

NOVEMBER 2015

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# News from The Summit

## *Our Mission*

*Crosspoint exists to build safer and stronger communities  
by empowering individuals to lead productive lives.*

## Women in Need Project

Thanks to a grant from the Texas Bar Foundation, Crosspoint is now able to offer legal services free of charge to women in early recovery who face homelessness. Priority will be given to residents of the Recovery Support Home with legal problems related to domestic or family issues, protective orders or personal property. This type of legal help will improve their chances of successful recovery and restoration. Since its inception in 1965, the Texas Bar Foundation has awarded more than \$16 million in grants to law-related programs. Supported by members of the State Bar of Texas, the Texas Bar Foundation is the nation's largest charitably-funded bar foundation.

## Career Advancement Pathways for Returning Citizens



Goodwill Industries of San Antonio and Crosspoint, Inc. partnered in developing and implementing a career pathway program for returning citizens enrolled in Crosspoint's work release program. The program is dedicated to providing education, skills training and employment in the construction trades, demand occupations in and around San Antonio. Crosspoint has upgraded The Summit Library with 15 computers for a career development center.

## SAVE THE DATE

Crosspoint's 53rd Annual Community Restoration Luncheon  
Friday, January 29, 2016  
Keynote Speaker  
The Honorable Susan L. Pamerleau

Local  
Postal Customer



## 9th Annual Community Resource Fair

St. Philip's College once again hosted Crosspoint's Community Resource Fair on their campus in the Heritage Room. The college staff did an amazing job of ensuring that the event ran smoothly and was a positive experience for the 200+ attendees. The fair featured volunteers from 25 community service agencies who helped clients and their family members make contacts that could help them if problems arose in the future. The community service agencies presented information in vital issue areas such as substance abuse, legal aid, healthcare, food resources, domestic violence and spiritual support. Participants came from Crosspoint, Lifetime Recovery, San Antonio Fighting Back, Alpha Home and Chrysalis Ministries. The clients and their family members truly appreciated the compassion of the community members volunteering to help them in their journey toward restoration.

## Urban Plunge

For the second year, Crosspoint participated in St. Mary's University Ministry Urban Plunge retreat in which students were afforded the opportunity to speak with four current Crosspoint residents. The annual retreat is designed to expose the students to some of the social issues facing formerly incarcerated citizens returning to our city. The focus is on "getting to know the other," i.e., spending time with, learning about and creating relationships with people who are often marginalized by society. Students learn how our city's changing societal needs and service gaps have shaped the history of the Crosspoint organization. They have the chance to spend time with some returning citizens and experience through dialogue how they end up in the situations they do. This interaction provides an opportunity to see more clearly the dignity of all persons and embrace the need for restoration of citizenship.



## Client Spotlight

Sylvia Guerrero completed the reentry program at Alvarez House in September 2014. While in the facility, she struggled with change and interacting with new people. Ms. Guerrero did not have a release site and her children were being cared for by other individuals. While at Crosspoint, Ms. Guerrero participated in the Goodwill Fresh Start Program and accepted a full time position with them, enabling her to obtain her own studio apartment. Since her release, Ms. Guerrero has upgraded to a 2 bedroom apartment where one of her daughters now lives with her. She has been promoted to team leader and has her eye on a supervisor position at Goodwill. Her personal growth is reflected in that she now is very well known to her customers as cheery, bubbly, loving and very friendly. The life change she is currently most excited about is that she will soon be a grandmother with two grandbabies on the way. Looking to the future, she plans to return to school to become a social worker and give back to society who once helped her overcome her adversities.

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