

February 2015



Annual Luncheon



On January 30th, Crosspoint hosted its largest-ever annual luncheon at the Pearl Stable with approximately 270 old and new friends in attendance. This year's theme was *Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Present and Building toward the Future*. In keeping with the theme, Senator John Cornyn (who served as our 16th board president) provided a video welcome to all of the other past board presidents in the audience. A powerful keynote address was given by Our Lady of the Lake University President Sr. Jane Ann Slater, CPN, PhD. The Richard E. Goldsmith Award for Volunteer Leadership was given to the entire Cheever Family for a wide range of contributions and activities related to the well-being of the organization and of our clients. The annual highlight of the event was the stories of seven outstanding Graduates of the Year. One of these graduates, Tabatha Ruby, addressed the audience giving them a poignant look at how hope and opportunity can be powerful forces in turning seemingly overwhelming challenges into personal victories. Ms. Ruby was also named to Crosspoint's 2015 Advisory Board. The gavel was handed off to new Board Chair James McNamara and the audience was introduced to new board members Jonathan Pina, Kristina Vidaurri and Dr. Donna Tiller. Once again, KSAT's Steve Spriester did a masterful job of handing the important job of luncheon emcee.

News from The Summit

Employee of the Year



Five worthy candidates were in the running for the annual Employee of the Year Award. The winner for 2014 was Teresa Buchanan, mental health counselor in the Austin-Cullum Outpatient Center. Despite her short time as an employee, Teresa has demonstrated her unwavering pursuit of excellence. She has immersed herself in the Crosspoint culture and she has proven her capacity to address the needs of clients and support her peers. Teresa has often been the first to volunteer for agency events and community projects (frequently accompanied by her husband). The other distinguished nominees were Charles Daniels, Myriam Hernandez, Damaris Sandoval and Faith Scott.

2014 Christmas Concert

A seventy-member orchestra and choir from Shearer Hills Baptist Church performed at our first-ever Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 17th in the newly dedicated Cheever Family Chapel at The Summit. The men of the Veterans, Summit and Hall facilities and their families as well as stakeholders and community members enjoyed beautiful choral music from the church's performers of all ages. Over 75 people attended the event and then joined us for fellowship and refreshments. One client commented afterward that the event was especially inspirational for those recent arrivals that "came in a little short on hope."



Graduates of the Year

At this year's annual luncheon Crosspoint continued its tradition of recognizing outstanding graduates that have continued in their pursuit of full restoration of citizenship. The graduates selected this year were:

- * Tabitha Ruby, Alvarez House
- * Fernando Hernandez, Hall House
- * Clarence Price, The Summit
- * Jay McCoy, Veterans Program
- * Erica McNabney, Austin-Cullum Outpatient Center
- * Ivory Floyd Sheffield, Community Treatment Services
- * Carolyn Bates, Recovery Support Home at Pryor



These individuals have succeeded in overcoming obstacles stemming from homelessness, incarceration, recovery and domestic violence. They have not only overcome barriers; they have taken life lessons and turned them into experiences that have made them stronger and more resilient. They epitomize the word perseverance and continue to excel in their roles as fathers, mothers, role models, community leaders and stellar employees. Congratulations to all graduates.

When we feel accepted, we are reintegrated. When we feel forgiveness, we are redeemed. When we feel whole, we are restored.