

CROSSFIRE MINISTRIES, INC.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO



Volume 20, Issue 1 719-447-1806 2120 E. LaSalle St. Colorado Springs, CO 80909

THE TAIL WAGGING THE DOG

God has been faithful and blessed Crossfire abundantly beyond all expectations. We give Him all the glory and honor. As Crossfire enters into our 20th year, we also can look back to see how his storehouse of blessings have been poured out upon us.

Twenty years ago we started Crossfire with a small thrift store where we set out a few boxes of bread for people to take, helping a handful of people. God has blessed us from our first beginning at 307 N. Union Blvd. with 2800 square feet, to our new building at 2120 E. LaSalle St. with nearly 11,000 square feet. We now serve an average of 175 families a day. In 2011 we gave 600,000 pounds of food, \$40,339.98 worth of toiletries, and 400,000 pounds of clothing.

In all areas we are we growing. We now are able to offer educational classes on cooking thrifty but nutritional meals, along with using resources wisely. The number of women attending our outreach events have grown. We had 45 attend our Women's Christmas Tea in 2010 and 80 in 2011. To help raise funds for the ministry, we are opening our Market Days on Saturday mornings, where we will sell books and videos, quilts and afghans, kids things, and collectibles. We also have started an internet book store, which is also helping to bring in funds. We continue to make quilts and afghans for our benefit sales, as well as warm blankets and hats to help people in need.

With God's help, we have done this with an all volunteer staff, from the top to the bottom. The demands are growing with the increased numbers being served and the increase of our services. We need more volunteers in all the ministry areas including food preparation and distribution, donation processing, building and property maintenance and cleaning, office work, telephones, client services. We are in particular need of people who might help share the responsibility of supervisory positions. We average two work groups a week of people who come to volunteer with large numbers, including youth and who need supervisors. We also have community service workers who need supervision. We still need coverage on Saturdays mornings, especially people who will offer a consistent schedule of service, even if it is only one time a month.

Along with this growth, our financial needs have also increased. We need to buy more food and toiletries to serve the increased number of people. The utilities are more expensive in the bigger building. One of our ministry trucks blew an engine recently which we are going to need to replace or repair. We desperately need duct work done in our meeting room. For our holiday program distributions, we need increased storage space to put aside items that we are able to purchase at discount or that are donated. Crossfire was the recipient of all the toys left over from The Best Christmas Ever distribution at Mr. Biggs which we will distribute next Christmas or in our Birthday Bags for children. We are currently renting a storage trailer to hold these toys until we can either give them away or purchase our own storage containers. We want to make plans to excavate and put storage on the back of the property which we know will be an expensive operation. We thought our donations would subside being off a busy street but have instead multiplied. We have had to double our trash pick ups just to meet the basic needs. So our needs in all areas have grown and are continuing to grow.

We are having a difficult time keeping up with all the demands. If the Lord should lead you to help us either by volunteering or giving financially, we would be so blessed. Perhaps your church or business would be willing to organize and hold drives for food and toiletry supplies on a regular basis to help meet our growing need?

We could not have done it without all our faithful donors and volunteers. God continues to bring in the people we need. We pray that He pricks the heart of others to come forward and partner with us in this ministry dedicated to the Lord's work.

Thank you for the part that you have played and are going to continue to play. We are so amazed even in these difficult times that so many people are still stepping forward to help. We praise God from the bottom of our hearts.

CROSSFIRE MINISTRIES INC.

**Outreach to the Needy
Local and Foreign Missions
Women's and Men's Outreach
Christian Outreach**

OPERATIONS MANAGER

John Miller

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pastor Bob Wachtler, *President

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Leslie Miller, *Treasurer*

Debra O'Toole, *Secretary*

Bob Bartlett

***Michelle Dickerson**

Daurene Crider

*Trustees

Dave Goodrich, *Accounting*

NEWSLETTER MANAGING EDITOR

Leslie Miller

**MINISTRY HOURS:
Tues., Wed. Thur. 10:00-4:00
Sat. 9:00-12:00**

CHECK FOR PERIODIC CLOSURES

Would You consider a bequest to Crossfire Ministries?

A bequest enables you to ensure Crossfire will continue to be able to help those less fortunate in the future in our community. You can ensure that Crossfire Ministries is included in your will by using any of the following statements:

"I bequeath the sum of \$ (insert amount) to Crossfire Ministries Inc., a not-for-profit organization, established to support the needy in our community (or insert a specific project or program)."

"I bequeath the (insert percentage) % of my estate to the Crossfire Ministries, a not-for-profit organization, established to support the needy in our community (or insert a specific project or program)."

