



the ministry messenger

SUMMER 2025

A Publication of
Crisis Control Ministry

Neighbors Helping Neighbors



Photo: Crisis Control Ministry Volunteer, Kimberly Rivera Ortiz, distributing back to school items and Crisis Control Ministry information at the Forsyth County Health and Human Services, Back to School with Mia Magazine event.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors The Power of Collaboration

You've likely heard the phrase, "*It takes a village.*" At Crisis Control Ministry, this isn't just a saying—it's the foundation of everything we do. From the beginning, our mission has been rooted in community, compassion, and collaboration. Thanks to the support of congregations, partners, and neighbors like you, we are able to respond to urgent needs with care and dignity.

But we also know that no single organization can do it all. That's why we actively build strong partnerships with countless other ministries and nonprofits across Forsyth and Stokes Counties to ensure our neighbors receive comprehensive support.

One powerful example is our collaboration with **Samaritan Ministries**. While we do not offer shelter or daily meals for our unhoused neighbors, Samaritan does—and we complement their care by providing critical medications through our free pharmacy.

For those re-entering society after incarceration, we team up with **Project Re-entry**. While we may not specialize in re-entry services, we help by supplying nutritious food, hygiene items, and cleaning supplies—essentials that support a new start.

Most recently, we partnered with **Community Care Center** to serve uninsured patients in need of medications—yet another example of how shared resources multiply our impact.

These partnerships are more than logistical—they're a testament to a shared belief that everyone deserves hope, health, and dignity. By working together, we are not only meeting needs—we are building a village of support where everyone belongs.

Your Support Impacts Lives The Power of Partnership in a Life Reimagined.

After 34 years of incarceration, Levon returned to a drastically changed world, facing challenges with housing, food, transportation, and a prostate cancer diagnosis. He turned to Project Re-entry, a program offered through Goodwill Industries of NWNC, in partnership with Piedmont Triad Regional Council. Re-Entry Council Specialist, Reggie Torrence, became his advocate, helping him obtain ID, housing at the Oxford House and the essentials he needed.

Thanks to a referral, Levon visited Crisis Control Ministry's client-choice pantry, receiving two weeks of nutritious food, hygiene items, and cleaning supplies. Sunnyside Ministries provided clothing, Winston-Salem Urban League offered support, and Cycle Recycled, a Love Out Loud partner, donated a bicycle.

Levon's story is a testament to the power of collaboration among Winston-Salem nonprofits. Through compassion and partnership, he's rebuilding his life—one step at a time.

We are proud
to support
his journey
as he works
to create
a brighter
future.



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www.CrisisControl.org

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Help Fill Our Pantries

Our client-choice food pantries in both the Winston-Salem and the Kernersville locations are especially low.

For a list of Most Needed Items, and resources to help promote Food Drives and Gift of the Month programs, visit our website.

crisiscontrol.org/resources

Gift of the Month

- June:** Peanut Butter & Jelly
July: Canned Pastas
August: Toilet Paper
September: Instant Grits & Oatmeal

Kids Gift of the Month

- June:** Gummy Fruit Snack Packs
July: Fruit Roll-ups
August: Applesauce Cups or Pouches
September: Pop Tarts

Location Hours

Winston-Salem:

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - Noon
 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Kernersville:

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - Noon
 Tues. & Thur. 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 Margaret Elliott

THE MINISTRY MESSENGER is a quarterly publication of Crisis Control Ministry.

Crisis Control Ministry provides assistance with basic life needs to those facing a crisis in Forsyth and Stokes Counties.

Send editorial ideas to
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Happy Spring!

As we often say at Crisis Control Ministry (CCM), the summer work does not slow down here. Most of the people who come to CCM for assistance do not take vacations like many of the rest of us. We try hard to stock up in our food pantry, accepting donations from local farmers and grocery stores, and we continue to send appeals to donors to raise funds to support our work.

This newsletter will feature the work that we do in collaboration with other organizations. We couldn't do what we do without collaborating and working with people in places like the Department of Social Services, Financial Pathways of the Piedmont, Community Care Center, Goodwill's Project Re-entry program, the Cooperative Extension Office, local grocery stores, the Second Harvest Food Bank and dozens of other places.

Our most recent important collaboration has been with the Community Care Center. Patients from the Community Care Center will now have their prescriptions filled here in CCM's licensed pharmacy. In partnership, staff members at the Community Care Center refer patients to us who then have their prescription needs met here at CCM. It has been a true collaboration with staff members from both organizations working together to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Look for information too in our special insert to understand ways that you can help us to advocate on behalf of the issues that impact those with whom we work. Together, we can make this community a better place for all of us!



Warmest regards,

Margaret P. Elliott

Margaret Elliott
 Executive Director

New Staff Member



Ashley Edwards

Director of Philanthropy

Ashley Edwards is a seasoned nonprofit leader with a passion for relationship-building, strategic solutions, and transformational impact. She brings a wealth of experience in fundraising, grant writing, communications, and community engagement.

