



the ministry messenger

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Crisis Control Ministry

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

One Patient's Story: CCM's Pharmacy Means Everything to Them

by Roland Wilkerson

Five years ago, James Thompson was a hard-working, independent man who made a living as a forklift operator pushing pallets of crushed cardboard, aluminum cans and other recyclables around a cavernous waste management warehouse in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

That was before a series of health problems swamped his life. His family said he had struggled with cluster headaches and other issues during his 17 years on the job but still managed to carry on. Then the headaches got to be too much, he started having debilitating seizures and his situation spiraled downward.

Today, he's living with his retired mother as they wait for his application for disability to be approved and wondering what will happen next.

Despite the uncertainty that hovers over much of his life, there is one pillar of stability that makes things easier: His 10 different prescriptions are covered by Crisis Control Ministry in Winston-Salem.

Their licensed pharmacy... offers free prescriptions to low-income people, many of them working, and others who don't have health insurance. Many clients could never cover the cost of the medications, which can easily run into hundreds of dollars a month.

In 2017, the pharmacy filled more than 28,000 prescriptions valued at \$1.8 million. In addition, Crisis Control helps the needy with food assistance, rent and utility payments.



Annette Joyner

What would happen?

Financial support to Crisis Control Ministry can make a world of difference in the lives of everyday families, said Margaret Elliott, executive director of CCM.

Without that help, so many would be in deep need. "They probably wouldn't be able to afford the medication, or would have to give up food, utility payments or move in with somebody else," she said.

"Some clients lose their job after they become sick and can't work," Elliott said. "And when they lose their job, they lose their health insurance. As the crises mount, their lives can totally unravel."

This is such a blessing

Annette Joyner, James Thompson's mother, is a retired housekeeper who worked at the North Carolina School of the Arts. Financially supporting her son at midlife was never part of the plan. While life hasn't been easy for the family, she said the pharmacy's support has made things better. She also said the medication covered by CCM has led to improvements in her son's condition.

"Lord have mercy, this is such a blessing — having somewhere to come when you need help" said Joyner. Tears welled in her eyes. "If they would not have helped him, he would not be as far as he is now. One prescription alone costs \$300 a month," she said, far beyond their means on her retirement income.

"I'd like to say to all the people, here, thank you from the bottom of my heart."

Excerpted from a story that originally appeared in Healthy Headlines and is reprinted with permission from Novant Health.

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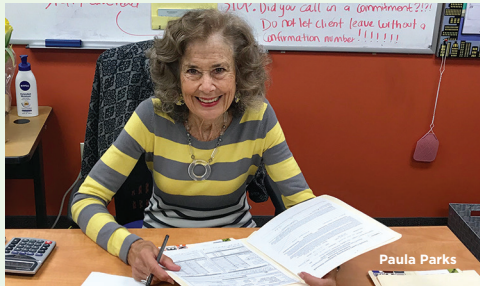


Inspiration Station:

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

Bob Parrish — Since 2004, Bob Parrish has been the first contact person for individuals coming to Crisis Control seeking help. He volunteered more than 10,000 hours over the years, always with a cheerful smile. His sense of humor and willingness to help in any way needed made Bob a truly valued member of the CCM team. He retired from CCM in June, but has filled in occasionally as needed. Thank you, Bob, for your 14 years of faithful service.

encouraged me to come down and get involved. I never left.” She added, “I enjoy working with all of the other volunteers and continuing to be involved with the community.” Thank you, Paula, for dedicating yourself to improving the lives of others for 45 years.



Paula Parks — Paula is CCM's longest serving volunteer. She has been with us since a few months after our founding in 1973. Paula said, “Stimp Hawkins, one of the pastors at First Presbyterian when Crisis Control was founded,

The Good Guys at WTOB — Bob Scarborough, Ed Skurka, and Mark Richards are great friends to Crisis Control and have been instrumental in spreading the word about our mission and our needs. The crew traveled with Tricia Murphy, CCM Special Events and Marketing Coordinator, on May 1, broadcasting live from 25 participating restaurants to highlight Hope du Jour. Find the Good Guys at 980 AM or 96.3 FM.



Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive 2018

by Kathy Hoffner, Director of Kernersville Office

On May 31, the letter carriers in Kernersville along with Postmaster Editha (Dee) B. Strockland were awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by Crisis Control Ministry. Each May, letter carriers across America do their part to fight hunger in their own communities during the Stamp Out Hunger food drive. Residents are invited to leave nonperishable foods at their mailbox for their letter carrier to collect or to drop off food at the post office.

On May 12, volunteers from area high schools along with the youth group from Fellowship Bible Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, worked all afternoon at the Kernersville Post Office unloading and sorting the food collected that morning. It was a hot day on the loading dock, but that didn't stop the eager group of youth or the letter carriers from their work.

Over 8,000 pounds of food was collected this year, surpassing last year's collection by 200 pounds.

Rebecca Avila, daughter of Kernersville letter carrier Celia Andon, helped get the word out about the food drive by providing banners and yard signs to advertise the food drive. Avila, a student at the Leadership Academy in Kernersville, sold hand-made headbands, earning over \$500 to pay for the signs.

We are blessed to have a community that works together to meet the needs of hungry families in our area. This food will help Crisis Control serve more families this summer when the need for assistance traditionally increases as more meals are served at home to children who normally eat breakfast and lunch at school. Some families also experience



increases in expenses due to higher energy bills or the cost of daycare. Without food donations, our pantry would not have the resources needed to help in these situations.

The food pantry in the Kernersville office provides 4,000 to 5,000 pounds of food monthly to families in crisis. We are currently accepting applications for summer and year-round pantry volunteers. To apply, visit www.crisiscontrol.org or call the office at 336.996.5401.

Alternative Ways to Make a Difference

by Robin Paxton, Director of Philanthropy

"As one person, I cannot change the world, but I can change the world of one person."

— Paul Shane Spear

Supporters of Crisis Control know that they are helping to change the world one person, one family, one neighbor at a time.

But you don't have to get out your checkbook or credit card to be generous. It's possible for you to be savvy in your financial giving by making a gift from your IRA or gifting shares of stock.

Congress has made the IRA charitable rollover permanent for individuals age 70-1/2 and older. The rollover provision allows gifts up to \$100,000 directly from an IRA to a qualified charity like Crisis Control without realizing the distribution as taxable income. Even better, for those eligible, the gift qualifies toward required minimum distribution (RMD) and

other potential tax benefits. For more detailed information, please consult your tax advisor.

For those who aren't old enough to reap the benefits of the IRA charitable rollover, gifting securities to CCM is an alternative that could potentially reduce current income tax liability. In fact, giving appreciated stock held for more than a year may be better than writing a check.

If you donate stock, you can take a charitable deduction for the stock's fair market value on the day you give it away. The transaction is simple and you also avoid capital-gains taxes on the increase in value over time, which you would have had to pay if you sold the stock then gave a charity the cash proceeds.

If you would like more information on alternative giving, contact me at 336.727.9976 or rpaxton@crisiscontrol.org.

URGENT! Volunteer Interviewers Needed



Crisis Control Ministry is the largest provider of emergency assistance in Forsyth County, providing assistance with food, prescription medications, utilities, and rent/mortgage payments. **We cannot meet the needs of our neighbors in crisis without volunteers.**

We have a critical shortage of volunteer interviewers who speak with individuals seeking assistance. Training is provided. All shifts are available. **For more information contact Vicki Jones at volunteer@crisiscontrol.org or call 336.201.5290.**

GIFT OF THE MONTH:

July: Peanut Butter

August: Jelly

September: Grits & Oatmeal



Thank you Hope du Jour sponsors, restaurants and diners. **YOU ARE AWESOME!**



THANK YOU SPONSORS!

EXECUTIVE CHEF



SOUS CHEF



PASTRY CHEFS



SAUTÉ CHEFS



CRISIS CONTROL'S FOOD DAY AT THE FAIR



DIXIE CLASSIC FAIR

SAVE THE DATE:
Wednesday, October 3

Bring five non-perishable food items for one FREE admission to the fair.

For even more fun...Volunteer!
Email Vicki at vjones@crisiscontrol.org
or call 336.201.5290 to find out how to become part of this fun day.



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Saturday, August 25, 4 to 10 p.m.



Join us at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds for the 14th Annual Shmedfest to benefit Crisis Control Ministry. Enjoy local bands, local food, and local fun while supporting a good cause!

Text FEST to 41444 by August 22 to reserve your free ticket or make a donation!

Tickets are limited. Reservations required.