

# Hopeful Horizons

Cross-Lines Community Outreach Monthly Update

July 2024

Hello Susila,

As we step into July, we are thrilled to share some exciting news and updates with you. First, we wish you a joyful and safe Fourth of July holiday! May your celebrations be filled with happiness, family, and memorable moments.

**We are also delighted to announce that tickets for our highly anticipated annual Gala for Hope are now on sale! This event promises to be a night of elegance, inspiration, and community spirit, and we can't wait to see you there.**

Additionally, we are proud to highlight our ongoing community collaboration efforts, working hand-in-hand with local organizations to make a positive impact. Together, we are stronger and can achieve more for those in need.

*Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our mission.  
Stay tuned for more updates and enjoy the holiday festivities!*

Kindly,  
Kelly and the Cross-Lines Team

Questions? Reply to this email or reach out to [kelly@cross-lines.org](mailto:kelly@cross-lines.org)

## What's Inside...

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# May Service Numbers



St. Thomas Youth Group



**Market Visits: 1,090**  
**Households served: 1,052**



**Meals served: 4,585**



**Bills Paid: \$16,885**

**Outreach Contacts: 99**

**People Housed: 9**



**Volunteer Hours: 958**

# July Volunteer Spotlight

**Mike Penner  
& Sandy McGuire**



## Hello, Mike and Sandy!

We interviewed Mike and Sandy during Pride ?? month (June). Mike and Sandy have known each other for over 20 years; they first met while doing work for lesbian women's health. They've become good friends over the years and enjoy volunteering together in the Market!

### Q. How long have you been volunteering at Cross-Lines?

Mike: Three years as Community Market volunteer. I first heard about Cross-Lines through my previous boss, former board member Nancy Moilan, so I've been affiliated with Cross-Lines in different aspects/ways for the last 15-20 years but only started regularly volunteering two years

ago. I retired three years ago and I wanted to get more involved.

Sandy: On and off for about 15 years. I started in the Community Garden, then I volunteered in the Christmas Store for many years and then over here in the Community Market.

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

Mike: I especially like the mission of the organization. I like how the staff and volunteers are committed, genuinely, to the mission. I like hands-on work. I did a lot of administrative work and managing people in my professional career, so it's nice to be hands-on and I can see the direct results of putting food out on the shelves and knowing people will take that food to eat. I appreciate the staff support and all the people working for the mission of Cross-Lines.

Sandy: I love the values and mission of Cross-Lines. The staff is very friendly. I like that you're busy from the moment you walk in and until the end of shift and when you leave you feel like you've made a difference.

**Q. Where can we usually find you volunteering?**

Mike: I volunteer, once a week, at Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead, as a baby goat attendant. I love goats and I've always felt/had an affinity for them so now I get to be a baby goat attendant. It's a great organization with really good people and I love hanging out with goats. I'm also an ambassador for the LGBT Chamber of Commerce. It's a good organization and I like that I'm connected with the activities of the community.

Susan: I volunteer at Kansas City Community Gardens.

**It's PRIDE month! ?**

**Q.What would you tell your younger queer self?**

Sandy: Don't be afraid, everything will work out.

**Q.What's your favorite LGBT+ history moment?**

Mike: I'm retired from the military. I was in the Marine Corps Reserve for 6 years and the KS Air National Guard for 17 years. I was there during a time when it was don't ask don't tell. When they overturned that and it allowed folks to be open, it was amazing. The second moment would have to be the legalization of gay marriage. I have been with my partner for 30 years and now I've been married to my husband for 8 years.

Sandy: The Stonewall Uprisings.

**Thank you, Mike and Sandy! We appreciate YOU! ?**

*If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Community Engagement Manager, Kitana Lemus (Kitana@cross-lines.org) or visit <https://www.cross-lines.org/how-to-help/volunteer.html>*

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## WYCO Housing Supports Ecosystem Bus Tour/Lunch & Learn



*Change happens when caring people work hard together towards a common goal.*

In late June, Cross-Lines was honored to co-host the WyCo Housing Supports Ecosystem Bus Tour/Lunch & Learn with United Community Services of Johnson County.

During lunch and along the way, participants learned about the unique challenges that WYCO is facing and the opportunities to improve the lives of Wyandotte County residents. The event started with lunch at the Hilton Garden Inn in downtown KCK. From there, we took a ride around town, heard from several community speakers/organizations and stopped to tour Cross-Lines' campus and the brand new tiny homes at Eden Village of Kansas City.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success and our wonderful attendees! We are looking toward a bright future for Wyandotte County!

Partners:

Avenue of Life

Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools

Community Housing of Wyandotte County, Inc. (CHWC)

Wyandot Behavioral Health Network

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## *Upcoming Events You Don't Want to Miss!*

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# Coffee

WITH CROSS-LINES

to us. We can't wait to see you there!

