Health
- Job Skills & Search
- Encouraging
- Self Care
- Daycare That Helps

Time & Relationship

- Practical Helping
- Friendship
- Hobby Sharing
- Meal Prep & Share

**Pregnancy
& Parenting
Resource**

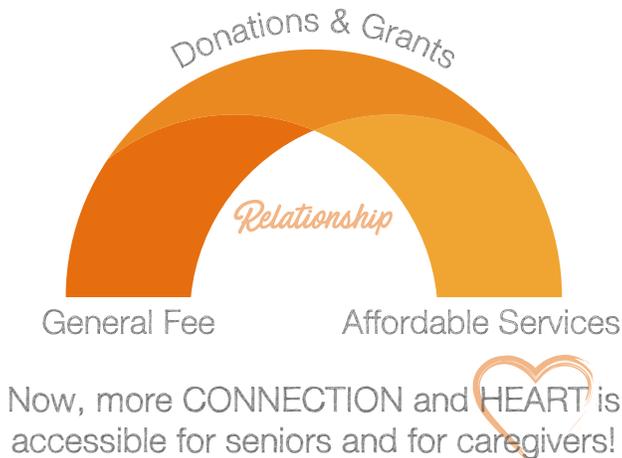
CoCares

Our Donors & Helpers anchor the roots for both programs!
We give back what we have been given!



BRIDGING THE GAP

Bridging the Gap A terrific Change for CoCares



We are pleased to be getting word out that already we have made a change within the CoCares program that directly impacts those we serve with a **LOWERING** of costs. With a bit of numbers crunching and two business donations that were for several thousand toward offsetting individual costs, we adjusted our fee structure AND set a median cost as the figure of cost to Crossroads (for managerial roles, intake and oversight, support to caregivers, training, supplies and travel, and the actual direct service).

In a recent update in the Denison paper, several folks stopped at that figure (\$35) and concluded they could not pay that or that it was final cost to the elderly or caregivers. This is **NOT THE CASE!** While we cannot assure ongoing donations from the community, we can assure that these gifts **WILL DIRECTLY OFFSET COSTS** to any recipient of CoCares services!

We believe that business donations will continue, along with private donations from those who can personally attest to the value of non-medical assisting and caregiver

relief. These will create a copay effect with the fee that the recipient or the family or a group pays for the person, or a credit amount may be another way.

It's about the value of relationship!

Ultimately, we are putting on the rubber gloves or running errands to start a relationship with the person. Within that relationship, we hope to be a source of friendship, encouragement, and vitality for those we serve.

*Whether a caregiver who rarely gets out of the house,
or an elderly person who lacks family
close to share a meal with,
or another who is unable to do some household tasks,
or hobby sharing and visiting
— loneliness, isolation, and practical barriers are
reduced when a person pours heart into helping.*

'Are you hiring?'

We appreciate this question. The answer varies with our flow of service intakes, but we would like to talk with interested candidates! We are planning for growth in the CoCares program specifically as caregivers fill their time. The compensation varies with experience, and is competitive with other similar jobs in the areas. Hours are day time and weekdays unless the caregiver and recipient mutually agree otherwise. Normal routines in caregiving are necessary, but flexibility is plentiful. It is key for any caregiver to BOTH be able to meet a variety of individual practical needs AND build a relationship with the recipient. Comfortableness in offering hope and Christian encouragement is necessary. Please give us a call or stop out to visit with Janette or Drew if you are interested or know someone we should get into touch with!

Special THANKS for giving back to Community to:

- Jens Carstensen Memorial Endowment Fund, United Church of Christ, Schleswig
- Crawford County Community Foundation Grant
- United Bank Iowa Community Cause Day

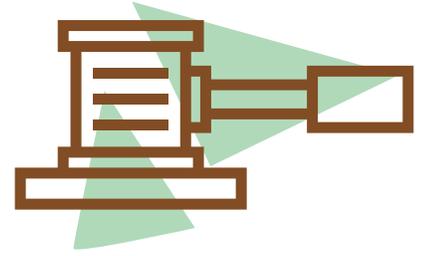
These donations, *plus many private donations* from those who know the need **OFFSET THE COSTS FOR COCARES** for any person using the service.