"I bequeath the residue of my estate to Crossfire Ministries, a not-for-profit organization, established to the needy in our community (or insert a specific project or program)."

Please make sure that we are aware of your bequest to Crossfire.

Building Fund

We are trying to raise the finances to cover the loan for our new building electric, refrigeration, plumbing, flooring, etc. needs. Please specify Building Fund if you wish to contribute to this fund. We still have to pay back \$74,579.68 of our \$100,000 loan.

Please don't Forget our General Fund

We are so thankful for all the donations and financial support coming into our General Fund. The finances needed to help us with our operating expenses, purchase of food, toiletries and supplies is always our most critical need. We are also grateful for all the people who have brought in donations including food and toiletry items. These donations are vital in helping the people we serve and keeping the mission operating.



Enterprise Zone

We rejoice that Crossfire Ministries was granted special status as an El Paso County Enterprise Zone, again for the year 2012.

In helping us with our General Fund and food expenses, we can also help you. For every donation of \$250.00 or more, you can obtain a tax credit of 25% of your donation directly off your Colorado tax liability. However, donations to our Building Fund do not apply. If you wish to participate in the Enterprise Zone, you may donate to our General Fund by:

1. Making checks payable to *El Paso County Enterprise Zone*.
2. In the memo space on your check write in *Crossfire Ministries*.
3. Send the check to:

Crossfire Ministries
2120 E. LaSalle
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

NEW RULES FOR THE ENTERPRISE ZONE:

They now require your telephone number and a Social Security number or Colorado Tax I. D. number.

**BUILDING
IMPROVE-
MENT FUND
GOAL
\$100,000**

\$74,579.68 to go
(not counting interest)

**Won't you
help us
finish paying
off our
building
debt?**

**\$25,420.32 has
been paid**
(not counting interest al-
ready paid)

Crossfire Partners with United Way

If you wish your donation to go through the Pikes Peak United Way, you need only specify Crossfire Ministries as a recipient.

Crossfire Ministries presents

Saturday Market Day

Saturdays Mornings
9:00-12:00

2120 E. La Salle St.

Grand Opening
February 11, 2012

Grand Opening Special:

Buy 2 books or media and get 1 free
of equal or less value.

Please join us for coffee and cookies.

BOOKS &
MEDIA

QUILTS &
AFGHANS

CRAFTS

COLLECTIBLES

KIDS THINGS

SEASONAL
GIFTS



Crossfire Classes

Cooking Club

Cooking Club meets the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Thursday of each month from 12:00 to 2:00 (note this time change). We offer nutrition and thrifty household tips, health information, recipes, and hands on involvement. Cooking Club also helps Crossfire with cooking projects and events and supplying a sample table in our service area with recipes to help educate clients to better use available resources.

The benefits to participants include learning ways to cook delicious and nutritious recipes economically, being able to taste what you cook, often being able to take some items home, learning ways to improve your health, fun and fellowship, and being able to be a volunteer in an organization devoted to helping others.

Cooking Matters

In 2011 we offered Care and Share's Cooking Matters classes which was well attended and quite successful. This six week class series is sponsored by Care and Share and is for the purpose of teaching participants how to eat, shop and prepare nutritious but thrifty meals. The first of two series of classes will be held at Crossfire on Tuesdays from 12:00-2:00 April 17 through May 22. Pre-registration is required and class size is limited to 15 people.

Meetings are held at 2120 E. La Salle in the upper room.

Watch for our upcoming Basic Computer class!

Current volunteers needed!

Small appliance and small electronics tester

We need someone to come one or more times a month to clean up and check our small appliances and small electronics, repair them when able, or dispose of them when necessary, and to know when to do both.

Two client service representatives a day

We need a minimum of two client service representatives each day of service to help take people through our pantry. Half or full day shifts are available one or more days a week Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and Saturday mornings.

Six donation processors a day

We need to add a minimum of two people to help in the clothes department, two people in the hard goods department, one person in the linen department and one person in the toiletry department.

Phones and Office

We need a minimum of one person a day to answer phones and do light office work.

For a full list, call Leslie at 650-4336 and request a copy of The Call, our volunteer needs newsletter.

AN ALERT:

We believe that a former volunteer may have accessed our mailing list for the purpose of soliciting funds for her own use in the guise of possibly starting another non-profit. Please know that anyone soliciting funds for any non-profit other than Crossfire is not sanctioned or authorized in any way by Crossfire. If you receive any such requests, please disregard. If you have any questions, please call John Miller at 650-4152.

Holiday Update

Crossfire gave away 1000 Thanksgiving boxes with turkeys in 2011. It was an amazing outreach that helped so many people. At Christmas, we gave away toys to 1043 children. See the age group distribution chart below. Thanks for your help and support.