### **Join us for our July Coffee with Cross-Lines!**

Beat the heat and start your morning right with a cup of coffee and engaging conversation around the issues that matter most to our community and the work we do. Let's get together to share ideas, connect, and make a difference!

Date: July 3rd

Time: 7:45 AM

Location: Cross-Lines Community Market Volunteer Room

(FREE to attend!)

Your support and voice are invaluable

**RSVP to Coffee with Cross-Lines**

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## **Crossing Paths: Understanding Housing and Hunger at**

# Cross-Lines

**CROSSING PATHS:**

Understanding Hunger and Housing at Cross-Lines

*Evening includes dinner and immersive simulation*

**THURS, AUG 29TH  
5:30-7:30 PM**

Join us on Thursday, Aug 29th to take a deeper dive into Cross-Lines' services and programs!

Attendees will enjoy a casual meal in the Cross-Lines Kitchen, take part in a service/program simulation throughout campus, and finish with treats and a Q&A session in the Market.

We hope to see you there!

Free to attend;  
Seats are limited!

**CROSS-LINES**  
COMMUNITY OUTREACH, INC.  
www.cross-lines.org

RSVP

**RSVP to Crossing Paths**

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## Gala for Hope

Friday, September 27th

We are thrilled to invite you to our annual Gala for Hope, a night dedicated to celebrating our community's resilience, generosity, and unwavering support. This year's gala promises to be an unforgettable evening filled with elegance, inspiration, and impactful moments that showcase the heart of our mission.

**By attending the Gala for Hope, you are not just purchasing a ticket to an event; you are making a profound difference in the lives of those we serve.**

Your presence helps us continue our vital work, providing resources and support to individuals and families in need. Together, we can create a brighter future for all.

The evening will feature a sumptuous dinner, live entertainment, and exciting raffles and LIVE auction. It's an opportunity to connect with fellow supporters, hear inspiring stories, and celebrate the collective impact of our

community.

Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased through our website. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be part of something truly special. Secure your spot today and join us in making a lasting difference! We look forward to seeing you there and sharing this incredible evening with you!

Please join us for the annual  
*Cross-Lines Community Outreach*

# GALA FOR HOPE

*Building a brighter future*

Friday, September 27th, 2024  
— 6:00 pm —

THE VIEW AT BRIARCLIFF  
4000 N Mulberry St., Kansas City, MO 64116  
(Inside the Marriot Hotel)

[Purchase Tickets to the Gala](#)

## From Chains to Change: KC Disc Golf Donation Drives Support to Cross-Lines

We so excited to announce that KC Disc Golf has once again made a significant impact on our community through their annual KC Ice Bowl tournament!

Held this past January and February, the tournament brought together disc golf enthusiasts from all around to play for a cause greater than the game itself.

This year, the proceeds from the event amounted to an incredible \$6,760, all of which has been generously donated to Cross-Lines.

This is the second consecutive year that KC Disc Golf has chosen to support Cross-Lines with the funds raised from their Ice Bowl tournament, underscoring their commitment to our mission and the community we serve.

The KC Ice Bowl is more than just a disc golf tournament; it is a symbol of community spirit and compassion. Despite the chilly weather, participants braved the elements with warm hearts, knowing their efforts would make a meaningful difference in the lives of those in need.

Cross-Lines is deeply grateful for KC Disc Golf's ongoing support. The funds raised will help us continue to provide essential services and resources to individuals and families in our community.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the KC Ice Bowl and to KC Disc Golf for their unwavering generosity. Your support is truly making a difference!

## We will miss you, Markie!



It is with heartfelt gratitude that we bid farewell to Markie Crabtree as she steps into a well-deserved retirement after nine remarkable years of employment and several more volunteering with Cross-Lines. ?

Markie has been an invaluable member of our team, leading the KC Medicine Cabinet (Access KC) program with exceptional dedication and a heart full of compassion. Her willingness to jump in and help wherever needed has made a lasting impact on our organization and the countless lives she has touched.

Markie's kindness, big-hearted nature, and unwavering commitment to our mission have been a source of inspiration for all of us. While we will deeply miss her presence and contributions, but we are heartened to know that she plans to stay connected with Cross-Lines by regularly volunteering with us. Her legacy of service and compassion will continue to inspire us as we carry forward the work she so passionately supported.

***Thank you, Markie, for your incredible service. We wish you all the best in your retirement and look forward to seeing you while volunteering in the future!***



### Cross-Lines Values and Guiding Principles

**Choice:** We uphold the principle of choice, recognizing that individuals and families should have the autonomy to make decisions about their lives, ensuring that our programs and services provide options and support informed decision-making.

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

**Support Our Work**

**Volunteer**

**Cross-Lines Apparel**

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More

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