HEARTBEAT AFFILIATION UPDATE



We are looking forward to a final stretch of paperwork to be accredited with Heartbeat International to be an **APPROVED** Pregnancy & Parenting Resource Center: the legal review. This step will ensure that our process, documents, and the wording within those documents is legally acceptable. This is important so that clients are

properly advised within legal expectations and that we as a center are not vulnerable to saying or practicing things incorrectly. Once this step is complete, the final \$5,000 of financial match will be released to Crossroads center by Heartbeat International. Yes, we definitely need that!



DID YOU SEE IT?

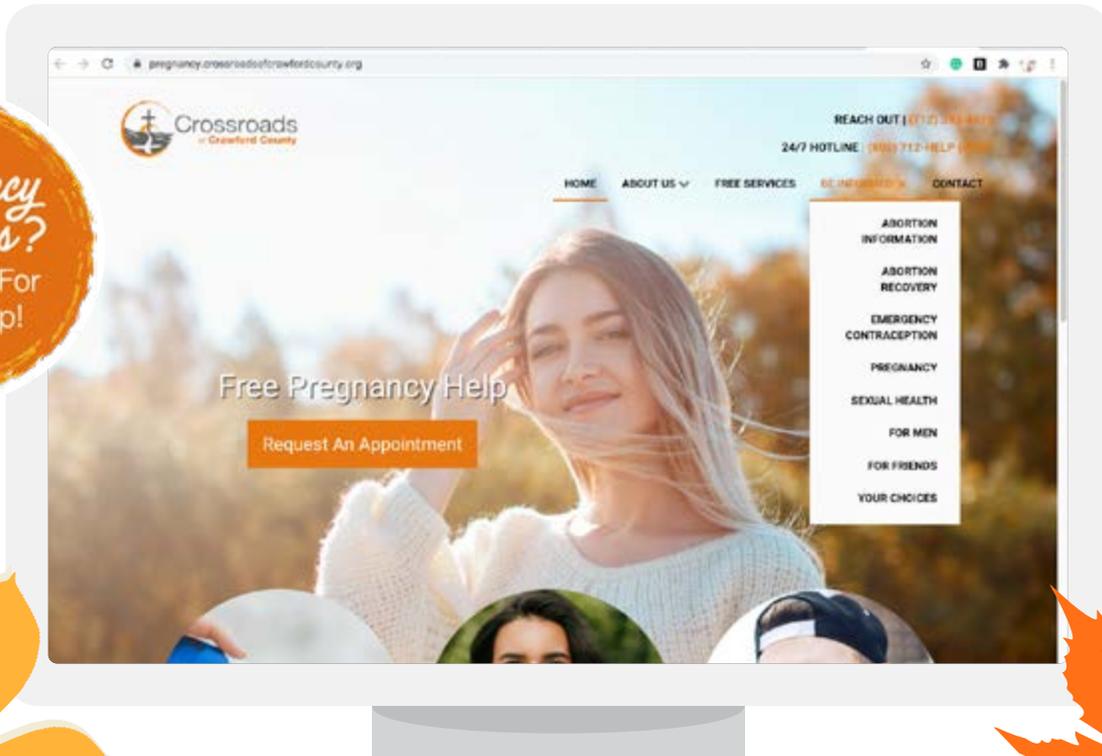
In the last issue of the newsletter, we shared about the restructuring of our website to reflect the change to two services at Crossroads. Now we also have a link over to an excellent site specifically for those who are affected by an unplanned or crisis pregnancy. It's for GUYS and GALS! There is encouragement, help, and information on abortion, side effects, abortion pill reversal, relationships and LIVE CHAT! That's right, any person can call or text 24-7 to the Optionline helpline and receive direct,

personalized support! A referral to our center is made from Optionline so face to face help can be started from our local center. Note, we realize a few of our previous areas of resource have not been changed yet by the folks who created this page who are affiliated with Heartbeat, but they are minor and we are working with them to edit accordingly.

Check it out!

Pregnancy.crossroadsofcrawfordcounty.org

Pregnancy Decisions?
Click Here For Info & Help!



A Huge *Thank You* for a HUGE GIFT!

