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Former Atlanta Falcon,

Radio Host

Turning Point

March 2009



A Message From Stan Dawson

Recently a group of talented and committed people met to explore what Crossroads has accomplished over many years, what the current 'temperature' of the organization is and — perhaps most importantly — what the future will require.

During hours of conversation some important realizations surfaced. Each Guest that comes to Crossroads for help has reached a *turning point* — their own personal crossroads, if you will.

The help offered to Guests at Crossroads includes options for personal choices that will result in a more positive lifestyle. In fact, these are choices our Guests make that can lead them out of homelessness.

Additionally — we also concluded that this cover

story for Crossroads' first-ever newsletter needed to be shared with those who allow all this to unfold at Crossroads — each of you.

Our Turning Point newsletter will now come your way on a regular basis. In each edition will be stories about people overcoming homelessness, and statistics that reflect the magnitude of the metro Atlanta homeless problem. We will also share with you all the parts and resources, including staff and volunteers, required to make "turning" a viable option for the homeless Guests we serve.

Our hope is that the newsletter will help you see the life changing assistance your gifts are making possible in the lives of the people Crossroads serves each year.



Your generous, ongoing support is what makes our work — and the results we achieve — possible.

Stan

If you would like to communicate with Stan, his email is:

Stan@crossroadsatlanta.org

Mark Jones — Chair, Board of Directors



I think people who can count their own blessings have a need to give back. I can tell you that is true for me. I couldn't describe my life in any other way than *it has been a continual blessing*. When I am at Crossroads and I come face to face with the suffering that our guests are going through, I am naturally grateful for the very different life I live. But this gratitude

also creates a strong and persistent need in me to give back. To use the blessings in my life to help others in need. God brought me to Crossroads not to meet Crossroad's needs but to meet my own. Yes all of us on the Crossroads team are working hard and doing good things for people in desperate need. But it is **WE** who are benefiting most.

Atlanta Falcons Greats Jeff Van Note and Buddy Curry Join Crossroads Board

Crossroads is proud to welcome Jeff Van Note and Buddy Curry to the Crossroads Board of Directors. “ Jeff and Buddy have been quietly doing volunteer work in the kitchen at Crossroads for many years. They are well loved in Atlanta and we felt they could help us guide Crossroads forward.” said Stan Dawson, Crossroads Executive Director.

Buddy Curry, #50 played linebacker for the Falcons from 1980-1987, was NFL defensive rookie of the year in 1980 and two time All-Pro in 1980 and 1982. He is co-founder of Kids and Pros which provides weekly football camps and teaches character and skills through athletics.

Jeff Van Note, #57 played for the Falcons from 1969-1986 and was voted by his peers to six Pro Bowls (1974-75, 1979-82), more than any other Falcon in history except Claude Humphrey who also was selected six times. Jeff holds team records for most seasons played (18), most consecutive games played (155), and is second all-time for most games played (246) and most games started (225) in Falcons’ history. After retiring from the NFL, Jeff served as color commentator on the Atlanta Falcons and University of Kentucky football broadcasts through the 1990s. Throughout this period, he would also frequently be heard on Atlanta airwaves as a sports-talk radio host.

Mark Jones, Crossroads Board Chair said, “As a Falcons fan, I always admired Jeff and Buddy as athletes. But that was nothing compared to the respect I have developed for these guys since I have come to know their personal character. We are lucky to have them associated with Crossroads”



Sylvia Campbell
Volunteer Coordinator
receiving the Atlanta Falcons’
Community Quarterback Award

Volunteers are the backbone of Crossroads.

Without volunteers the vast majority of essential services we provide each year for metro Atlanta homeless simply would not be possible.

After a rewarding career with the Coca-Cola Company, since 2001 Sylvia Campbell has served as our volunteer Volunteer Coordinator.

Thanks to Sylvia’s commitment and dedication — each year she and many volunteers

donate thousands of dollars’ worth of people hours to:

- Run the all-volunteer mail room — which provides our homeless Guests with both mail service and a street address, both essential for securing employment
- Volunteers make sure the kitchen is properly staffed 52 weeks each year so 73,000 meals can be properly prepared and served.

