

# INTERSECTIONS

THE CROSSROADS JOBS NEWSLETTER

*We get to know the person, not just the resume!*

## RECENT GRADUATE PROFILE

**Nancy** came to us underemployed and embroiled in a volatile marriage. She wanted to secure a stable, better-paying job, enabling her to get a small apartment for herself and two teen children. She has worked for years as a retail manager with unpredictable hours. She needed a job as soon as possible, so her job counselor suggested working as a substitute teacher, enabling her to supplement her current job with extra income on her days off.

We helped her with the LCPS online job application, and she stayed connected with her job counselor throughout the application process. After her first day on the job, she called to say that she loves it, and the children are wonderful!

During the job search, she shared that her husband had taken out several credit cards in her name without her authorization. She had started receiving large bills, many past due, and needed help figuring out what to do.

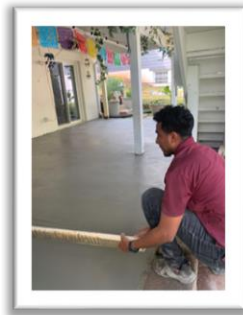
We immediately contacted our fantastic finance volunteer, who met with Nancy and developed a plan to address this with the credit card companies. He met with her three times, helping her through a demanding situation with his calm demeanor and expertise. She is grateful and moving forward!

**José** recently obtained his work permit. He is a certified electrician in his home country but was unsure how to navigate the job search in the U.S. He was referred to us by a fellow nonprofit, Tree of Life Ministries, while taking English classes there.

He met with one of our bilingual job counselors, seeking a job opportunity to gain experience and new skills and better prepare himself to start his own business one day. He had been searching for several months and needed help finding an opportunity due to the language barrier and limited computer skills.

CJ helped by putting him in contact with a local contractor willing to give him a chance. He was interviewed and started working the same week.

We received valuable feedback from the employer, stating that he is a diligent worker, eager to learn new skills.



His English improves daily. He let us know that one day when he starts his own business, he will give someone else a hand up!

## THANK YOU!

We are so grateful to everyone who gave during the **GiveChoose** campaign in March. A special thanks to our board, a former board member, and a friend who offered a combined match of \$7,500. This meant doubling all the generous donations!

We are also incredibly grateful to **100WomenStrong** for their generous grant of \$10K to Crossroads Jobs, and we thoroughly enjoyed the lovely awards ceremony!



In addition, we are thrilled to receive a nonprofit grant from **Loudoun County**, an important partner for local human service providers, including CJ. We receive and make referrals to many Loudoun County departments, offices, and other nonprofits, creating a stronger safety net for those in need.

And thanks to the **Walmart Supercenter – Dulles** for their generous grant to our program!

## Mary Tett Bridge Fund

Many of our applicants experience barriers to employment, so our amazing board chair, John Tett, created a fund in loving memory of his late wife, **Mary**, to provide a bridge for CJ applicants during the job search and in the initial stages of their new job. Several friends and family of John & Mary have donated generously to this fund. This year, the **MTBF** has provided SmarTrip cards to several applicants and has assisted one applicant in replacing his lost driver's license. Another was provided with business cards for his taxi business. We also purchased interviewing attire for an applicant who was not able to find the right size at a local thrift store. This fund is crucial for job search and job retention. We are grateful!

### 2023 MISSION UPDATE

We have 26 placements, with several pending interviews, and have interviewed 76 new applicants. We are keeping swamped! In their previous jobs, 95% of our applicants earned less than 50% of the area median income, so a new and better-paying job is critical to survive and thrive in a lovely but expensive place to live. Our program is designed to provide an applicant with excellent job search tools and ongoing support to ensure success. We love what we do! Please reach out to us and visit!

### Kudos to our local employers & placed applicants

- Burger King
- LCPS
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Fairfax County Government
- REI Systems
- ME Flow
- H&M
- GNC
- Tiofilo Arenivar Contractor
- My Guys Moving



Yanci Portillo at a Sterling Library Event



Carol Smith with Kiki, who stopped by the office to say hi. She was placed at FedEx in 2019 and is still going strong!

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Please consider donating to Crossroads Jobs:  
<https://crossroadsjobs.org/donate/>

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*Crossroads Jobs is a Loudoun County nonprofit organization, under Section 501c3 of the IRS code, offering individualized job search, placement and post-placement services and support to unemployed and underemployed area residents*



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