United Church of Christ in Schleswig has generously assisted Crossroads' services through an endowment fund gift from the Jens Carstensen Family Memorial. The wishes of the family were to help entities serving God-honoring roles and missions in the community, nation, or world.

The grant donation will be applied equally to:



1) offset fees for CoCares recipients

2) provide support, parent education, and assistance or coaching to parents engaged in our Pregnancy & Parenting Resource program. Thank you to the endowment council who believes in Crossroads' valuable contribution within the community and generously helps us.

TESTIMONIALS

Help fueled by community: Testimonies from those who felt the difference



"We talked with Crossroads before they adjusted the fee down and we had been praying for a way that we could have their support. When they shared the great news, we knew it was God's answer. Thanks to those who contributed to the whole intent of CoCares, we can step away from our loved one to refresh and refuel without worrying. You enabled a tremendous blessing!"



This was me—pregnant—a single mother—trying to leave an abusive relationship—housing issues—I was so stuck. I was referred to Crossroads and they helped me work through the layers of problems. I felt their sincere concern to relieve me of the dangers to myself, my unborn baby, and my child. They helped me with practical resources as well as healthy connections and professional help.

The emotional support, spiritual upholding, job coaching, and just their availability to me made all the difference getting me through the mess that seemed impossible most days. I am finally in a much better place in life. I will be forever grateful to Crossroads for their continuous guidance and support, not just for myself, but other single parents, couples, and families who have needed help to get unstuck from a bad place. Thank you for believing in me, for going above and beyond, and being there, Crossroads of Crawford County!

Shared by a young woman who met us when she was in a dark valley of life and now is managing and loving her family well.



**Crossroads of Crawford County
2021 COAT DRIVE**

Make a Smile, Share a Coat

Warmth for the Crawford Area



DROP OFF:

November 1-5

**Coat Donations accepted at
Crossroads of Crawford County**

ACCEPTING:

Clean, gently used coats, warm sweatshirts in good condition

All sizes needed! BABIES, KIDS, YOUTH, & ADULT

Plus kids' hats, boots, & mittens

PICK UP:

November 11 & 12, and 15-19

(anyone in need of a coat!)

At H&R Block  38 S. Main, Denison



**PLEASE
POST &
Share!**

Please use this slip with your donation if you would like to designate the amount to a specific service area.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP KEEPING THIS OUTREACH STRONG!

Please mark those that apply:

- Donation toward the Pregnancy & Parenting Resource
- Donation toward CoCares (*your gift will help offset costs to the recipients*)
- Dedicated Supporter Pledge (*planned, regular giving*) \$_____ per Month Quarter Semi Annual Year

To be paid:

- By automatic withdrawal that I set up with a personal call from Crossroads' Development Manager
- By automatic withdrawal that I set up through Crossroads secure website
- By check (*enclosed and by reminder by email or call*)

I DO DO NOT desire to be mentioned by name for my donation



Thank you



COFFEE CORNER

Did you know that your purchase of Jumpy Monkey Coffee helps THREE terrific ways in every bag?



- 1) Jumpy Monkey Roasting in Sergeant Bluff buys their 100% arabica beans from the same farmers in each country they import from. The raw beans are shipped directly from the farmers themselves who care for their families with that as their source of income.
- 2) After the beans are roasted at the roastery in Sergeant Bluffs, and the recipes for each variety are followed carefully, Jumpy Monkey Company puts disabled people to work packaging and shipping! The owners purchased the business for a family project for their own disabled daughter to work closely with them.
- 3) A couple of days after we order, the great smelling packages are put on our shelves, ready to go to work for Crossroads as an ongoing fundraiser! Every package helps fuel our Pregnancy & Parenting program!

INTRODUCING...

You may have heard a new voice on the radio for Crossroads, or met him when you stopped out, but we have a new addition to our team! We welcome Drew Perrien! He is a native of Denison, who after graduating from Denison High School in 2000, enlisted into the United States Navy as an Information Systems Technician. He served 12 years on active duty, but continued his support of the nation by serving as a government contractor for six years as a Systems Analysis and Cyber Security Analyst for Gryphon Technologies. So he has traveled across the globe and we appreciate the fresh perspective to our work! AND we love having some IT skills on board!