Cheers to Volunteers

If you, your church or company would like to explore getting involved with Crossroads please email us at:

Volunteers
@crossroadsatlanta.org

Depressed Economy Leads to Creativity

- Recently a band performed a concert at Blind Willie’s in Virginia Highlands. The price of admission was large #10 cans of vegetables. The result — a car full of #10 cans of vegetables were dropped off at the Crossroads Kitchen.
- A group of kindergartners donated their backpacks for Crossroads’ Guests. The result — over 80 backpacks were delivered to Crossroads, which provided immediate storage for our Guests who have none.
- Employees at the King and Spalding and Kilpatrick/Stockton law firms prepared and delivered over 1,000 sandwiches for our Crossroads Guests.

Clyde's Kitchen at Crossroads ...*food for the soul*

For 22 years Clyde Corbin has ensured hungry metro Atlanta homeless Guests are served a nourishing, hot meal.

Clyde, his dedicated staff and tireless volunteers start each day before dawn to serve over 73,000 meals each year.

The Crossroads Kitchen can always use your involvement — painting, equipment repairs or replacements, or staple supplies. Clyde wants

to keep the Kitchen as nice as a Piccadilly restaurant.

Food donations are steadily dropping. If you know of restaurants, restaurant vendors, or others that may be able to donate commercial kitchen-related goods and services — and staple supplies, for details please call Clyde 404-873-7655 or email:

CommunityRelations
@crossroadsatlanta.org



Greg McRae
former Crossroads Guest

Guest Highlight — Meet Greg ...*a way out of homelessness*

Now years ago, a family dispute over living arrangements left Greg homeless. Looking for a way out, Greg turned to Crossroads for help.

Greg thinks some people believe the homeless don't want to work. But many of them are just like him, he says. They want a job. They want stability. "They just need help," he explains.

With help from Crossroads, Greg opened a bank account and was recom-

mended for a program that helped him put down a deposit on a rental property.

Greg went from living in a homeless shelter — to recently offering to buy the property he is now renting.

"Crossroads helped me get on my feet," Greg says. "They're behind you."

Every day people turn to Crossroads for help — and Greg knows these days that includes more and more women and children.

"They've got no place to go," Greg says, adding it would make a huge difference if transitional housing were available — a direction in which Crossroads is now moving.

Contact us to learn more:

CommunityRelations
@crossroadsatlanta.org

How You Can Help ...*the Feinstein Challenge*

Alan Feinstein, with the Feinstein Foundation, has again launched his challenge to raise funds to end hunger.

Donations from our loyal supporters and new friends are what enable us to help meet the needs of metro Atlanta homeless.

Gifts received March 1 through April 30 can apply toward the Feinstein Chal-

lenge — his \$1 million will be divided proportionately amongst participating organizations.

Donations can be mailed to:

Crossroads
420 Courtland Street NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

You can also make your donation online through Just

Give. The Just Give Donate Now logo is located on every page of our website.

If you would like any assistance, please email:

CommunityRelations
@crossroadsatlanta.org

You can help us with the Feinstein Challenge by making your online donation today at our website

www.crossroadsatlanta.org



OUR MISSION

Moving people who are homeless from dependency to economic self-sufficiency and personal fulfillment through the power of relationships.

**Help us meet the
needs of metro
Atlanta homeless.**

**Make your online
donation today at**

crossroadsatlanta.org

Click here to
DONATE NOW
using Just Give

Key Crossroads Statistics

Over the past year — thanks to your generous support Crossroads:

- Served over 73,000 meals
- Assisted 2,415 people obtain their legal identification, access their birth certificates and Georgia ID — essential for securing employment and housing
- Provided a mailing address for over 3,000 metro Atlanta homeless Guests to ensure they can receive Social Security benefits, food stamps, employment and healthcare communications, as well as letters from family and friends
- Placed 412 Guests into detox/addiction treatment programs
- Partnered with St. Joseph's Mercy Care to offer healthcare services to any Guest without insurance
- Placed 14 Guests who struggle with mental illness in permanent housing — and helped 77 disabled Guests apply for Social Security Disability benefits



420 Courtland Street NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED