

**CROSSROADS  
MINISTRY**

Jan and Carolyn Evans, Editors

**SAVE THE DATE**

**COMING  
UP**



**Fourth of July  
Pancake Breakfast**

**Wednesday, July 4**

Our Lady of the Mountains  
Catholic Church



**Crossroads Mission  
Statement**

*Practicing Christian  
love by providing basic  
human services  
to Estes Valley  
residents in need.*

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[www.crossroadsep.org](http://www.crossroadsep.org)



of Estes Park, Inc.

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**CROSSROADS MINISTRY OF ESTES PARK HAS A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Meet **Brian Schaffer**, Crossroad's new **Executive Director** beginning May 14th. Prior to joining Crossroads, Brian served in Alaska with Catholic Social Services providing system support and collaborative leadership for agencies working with homeless families in the HUD coordinated entry system and rapid rehousing program. He was also an Outreach Pastor at the largest church in the state and led New Hope on the Last Frontier as their Executive Director where he launched a recovery services program, job training center, life coaching, and peer mentoring to augment the already existing food and clothing distribution. In addition, Brian was active on advisory boards for the Salvation Army and Anchorage Cops for Community and served as a volunteer prison chaplain. The last two years in Alaska he helped establish Acts 247 Recovery Church to reach people in recovery from addiction, homelessness, and incarceration. In each of these assignments he worked collaboratively with churches, government agencies, businesses, and volunteers to bring hope and healing to people in their time of need. Before this he served in pastoral assignments with the Church of the Nazarene in Texas, where he founded and served as the Executive Director of Urban Link, a Christian community development organization. Earlier in his career God led him in several different directions. He served as a missionary in Central America and the Caribbean, worked at a small oil company in Kansas and Oklahoma and taught in both public and private schools.

At this point in his life, Brian firmly believes that his life's mission is centered in mobilizing communities to love their neighbors through acts of compassion and words of life. This calling has been translated into a career that is uniquely suited him as a spiritual, cultural, and civic leader.

Growing up in the flatlands of Wichita, Kansas he always dreamed of living a life filled with adventure and after graduating from MNU

where he met his wife, Deborah, they began their missionary journey together. And now with 29 years under their belt they have three grown sons and one daughter-in-law who are fulfilling their own life's calling in Texas and Tennessee.



**Brian Schaffer—Executive Director**

When asked about his first impressions of his new assignment he had the following to say: "I am grateful to the board of directors for the opportunity to lead this exceptional organization. I look forward to working with the talented staff and getting to know the entire Crossroads

network of donors, volunteers, and partners. I feel divinely called and equipped by God to serve among the poor, so I believe this conviction will guide me well in leading Crossroads. As I have begun to sort through historical documents in my office, I was most excited to read about the history of Crossroads Ministry and how everything has come together to help neighbors in need through a network of churches and community partners. I am very impressed with the self-sufficiency programs, because I am a firm believer in offering relief for immediate needs as we put together a plan to help a person rehabilitate areas in their life that have held them back from a self-reliant lifestyle".

In closing Brian shared some of his philosophy for community development and how you can get involved. "Making connections that change lives for good is what it's all about for me. Getting close enough to a person to make the connection is the first step. I believe in the strength that relationships bring to an organization, so I look forward to working with you as we connect RESOURCES to meet the NEEDS through VOLUNTEERS that want to serve. I'd love the opportunity to visit with you about your role in all of this. Invite me to a meeting or come meet with me individually. [brian.crossroadsep@gmail.com](mailto:brian.crossroadsep@gmail.com)."

**Let's welcome Brian Schaffer and his wife,  
Deborah, to Estes Park!**

## Neighbors In Need

One of Brian's first exposures to the nature of the Crossroads organization was the conclusion of the **Neighbors In Need Challenge**. Brian reports the results of this fund raiser as follows, "I am so encouraged to see the community participation in this campaign. It speaks highly of how much people believe in what Crossroads is doing. This challenge is such a great example of how the giving potential can be maximized through one generous donor who has invested \$50,000 as matching dollars that ultimately blesses us with a double portion to fulfill our mission. The great news that I have for you today is that our financial supporters have met the Challenge by giving not only \$50,000, but \$59,234, so this brings the grand total to **\$109,234!** THANK YOU!"

### THANK YOU, GENE!

The simple words of thank you hardly seem adequate enough to express the gratitude of the Crossroads board, the staff, and the volunteers for the commitment of **Gene Whannel** to serve as temporary Executive Director since December of 2017. During this time, Gene laid his own realty business aside to focus on everything needed to allow this agency to continue to meet the needs of the most fragile people in our community.



Gene Whannel

In this temporary assignment, Gene wore many hats (as seen in the picture). And the learning curve was steep as he had to apply for grants and manage them; meet with community supporters and

government entities; coordinate staffing; launch the new *Meals On Wheels* in January; understand and help with food pantry operations; provide counsel for special client needs; oversee the repackaging facility; etc., etc., etc. He spent long hours at the office and at home in order to stay on top of all of the issues... and he did it all with a calmness that relieved any anxiety that others may have felt. His administrative

work took a great deal of his time and energy, but in reality God used him to help fulfill His call in Matthew 25:40, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Thank you, Gene.

## Crossroads 4th of July Annual Pancake Breakfast

The Annual Pancake Breakfast held at **Our Lady of the Mountains Church** has become a community highlight that kicks off 4th of July holiday celebrations. Mark your calendar to attend this year on Wednesday, July 4th. Breakfast is served from **7am to 10:30am** with all of the cooking done by the **Knights of Columbus** and most of the supplies donated by local businesses. The cost is \$8 for those 10 years or older and \$5 for children under the age of 10. Anyone donating a non-perishable food item will receive a \$1 discount on their breakfast. The breakfast is open to residents and visitors alike. All proceeds support Crossroads Ministries of Estes Park.