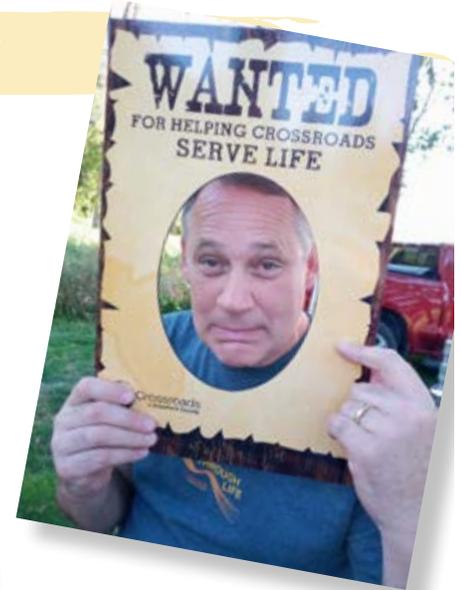
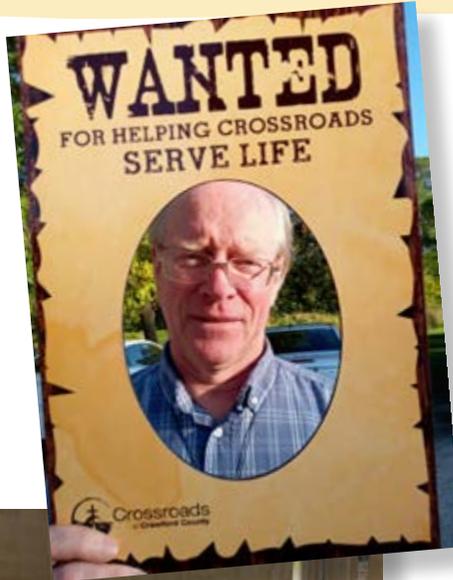
Currently studying to attain an AAS in Business Management, Drew is a full-time student at Western Iowa Tech (WIT) and works with us at Crossroads through their work study program. He is a single father with three children, so spends most of his spare time attending his kids sporting activities and enjoys a little athletic competition of his own by playing in city league adult sports.

We're excited to have him with us, and he takes on the tasks of managing communications and center development. All we have to do is add coffee and his ideas start to flow!

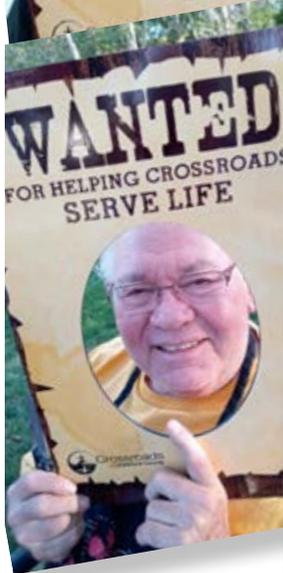
APPRECIATION EVENT RECAP



CROSSROADS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY JAIL
WANTED
FOR GETTING INTO THE
FUDGE STRIPED SMORES COOKIES!



CROSSROADS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY JAIL
SANDY
WEARING WHITE AFTER LABOR DAY
Made restitution by being a
donor, member, and customer



THANK YOU

to all donors, members,
helpers and staff, and customers!

We appreciate each of you!

EVENT SPONSORS:

- A & S Classics & Gifts
- Angie Carlyle
- Bella Sera
- BW Outfitters
- Cobblestone Inn & Suites @ Majestic Hills
- Cody & Brittany Bremser
- Crawford County Conservation Board
- Denison Aquatic Fun Center
- DK Designs - Westside
- Fareway - Denison
- Grainery & Company
- Hansohn Family
- Hy-Vee - Denison
- Iowa Custom Woodworks - Manning
- Izaak Walton League of Denison
- Janice Jepsen
- Johnson Propane - Schleswig
- Kings Pointe Resort - Storm Lake
- LaunchPAD Children's Museum
- Lori Grundmeier
- Majestic Hills Golf Course
- Omaha Children's Museum
- Paradise Workshop
- Schleswig Golf Course
- Staley's Food Service
- The Observer - Westside
- Valas Pumpkin Patch - Gretna, NE

THANK YOU to the Ikes for hosting us at your site.
What a great place for families to build memories.
We appreciate your great cooking for us as well!