



# the ministry messenger

SPRING 2025

A Publication of  
Crisis Control Ministry

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors



### Your Support Impacts Lives

Love knows  
no language barriers.

Late one afternoon, just 30 minutes before closing, Abeni, a young mother, arrived at Crisis Control Ministry with her one-month-old baby. A friend had dropped her off, hoping she could find the assistance she desperately needed.

Abeni speaks only Wolof and knows no English. But language was no obstacle to the love and compassion of our staff. Using a translation service through our recently updated phone system, we conducted an interview and quickly qualified her for assistance. Recognizing the urgency of her situation, the interviewer notified the pantry staff. Though it was nearly closing time, the pantry manager stayed late to help Abeni shop in our client-choice pantry to ensure she received two weeks' worth of healthy groceries to sustain her through her crisis.



## Celebrating 35 Years of Hope du Jour

In 1991, both the World Wide Web and Hope du Jour made public debuts. Like the Internet, Hope du Jour has sustained and grown in popularity over the years. Over its 35 years, Hope du Jour has endured Y2K, the Great Recession and even COVID-19. It has continued to be an inspiration for bringing the community together.

As Crisis Control Ministry's annual signature event, Hope du Jour truly embodies the spirit of Crisis Control. This win-win event brings the community together to support local food and beverage establishments and help neighbors who are experiencing a financial crisis - while at the same time giving friends, families and neighbors an excuse to gather.

Taking place on the first Tuesday in May, participating establishments contribute 10% of their proceeds to Crisis Control Ministry. This year's event is scheduled for May 6, and we are pleased to see an expanding network of dedicated partners—from longstanding favorites to innovative new establishments. We invite you to explore our website at [hopedujour.org](https://hopedujour.org) to discover participating locations and to plan your visit.

In addition to dining out on May 6, there are other meaningful ways to support the initiative. Many establishments offer Take & Bake meals, a convenient option for those seeking to extend their support from home. A complete list of these offerings is available on our website. For ongoing support, please consider contributing via our "extra helping" donation link.

We encourage you to rely on [hopedujour.org](https://hopedujour.org) throughout the year as a resource to support restaurants that support Crisis Control Ministry and thank them for being a part of Hope du Jour.

Winston-Salem Office:  
200 E. Tenth Street  
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[www.CrisisControl.org](https://www.CrisisControl.org)

North Carolina Association  
of Free & Charitable Clinics

N.C. Center for Nonprofits

AFF  
Association of  
Fundraising Professionals

NAFC  
The National Association of  
Free & Charitable Clinics

KERNERSVILLE  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

GREATER  
WINSTON  
SALEM

DOWN  
TOWN  
WINSTON-SALEM  
PARTNERSHIP



## 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](https://crisiscontrol.org/resources)**

## Gift of the Month

<b>April:</b>	Applesauce & Canned Fruit
<b>May:</b>	Baked Beans
<b>June:</b>	Peanut Butter & Jelly
<b>July:</b>	Canned Pastas

## Kids Gift of the Month

<b>April:</b>	Goldfish Snack Bags
<b>May:</b>	Cereal Bars
<b>June:</b>	Gummy Fruit Snack Packs
<b>July:</b>	Fruit Roll-ups

## 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.

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## Happy Spring!

We couldn't be more excited to kick off the 35th anniversary of Hope du Jour, our signature event that not only shines a spotlight on incredible local restaurants but also raises essential funds to support Crisis Control Ministry (CCM) in providing emergency assistance to local residents. This milestone celebration is more than a tradition—it's a testament to the power of community, compassion, and cuisine!



It all began thirty-five years ago when local restaurant owner Murphy Gregg (Diamondback Grill), Candide Jones, the restaurant reviewer for the Winston-Salem Journal, and CCM's Development Director Patti Hoffman joined forces to create something truly special: Hope du Jour. Since then, participating restaurants have generously donated 10% of their proceeds on the first Tuesday of May (mark your calendars for May 6th this year!) to help keep our vital services available for residents who struggle to meet their basic life needs.

But Hope du Jour is more than a fundraiser—it's a celebration of our community's culinary gems. It's a day to rally behind our favorite locally owned restaurants and beverage establishments while making a meaningful difference. As Murphy Gregg so perfectly put it, "We are in the business of feeding people, so it's natural for a restaurant to get involved... It's an easy cause to unite for."

For me, Hope du Jour is better than any holiday! The energy and excitement of people dining out just because it's Hope du Jour Day is unmatched. It's the simplest, most delightful way to give back to our community. We encourage everyone to visit [www.hopedujour.org](http://www.hopedujour.org) to find YOUR favorite spots to support or even discover some new ones to try. Personally, I plan to eat out for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and stop along the way for ice cream and refreshing beverages! Come join me and let's make this the most unforgettable Hope du Jour Day yet! Together, we can make a difference, one delicious meal at a time.



