

Hopeful Horizons

Cross-Lines Community Outreach Monthly Update

October 2024

Hello Susila,

As the cooling air and colorful leaves mark the arrival of Fall, we're reminded of the changing seasons and the hope that continues to guide our mission. We're excited to share updates on the impactful services we've been providing—thanks to your support—through our Community Kitchen, Market, and Housing Stabilization programs.

Looking ahead, we're preparing for one of our most anticipated events, the annual **Christmas Store**, where families in need can shop for gifts and necessities with dignity and joy. Read on for more information and ways to help.

Your generosity continues to make our work possible. Thank you for being an important member of our community!

Kindly,
Kelly and the Cross-Lines Team

P.S. Our Directors are looking for opportunities to speak to the community! We'd love to come out and tell your workplace, school, church, or neighborhood group more about Cross-Lines! If you'd like a member of our team to set up a time to visit, please reach out to Director of Development, Kelly Gough Moran: Kelly@cross-lines.org

Questions? Reply to this email or reach out to kelly@cross-lines.org

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August Service Numbers



Centurions



Market Visits: 1,221
Households served: 1,105



Meals served: 5,080



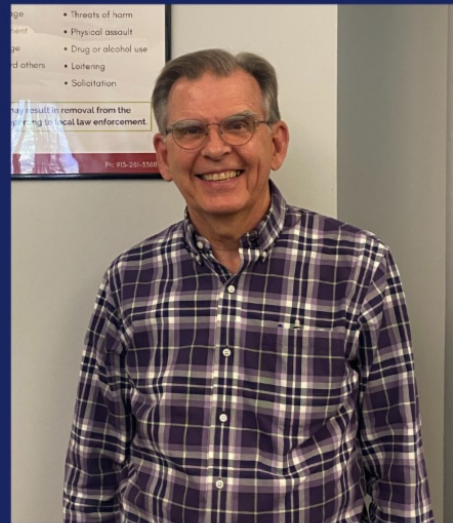
Bills Paid: \$2,044
Outreach Contacts: 68
People Housed: 3



Volunteer Hours: 1,185
Labor Value: \$37,663

October Volunteer Spotlight

Jim Schraeder
Front Desk



Hello, Jim!

Our front desk volunteers are incredibly important to Cross-Lines. From answering the main telephone line, to greeting clients and community partners, front desk volunteers provide an invaluable help to Cross-Lines in our office!

How long have you been volunteering at Cross-Lines?

- I've been here for two years. A good friend and neighbor volunteers at the Front

Desk. I was ending one volunteer position at another organization and I asked her if she thought they would need help and she said absolutely.

What do you love most about volunteering at Cross-Lines?

- I love being able to help. I've learned a lot about the issues in the community and the ways we can help.

Where can we usually find you volunteering?

- Apart from volunteering at the Front-Desk for Cross-Lines, I sit on a few committees around town. This is my purely volunteer job and I enjoy it. I've been retired for 8 years, and this helps me to give back and connect with the community. I've gotten to meet a lot of people I would not have met before, both on staff and folks who walk in. They're my neighbors, too.

What's your favorite Kansas City BBQ?

- Gates- they have the best sauce of anybody, anywhere.

What else do you like to do in your spare time?

- When I'm home, I like working on my yard, and I also like to travel.

Thank you, Jim!

If you are interested in volunteering, please visit <https://www.cross-lines.org/how-to-help/volunteer.html>

Supporting Our Seniors



**Regular Market
shopper, James,
celebrated his
100th birthday
this month!**

For many seniors in our community, making ends meet on a fixed income can be a challenge, especially when rising costs of food, healthcare, and other essentials put a strain on their limited resources.

The Community Market serves as a vital resource, offering seniors access to fresh produce, pantry staples, and other essentials they may not be able to afford otherwise. More than just a food pantry, it's a place of dignity and support, helping seniors maintain their health and well-being without having to choose between food and other necessary expenses.

James, a Market shopper and life-long WYCO resident who recently celebrated his 100th birthday, is a testament to the resilience and spirit of our senior community. Living on a fixed income, James often finds it challenging to afford basic necessities, but the Market has been a lifeline for him.

With access to nutritious food, James no longer has to worry about going hungry or making tough decisions between buying groceries or paying for medication. Thanks in part to the Community Market, he can enjoy his golden years with dignity and peace of mind.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the Community Market is able to continue its mission of providing much-needed assistance to seniors, giving them the peace of mind that they won't go hungry when times are tough. For many, it's a lifeline that bridges the gap, helping them live with dignity and hope.

**Support the Market
Today**

Cross-Lines Christmas Store: Bringing Joy and Hope to Families in Need



Every holiday season, the Cross-Lines Christmas Store opens its doors to serve up to 400 Wyandotte County families with children, offering a dignified and joyful shopping experience. Volunteers have already been working hard to prepare for the 2024 holiday season!

Accepted after applying online and scheduling their shopping time, families can select from toys for children and teens, household items, and supplemental groceries to help prepare holiday meals. **The Christmas Store provides much-needed relief during what can be a financially stressful time, ensuring that children wake up to gifts and families can enjoy a festive meal together.**

This annual effort is made possible through the generosity of local congregations, community members, and volunteers who come together to support our neighbors.

If you'd like to help the Christmas Store, consider donating Walmart gift cards in denominations of \$10 or \$20, which allow us to offer even more choices to families in need. (Gift cards may be mailed or dropped off at the Cross-Lines office)

With your help, we can continue to spread joy and hope this holiday season!



Cross-Lines Values and Guiding Principles

Advocacy/Justice, system change: We advocate for social justice and systemic change, actively addressing the root causes of poverty and inequality while advocating for equitable policies that uplift those we serve.

[Learn more here: Cross-Lines Values and Principles](#)

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