Before joining Crisis Control Ministry, Ashley served as Director of Development at AMOREM, a nonprofit hospice and palliative care provider. There, she led a major expansion in philanthropic support, securing grants for facility improvements and increasing donor engagement and thrift store revenue. She has also held development roles with the Blue Ridge HealthCare Foundation and the YMCA, and previously served at U.S. Bank, earning recognition for innovation and team leadership.

Ashley holds an MBA in Leadership and Innovation from Northern Kentucky University, an MA in Theological Studies from Asbury Theological Seminary, and a BA in Religion from Wayland Baptist University. Her academic and professional path reflects a deep commitment to service, ethics, and lifelong learning.

Ashley serves on the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits for the Western NC Conference of the United Methodist Church, supports Wright's Food Pantry, and enjoys life with her husband, Kaury, and their son, Beckham.



Crisis Control Ministry
**Wee Care!
Cereal Drive**
March 17-April 17, 2025

Thank you to our Wee neighbors!



During the month of March, more than 8,000 children at 55 schools across Forsyth County participated in the Wee Care! Cereal Drive. This is a program that not only collects cereal donations, but helps preschool and elementary school-age children learn about the importance of sharing and being a good neighbor.

Nearly 7,000 boxes of cereal were donated. That is enough to fill nearly **128,000** bowls.

Wee Care! Gift of the Month

Summer months are even more challenging for families experiencing a financial crisis. With children at home over the summer, they do not have access to free school lunches. The Wee Care! Gift of the Month helps fill our pantries with kid-friendly food items and encourages children to continue to give.

June:

Gummy Fruit Snack Packets

July:

Goldfish Crackers

August:

Applesauce Cups/Pouches

September:

Pop Tarts



Thank you to everyone who supported Hope du Jour - sponsors, restaurants and YOU!

FOR A LIST OF 2025 HOPE DU JOUR FOOD & BEVERAGE ESTABLISHMENTS, VISIT: [HOPEDUJOUR.ORG](https://www.hopedujour.org).

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CHARLES G. NEW, DDS, MS, PA

Unique Volunteer-Led Annual Fundraiser Supports Crisis Control Ministry



Since 2012, Main Street United Methodist Church of Kernersville has hosted the Spring Folly Parking Lot fundraiser to support Crisis Control Ministry. Thanks to generous support from S&R Motors and Pierce-Jefferson Funeral Home—who donate their parking lot and a large tent—the event has grown into Kernersville's largest annual volunteer-run fundraiser for Crisis Control.



Led by co-organizers Curt Brown and Dave Black, (pictured left) and supported by dedicated volunteers from Main Street, Bunker Hill, and Sedge Garden UMCs,

Elevation Church and TROSA, the event runs six two-hour shifts, requiring 15–20 volunteers per shift. Their efforts keep the lots running smoothly and donations flowing.

This year, despite closing early due to storms, 78 volunteers contributed 168 service hours, raising an impressive \$5,676. Volunteers even handed out free water to festival attendees, making the experience more enjoyable for all.

Thank you to everyone who helped make it a success. Mark your calendars to join us next year on May 1–2. Let's keep this incredible community tradition going strong!

For more volunteer opportunities,
visit crisiscontrol.org/volunteer
or contact
Abbey McCall at
volunteer@crisiscontrol.org
or 336.770.1621.



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Thinking about Christmas in July?

If you, your business or
organization plans to honor
others this year, consider the
Crisis Control Ministry
Holiday Honor Card.

It is not too early
to place your order:

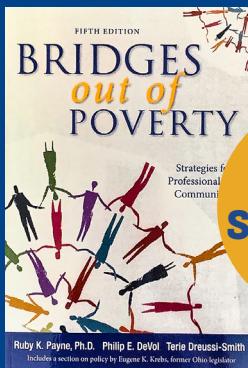
crisiscontrol.org/holidaycards



SAVE THE DATE Wednesday OCTOBER 8

Crisis Control Ministry's
Food Drive at the
Carolina Classic Fair,
where admission is free
with the donation of
5 non-perishable food
items per person.

SIGN UP TODAY July 11 in Kernersville or October 17 location to be determined



**FREE
SEMINAR**

You're invited to attend this free community seminar, exploring the impact of poverty. It is designed to develop understanding of the effects of poverty across social and economic groups. Individuals who work regularly with those living in poverty or want to advocate for those in poverty will benefit from this discussion. It is based on the book, "Bridges Out of Poverty," by Ruby Payne, Philip DeVol, and Terie Smith.

To register, visit
crisiscontrol.org/news-events.



SAVE THE DATE Sunday OCTOBER 19

Winston-Salem/Forsyth County
**CROP Hunger Walk at
Corpening Plaza**

To register to walk, visit
cropwalkforsyth.org.

For information about
volunteering, email
volunteer@crisiscontrol.org.