Warmest regards,

*Margaret P. Elliott*  
**Margaret Elliott**  
Executive Director

## New Staff Member



**Melissa Willard**  
Finance Manager

Melissa joined Crisis Control Ministry in March 2025. She is excited to apply her skills and background in Finance to our ministry! She is grateful to have the opportunity to "do her work and God's work simultaneously," by combining her work ethic with her love for God and

doing God's will. She has a devoted husband and three amazing kids at home - all of whom she considers God's greatest blessings in her life. She also enjoys family time, music, nature and bird-watching, cooking and baking, creative activities, home design and decorating, baseball, and has a passion for fishing and all things nautical. She loves to laugh and interject humor into everyday life! She believes in the mission and values of CCM, and feels blessed to be a part of supporting the ministry of helping others.



# IN APPRECIATION



## Honoring Karen Haynes: A Remarkable Journey of Service and Friendship

After 19 years of dedicated service, our beloved Finance Manager and dear friend, Karen Haynes, will retire at the end of April. She has worn many hats—Executive Administrative Assistant, Office Manager, and Finance Manager—always bringing excellence, compassion, and dedication to our ministry.

Beyond her work, Karen has been a steadfast friend, wise counselor, and calming presence. Recently, we honored her with the "Faithful Servant & Grace Under Pressure Award." Thanks to her meticulous work, our finances have always been in order.

Karen's true legacy is the grace and humility with which she served. As she retires, she looks forward to time with her husband, Marty, and grandchildren. Karen, we are endlessly grateful and wish you joy and fulfillment—you will always be part of our CCM family!

## April is National Volunteer Month

**You can join us  
in celebrating  
and thanking  
our volunteers.**

Email  
[volunteer@crisiscontrol.org](mailto:volunteer@crisiscontrol.org)  
a note of thanks to our  
volunteers. Notes will be  
included in the monthly  
volunteer e-newsletter.

Honor an individual or all  
our volunteers with an honor  
donation. A beautiful card will  
be sent. Donate at  
[crisiscontrol.org/honor](http://crisiscontrol.org/honor).

### **VOLUNTEERS FILL OUR CUP – A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!**

At Crisis Control Ministry, we believe in person-centered relationships and genuine human connection through kindness, compassion, and respect. Our incredible volunteers pour these beliefs into our community every day.

Whether it's lending a listening ear through the interview assistance process, offering a helping hand as clients shop for two weeks' worth of groceries, collecting or sorting through food drive donations, providing essential prescription medications to clients, or spreading awareness about poverty, our volunteers make an immeasurable difference. Because of them, we assisted 23,700 neighbors through their crisis last fiscal year and gave them hope.

During the month of April, we raise our cups in gratitude to our **AMAZING VOLUNTEERS**. We thank them for their dedication, time, and unwavering spirit. The impact they make is felt in every smile, every act of service, and every neighbor they interact with.

*Let's continue filling cups – one act of kindness  
at a time!*

*Volunteers fill our cup!*

## SAVE THE DATES

### **May 2 & 3 - Spring Folly Crisis Control Parking Fundraiser**

Convenient parking at Main Street United Methodist Church supports Crisis Control Ministry.

### **May 6 - Hope du Jour**

Find participating locations at  
[www.hopedujour.org](http://www.hopedujour.org).

### **May 10 - Letter Carriers Food Drive in Kernersville**

Letter carriers will be collecting non-perishable food items to support our Kernersville pantry. For a list of most needed items, visit  
[crisiscontrol.org/resources](http://crisiscontrol.org/resources).

### **Triad Community Band Concerts** Free with food donation.

**May, 8 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Rural Hall Moravian Church**

**May, 15 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Holy Cross, Kernersville**

**July 10 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Rural Hall Moravian Church**

**July 17 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Holy Cross, Kernersville**

### **May 23 - Music for Food 7:00 p.m. at Home Moravian**

UNC School of the Arts presents music by Ralph Vaughan Williams including **Quintet in C Major** and **On Wendlock Edge**. Admission is free with a donation of non-perishable food items. For more information, visit [crisiscontrol.org](http://crisiscontrol.org).

### **July 11 - Bridges Out of Poverty**

**9:00 a.m. at Fountain of Life Lutheran  
Church in Kernersville**

You're invited to attend an in-depth exploration of the effects of poverty across social and economic groups. This program is offered free to the community by Crisis Control Ministry. To learn more, or register, visit:  
[crisiscontrol.org/news-events](http://crisiscontrol.org/news-events)



## FEEDING FORSYTH THE HUNGER CHALLENGE

### Feeding Forsyth The Hunger Challenge March-April

Your support of the Feeding Forsyth Hunger Challenge helps expand our capacity to provide fresh, nutritious food to families facing hardship throughout Forsyth and Stokes Counties. Together, we can ensure no neighbor goes hungry.

Gifts designated for the Feeding Forsyth Hunger Challenge will be eligible for matching funds from local donors.

To make a donation, visit:  
[crisiscontrol.org/donate](https://crisiscontrol.org/donate)



**Crisis Control**  
MINISTRY

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Non-Profit Org.  
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Winston-Salem, NC



## Find your next favorite restaurant on Hope du Jour, May 6.



On **Tuesday, May 6**, try a new restaurant or visit an old favorite to support Hope du Jour. Participating establishments donate 10% of that day's proceeds to Crisis Control Ministry.



**Crisis Control**  
MINISTRY

Neighbors Helping Neighbors for More Than 50 Years

For the growing list of participating establishments,  
scan the QR code or visit: [hopedujour.org](https://hopedujour.org).