Volunteers to help set-up, serve, and clean up are always needed. Contact Crossroads (970.577.0610) if you, or your family, or your Scout troop, or your neighbors would like to help.



**See you at the breakfast!**

Sign up to receive the Crossroads Ministry quarterly newsletter by email!  
Send your email address to [office.crossroadsep@gmail.com](mailto:office.crossroadsep@gmail.com) Put **NEWSLETTER** in the subject line.

## SPRING SALE

What a day it was! Lines began forming early in anticipation of the 9 am opening of the joint Crossroads/Lifelong Learning of Estes Valley Preschool **Annual Spring Sale!** Generous donations of items and volunteer time made this a successful community event. We were blessed to have had the help of approximately 115 volunteers who gave more than 650 hours of their time. The sale garnered over \$7000 to be shared by the two non-profits. Both first time volunteers and veterans expressed joy to give of their time to help these two agencies further their goals of assisting members of our community.

We are grateful for the businesses and individuals who offered help with the sale, including the Estes Park News who publicized the sale; the Abel Team of Keller-Williams Realty who helped in preparation for the sale; Harmony House residents who assisted during clean-up afterwards; Inkwell and Brew and Estes Park Pie Shop who donated goods for the Bake Sale; Fall River Antiques and Wini and John Spahnle who



provided expertise in evaluating collectibles; Doering Disposal who donated a waste truck and driver to take away trash; First Colorado Realty who donated a truck to take things to La Puente Home in Alamosa, Colorado; and Dale Beck and Miles Mewherter for loading the truck and driving to Alamosa and back.

We are often asked, "What happens to the things that do not sell during the Spring Sale?" Following the sale, donations are made to several other non-profit agencies. This year goods were given to the Art Department of E.P. Elementary School, Friends of the Library, Pet Association, Village Thrift Shop, "Garage Give Away" through the Campus Ministry at School of Mines in Golden, Colorado, and La Puente Home in Alamosa, Colorado to be shared through their thrift stores, homeless shelter, transitional housing and rural outreach programs. These agencies give wonderful help in recycling the goods donated by the generous people of Estes Valley.

## A Sweet Blessing



**Carole Fixter**, owner of **Cinnamon's Bakery**, surprised Crossroads this year by donating all of the proceeds and tips earned on the day of the Duck Race to Crossroads! After approaching the Rotary Club and Crossroads with her idea, she was ready to fulfill her commitment. Carole has always had a generous heart. Last fall she donated some of her hard earned income to food pantries in both Houston and Florida to help feed the people impacted by the hurricanes that ravaged so many families. Carole has always supported Crossroads in a variety of ways. Since starting her Cinnamon Bakery, she occasionally donates her delicious rolls to the staff and volunteers at Crossroads. This year she wanted to do something special around the anniversary date of the opening of Cinnamon's on May 19th. It was a beautiful day for the Duck Race this year and sales were brisk at her bakery. At the end of the day she collected \$927 to donate to Crossroads. But, that is not the end of the story! Carole's generosity was noted by another Crossroads supporter who decided to match her donation with an additional \$927! Carole was overwhelmed and so was Crossroads. Thank you to Carole and the anonymous donor!



## New Meals On Wheels Coordinator

**Meals On Wheels** is in good hands with **Michelle Purdy** as coordinator. Michelle started as a driver for *Meals On Wheels* and she continues to have a passion for this outreach. Her job includes organizing four routes and scheduling drivers, billing clients, serving as the liaison between Crossroads and Good Samaritan Village, enrolling new clients, and seeking and training new drivers. She also continues to drive the same route that she has driven for 22 years, because as she says, "I love those people." Being here through the recent transition, Michelle comments that everyone at Good Samaritan has been wonderful to work with and the clients love the food, especially the regular addition of fresh vegetables and soup. Besides her passion for *Meals On Wheels*, for the past 4 years Michelle has been a volunteer at Hearts and Horses Therapeutic Riding Center in Loveland which promotes healing through equine-assisted therapy. In addition to all of this, Michelle is committed to her family, which includes her husband Mark and two grown children Kelsey and Noah. Crossroads is thankful to have Michelle with her expertise and her sunny personality as the *Meals On Wheels* Coordinator.



**Michelle Purdy**

**Hours of Operation**

Monday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
 Tuesday: 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
 Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
 Thursday: 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
 Friday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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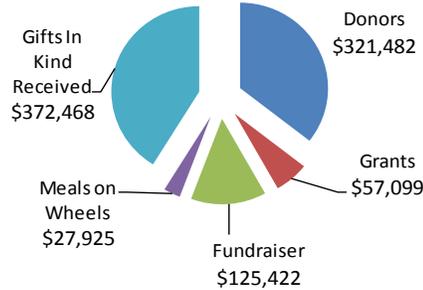
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**INCOME—2017**



Program Data	2016	2017
Number of Volunteer Hours	8,322	9,250
School Supplies given to students in partnership with Bright Christmas	52	46
Pounds of coats, hats, gloves given	536	633
Number of families given coats, hats, gloves	88	105
1,449 Meals On Wheels delivered to Seniors January through May, 2018		

Program Data	2016	2017
Individuals Served by Crossroads	950	978
Pounds of Food Given by Crossroads	131,743	135,052
Number of Families Served	426	437
Number of Client Visits	2,879	3,161
Number of Service Benefits Given	5,175	5,771

**EXPENSE—2017**