2011 Christmas Distribution

Age	Boy	Girl	Total
0	21	25	46
1	22	23	45
2	32	21	53
3	28	28	56
4	34	37	71
5	28	36	64
6	37	26	63
7	38	33	71
8	35	32	67
9	30	39	69
10	32	35	67
11	37	24	61
12	30	29	59
13	39	25	64
14	22	28	50
15	23	27	50
16	24	18	42
17	23	22	45
Total	535	508	1043

WAYS TO HELP CROSSFIRE MINISTRIES

A few things needed for our ministry:

Sound system equipment
 (or someone to repair an older system we currently have)
 Lectern or podium
 High amp blender
 An outside storage container (\$2000-\$3000 range)
 White marker board on wheels
 Computer
 Machine to remove scratches from DVD's.
 Zip lock bags (sandwich and quart size)

We praise God for the shower of blessings that have poured in for our new building needs and our ministry. After every newsletter, almost all the requested items come in.

Currently we do not need any more water bottles. We are full up at this time.

Caring with Cars!

Crossfire accepts car donations any condition, running or not!



If you have a car that you might be willing to donate for benefit, please call John at 447-1806 or 650-4152.

Recycling for Bucks!

Please help Crossfire by donating these items to recycle:
 Cell telephones
 Printer ink cartridges
 Scrap metal and aluminum cans
 Aluminum

Coming Calendar Events of Interest:

20th Anniversary Fiesta Celebration	May 5	1:00-4:00
Mothers Day Lunch	May 12	12:00
Craft and Yard Sale	Jun. 8 & 9	9:00 -4:00
Crossfire Parking Lot Picnic	Aug, 4	4:00
Victorious Living Workshop	Aug, 18	9:00-4:00

Help! A truck needed



One of our trucks blew an engine. We need it to pick up food for Crossfire.

The estimated repair cost is \$6000.00 or we are looking at a little newer used truck replacement in the \$15,000 range. Our dream would be to have a refrigerated truck. However, it would probably be double the price, putting it out of our price range.

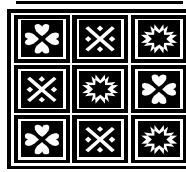
We are hoping to get a matching grant for the purchase of another truck or at the very least, for repair of our older one. If you would be willing to help us raise funds for this matching grant, please make your check out to Crossfire Ministries and write in the memo "Truck Fund".

Help! Duct work needed

We need duct work done on our heating system in our meeting room upstairs. The heat is not distributed throughout the room but blows out in one area by the air intake and the thermostats. No heat currently reaches our offices. Is there someone who might be willing to do the work for a tax write off if we furnish the materials?

We did not get the name of a lady who came into the mission and thought her husband might be willing to do this work. If you are that lady, and you think your husband might still be willing to help, please give John a call at 650-4152 as soon as possible.

Sewing for the Comforters! Helping the Yarn Spinners!



The Comforters meet the 2nd Friday of each month to sew quilts and comforters for Crossfire. The Yarn Spinners meet the 4th Friday or at specially called times to make afghans, hats, mittens, and other projects for the mission.

These groups meet at 2120 E. LaSalle St.

For more information call Mary Ann at 640-9535 or Marlene at 630-0496

WE NEED DONATIONS OF YARN!

Any partial skeins you might have left after your projects would be greatly appreciated.

Please Help us Help Others.

Crossfire Ministries 2120 E. LaSalle St. Colorado Springs, CO 80909 (719) 447-1806
 web site: www.crossfireministries.com email: crossfireministries@msn.com

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Colorado Springs, CO 80909
(719) 447-1806
www.crossfireministries.com

Non-profit Organization
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Permit 367

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:28-29

Our Three Funds
Building Improvement Fund General Fund & Truck Fund

Please help! Any amount will be a blessing, no gift is too small nor too large. All gifts are tax deductible and will be recorded in your end of the year statement. Make checks payable to Crossfire Ministries Inc. and specify which fund. Call John Miller at 447-1806 or 650-4152 for additional information.

Please Help Us Help Others!

Crossfire Ministries is a non-profit, tax exempt corporation devoted to helping the needy and spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Crossfire is financially and spiritually accountable to a board of directors made up of members of the community in good standing. We stand in faith that God will provide our needs and will also provide enough for us to help others. Crossfire appreciates your consideration in making a contribution to our work as we help those less fortunate.

AS THE LORD MIGHT LEAD YOU

Please fill out, detach, and return with your check.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

General Fund Giving Opportunity

General Fund one time gift amount _____ Monthly pledge _____

Building Improvement Fund Opportunity

Building fund one time gift amount _____ Monthly pledge _____

Truck Fund _____