



the ministry messenger

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Crisis Control Ministry

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Bridges Out of Poverty – The Blessings on the Other Side

by Margaret Elliott, Executive Director



As I write this article, our state is beginning to recover from the rain and winds of Hurricane Florence. I am reminded that in their book, *Bridges Out of Poverty*, authors Ruby Payne, Philip DeVol and Terie Smith, describe how another hurricane, Katrina, made poverty visible again to the nation:

"Katrina served as a metaphor for poverty itself. The storm threw communities into chaos, forcing community organizations, as well as individuals, into survival mode. Basic community resources such as housing, health care, education, police, transportation, and utilities were wiped out or severely disrupted. Community structures and budgets were overwhelmed. Similar language can be used to describe the impact of poverty on families. Poverty itself throws families into chaos, forcing them into survival mode. Basic resources are wiped out or severely disrupted...The difference between a natural disaster and the poverty disaster is this: For people and communities in poverty, the crisis tends to creep along in obscurity rather than front and center, day after day, in the news."

And so it is with us right here in Forsyth County. It is too easy for most of us to forget that approximately 60,000 people (around 17%) live in poverty in our county. For them, each day is about simple survival.

Crisis Control offers a 4-hour **Bridges Out of Poverty** seminar quarterly, that is designed to help us become more aware of what life is like in poverty, the history of how we got here, and how we as a community can work together to break the systemic barriers that keep people in poverty.

My pastor, Jon Gaska, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, preached recently about how hard it is for most

Christians to actively live out the teachings of Jesus. Believing in him is one thing, but actually picking up the cross is another. Every day we are inundated with messages and the varying "truths" of many people. We don't know how to meaningfully respond and make our community a better place for all people. It's risky to challenge the status quo or take a stand on issues that are perceived as controversial. Lots of us are afraid to get personally involved. Following Jesus may really cost us! Conversely, my preacher said, "If we believe following Jesus means keeping peace among ourselves and avoiding risks, there is a cost to that as well."

The goal of those who created the Bridges Out of Poverty model is to improve the lives of people in poverty and, by extension, to help make sustainable communities in which everyone can do well...not just some of us, but everyone! As Pastor Jon also said, "The only thing God won't be able to use is the thing we aren't willing to try."

While there may be a cost to challenging the status quo, there is also a blessing on the other side. Let's do it!

Visit our website at
www.crisiscontrol.org
to register, and for
more information
and future dates.



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200 E. Tenth Street
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431 W. Bodenhamer St.
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CCM Volunteer Program Receives National Recognition

Crisis Control uses the motto "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" as our tagline, because that's just what we do as a volunteer driven organization. When you volunteer at Crisis Control, you make a difference in people's lives as you help families and individuals in desperate need get back on their feet.

In June, Crisis Control's volunteer program was certified as a Service Enterprise organization by the national Points of Light Foundation, just one of two organizations in Forsyth County to be recognized.

Every individual who comes through our doors is greeted by a volunteer, and then is personally interviewed by a volunteer. That interviewer works directly with the client, and then confers with

an experienced lead volunteer to determine how we can help solve their crisis.

Three hours can change the world for a family in our community! And many of our volunteers tell us their three hours per week change them too. Each day, 75 dedicated volunteers fill many different essential positions at our Winston-Salem and Kernersville offices. We need interviewers, pharmacy assistants, and food pantry workers, to name just a few. If you are interested in helping make a difference in the lives of your neighbors (and meeting some great people too!), please consider volunteering at Crisis Control.

For more information, please check our website at crisiscontrol.org.



crisiscontrol.org/volunteer or contact Vicki Jones at 336.201.5290 or vjones@crisiscontrol.org. Because we have such a wide variety of weekly and special opportunities, we're certain you will find the perfect one for you.



Thanks to our wonderful sponsors and enthusiastic attendees, the 14th annual Shmedfest raised a record breaking \$71,767.15 to fund the work of Crisis Control Ministry. We are so grateful for your support!

See you again on August 24, 2019 for Shmedfest 15.

Inspiration Station

We honor loyal volunteers and good friends of Crisis Control Ministry who have impacted our ministry in special ways:

Crisis Control's Board of Directors elected new officers for 2018-19 at its September meeting. Pictured at right are Chip Cole, Chair; Karen Wilson, Treasurer; Chris Safley, Secretary; Sylvia Jones, Vice Chair. Two new Board members were also elected: Camilla Washington and Eric Kevorkian. We thank them all for their service to the ministry.



Sam and his mom, Denise, recently toured Crisis Control. Sam decided to host a lemonade, chocolate chip cookie, and watermelon stand and donated all of the proceeds to Crisis Control. Thank you, Sam, for being a great neighbor!

The Kenersville Chamber of Commerce's Young Professionals Network hosted a Cornhole Tournament to benefit Crisis Control on September 22 at Gypsy Road Brewing Company. Thanks to everyone who participated in this fun event.



Be A Savvy Donor

As the end of 2018 approaches, are you looking for tax-advantaged giving opportunities? Consider gifting appreciated stocks directly to CCM to avoid capital gains and receive a charitable deduction. Or — if you're over 70-1/2 — you can donate funds directly from your IRA which reduces your taxable RMD (required minimum distribution). For more information, consult your tax advisor.

GIFT OF THE MONTH:

October: Boxed dinners (ex: Hamburger Helper)

November: Cooking oil

December: Sugar/flour/baking items

Some essential items can't be purchased with food stamps. Please consider donating one or more of the following: dish detergent, shampoo, disposable diapers, feminine hygiene supplies, bath soap, laundry detergent, and deodorant.

DROP-OFF HOURS:

Winston-Salem Location

Monday-Friday:

9:00 a.m. - noon and

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday afternoon:

1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Kenersville Location

Monday-Friday:

9:00 a.m. - noon

Tuesday & Thursday:

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



VEHICLE DONATIONS:

It's easy to help CCM by donating your unwanted car and get a tax deduction too.

Simply call 855.500.7433 and arrangements will be made to pick up your unwanted vehicle.

If you prefer to receive our newsletters via email, please email give@crisiscontrol.org.

Carolina Painters' Guild

presents

Art in the Barn

the Third Annual Fine Art Show & Raffle
5548 Brookberry Farm Road in Winston-Salem

Opening Reception, Friday, November 2, 5-8 p.m.

Art Sale, Saturday, November 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
and Sunday, November 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



More than 25 participating **ARTISTS**.

A percentage of proceeds will benefit **Crisis Control Ministry**.



Crisis Control
MINISTRY

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Did you know that Crisis Control helped nearly 5,000 people stay in warm, affordable housing last year?

A father of four who recently lost his job...a struggling single mother with an unexpected car repair...a household dealing with unaffordable medical expenses—just a few of the families who struggle to meet their monthly bills. For many Forsyth County residents in temporary crisis, the coming cold temperatures mean facing another cold reality: not being able to pay their monthly energy bill.

As the largest provider of emergency assistance in Forsyth County, Crisis Control helped nearly 5,000 families with utility and housing bills last year. Our annual Share the Warmth campaign beginning later this month makes that assistance possible. Thank you for helping us share the warmth with our neighbors this winter!

CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY
sharethe warmth 
FORSYTH COUNTY