



Cross Roads House, Inc.
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Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 161
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Construction Update: Late Fall Move-in Date Expected



If you've driven down Lafayette Road recently you've probably noticed that our new facility is looming high above our existing buildings from the back corner of our property. Despite the tremendous amount of rain that fell during the month of June, construction continued; roof panels were recently set in place and the windows and doors are now being installed. Throughout the rest of the summer and fall, the interior work will get underway as the plumbers, electricians, finish carpenters and other tradesmen all work around each other to complete the shelter. We anticipate that we'll be able to move into the shelter late this fall at which time the existing shelter facility will be demolished to make room for parking.

We'll then move on to the final stage of our campaign that includes the renovation of our existing family shelter facility. Visit www.crossroadshouse.org to view the latest images in our "Construction Photo Gallery."

Campaign Fundraising Update

\$850,000 still needed to:

- Finish paying for the new shelter
- Renovate our family shelter building
- Start an endowment to help cover future operating expenses

Please help us finish our capital campaign!



CROSS ROADS HOUSE

New Directions for the Homeless

A publication of
Cross Roads House, Inc.,
an emergency and
transitional shelter.
Portsmouth, NH

Summer 2009

Father And Son Grow Together

On January 7, 2009 life changed forever for Dave. On this day his son Ian was born 14 weeks early weighing only 1 lb, 7 oz. When he saw him for the first time, it was a defining moment. "I decided then that it was time to stop the vicious cycle of self destruction and straighten myself out. Ian was fighting for his life and there was no way I could betray him," explains Dave.

Dave had been in and out of Cross Roads House for many years. This past winter he had already started taking steps to improve his situation, but now he was more determined than ever. The day after his son was born he had \$27 to his name. He decided to spend \$20 of it to apply to a three year iron worker apprenticeship program to become a journeyman.

The remaining \$7 went to put gas in his car so he could deliver the application. Out of the 2,000 people that applied, only 90 were accepted. Dave was one of them.



Dave shares a quiet moment with his son Ian

Dave's case manager at Cross Roads House

supported him in many ways. "Bethany made me feel good about myself and the direction I was going in; she gave me hope and knowing she cared motivated me," notes Dave. "She helped me in so many ways. She got a copy of my GED that was 25 years old and had to be retrieved from

archives, she obtained a copy of my military discharge documents (Dave is a Marine Corps vet) and my birth certificate."

"I felt like I was walking up a steep hill and Bethany (Dave's case manager) was like a strong wind at my back."

In March Dave found an apartment and moved out of the shelter. He has taken on additional odd jobs just to earn enough money to buy all the furniture, baby equip-

ment, and supplies that his son needs. Reflecting back on his time at the shelter he notes, "It's not an environment that anyone wants to be in, but it's a place where there's connections to all the services you may need. You can't take advantage of services until your body

is cared for...you get a bed, a shower; it's a jumping off point." He continues, "The staff is willing to help you if you want to help yourself. I felt like I was walking up a steep hill and Bethany was like a strong wind at my back."

"Cross Roads House is a place for new beginnings. They helped me so much. I feel like I'm two miles into a marathon, but I know I'm going in the right direction. My goals are to be a good father, a tax payer, and a journeyman. I already have an apartment and I'm working...it all started right here." Today baby Ian is 12 lbs, and as his son has grown and progressed, so has Dave.

Kresge Foundation Challenge Grant Secured

Thank you to everyone who helped us secure this \$300,000 challenge grant! We successfully raised the required \$622,000 one full month before our deadline. The grant will be used to help pay for our new facility. Thank you again to all our generous donors who helped us earn this highly competitive grant.

Check out the latest Cross Roads House video!



Visit our website at www.crossroadshouse.org to watch "A New Home" to hear from two former shelter residents who have settled into their own homes.

Mission Statement:

At Cross Roads House:

We protect men, women and children of the Greater Seacoast area experiencing homelessness from exposure and hunger.

We provide secure, transitional shelter for those seeking to break the cycle of homelessness.

We support individuals and families by providing them with the opportunity to move with dignity and purpose to stable and decent housing.

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Seacoast Mental Health Center

From The Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We have just completed our fiscal year, which felt particularly busy as we provided our full range of services despite demolishing two buildings. With slightly fewer beds during construction and fewer arriving from out of state, we served less people than we did at this time last year.

Some highlights from our upcoming annual report:

- We provided over 26,000 nights of shelter to 534 people.
- 90% of our shelter nights were provided to people from New Hampshire.
- We served 33 families with 62 children.
- More than 1 of 3 adults reported an emotional disorder or mental illness.

Our transitional program continues to help residents make positive changes, as more than ¾ of participating families moved to permanent housing.

We are looking forward to even better results in our new facility, which will make more supportive services possible. There are countless other payoffs expected from your investment in this effort – as we look forward to showing you later this fall!



Chris Sterndale
Executive Director

Volunteer Spotlight

This August will mark the 3rd anniversary of when the group from the Anglican Church started cooking and serving dinner at Cross Roads House. After three years what started as a mission projected has blossomed into a monthly activity that they still enjoy.

The group consists of about 15 men and women who alternate cooking and serving duties each month. The "ring leader" is Betsy Budelman who explains, "We're dedicated to helping others who

need our assistance. We really truly want to be here." She continues, "It's not just about

feeding people, it's helping the whole person. I'm so impressed with how Cross Roads House helps people." Betsy's husband Frank adds, "We really see the affects of our service to our fellow human beings...to see them eating the meals we prepare and serve is very satisfying."

Group member David Ward sums it up this way, "We come in for two hours, it's fast paced, and it's surprisingly fun!"



L to R: Frank Budelman, David Ward, Steve Matatics, & Betsy Budelman are ready for their monthly turn to serve the dinner they've prepared.

Thank you for your support!

On May 9, 2009 Cross Roads House raised over \$200,000 at its annual fundraiser. These funds will be used to operate the homeless shelter. The success of this event has now secured our \$300,000 Kresge Foundation Challenge Grant that will help pay for our new facility. We are very grateful to all the sponsors below, and the guests who attended the event and made pledges of support.

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Cross Roads House would like to extend a very special thank you to the following organizations for their contribution to this event.



- Marshall Rental Center
- Heather Han Photography
- Cuzin Richard Entertainment
- Ben Baldwin & the Big Note



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The Flower Kiosk



Please visit our website at www.crossroadshouse.org to view more event photos or learn more about our event.