

October 2011

News from The Summit



Client Spotlight

"I'm sober, off paper, and trying to help others so they don't have to go through what I went through!" Mr. Pedro Tenorio stated, "I try to help those that are homeless or still strung out by feeding them, helping them with clothes, and helping them get clean. You see, I've been there, and somebody helped me." At age 76, Mr. Tenorio spends Thursdays at State Parole recruiting offenders to attend ACTS retreats and shares his story to encourage them. He has had a life of addiction and imprisonment for over 60 years. "When I got to Crosspoint, I was disruptive, disrespectful - you name it. My TDAT counselor, Kristine Valdez took me out of group and dealt with me one-on-one, and I had to come face to face with myself." Mr. Tenorio acknowledges that if not for Crosspoint, he would still be in the revolving door and institutionalized. "Crosspoint was a good place for me, and I am grateful."

Alvarez House Rededication

Originally opened as the Augusta House in 1983, an open house was held on September 16th to rededicate it as the Alvarez House, named after donors Malu and Carlos Alvarez. The facility had just undergone substantial renovation and the event marked its reopening as a transitional facility for female residents.



EUM Ministries

On October 24th, EUM Ministries hosted a dedication ceremony for their new offices at The Summit. Executive Director Brigitte Strong introduced her board and staff to a full house, then provided tours and program information to all. EUM is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that will be providing mentoring, GED preparation, parenting, job assistance and spiritual support services to clients from Crosspoint and elsewhere.

Community Resource Fair Continues to Evolve
Crosspoint's 5th Annual Community Resource Fair conducted on September 17th at The Summit has continued its pattern of steady growth since 2007. The event has grown from serving only Crosspoint clients and family members to helping those of Alpha Home and Bexar County Detention Ministries. In 2011, clients of Crosspoint's Homeless Veterans Program also participated, with nineteen community-based service agencies sending representatives to host information tables, topping all previous marks. The Resource Fair serves several purposes. It provides clients and family members a chance to meet local agency representatives and learn about services. Case managers establish and strengthen ties with representatives who then return to their agencies and the community with a greater understanding of our mission, clients and needs.



Graffiti Abatement

On October 22nd, Crosspoint staff and residents volunteered to participate in another graffiti abatement effort, this time in partnership with Councilman Bernal and his District 1 staff. We covered a series of bridges over the Wonderway Ditch between IH-10 and Vance Jackson. As always, everyone tackled the job with great enthusiasm and diligence. Our District 1 representatives were amazed by the energy and determination every group member put forth, and neighbors came out to thank us for our efforts. This project will continue at new venues in coming months. Our residents find it to be a tangible way of giving back to the community and restoring their citizenship.

Welcome Zhen (Jane) Liu

Jane Liu joined the Crosspoint Team in October as an intern from the Shanghai University Community Corrections Research Center. Her mission is to learn as much as she can about transitional reentry services to improve China's fledging community corrections movement. This internship is being jointly sponsored by Crosspoint, UTSA's Criminal Justice Department and the Sisters of the Holy Spirit, where she is being housed.

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Opportunity

Hope

Restoration