

INTERSECTIONS

THE CROSSROADS JOBS NEWSLETTER

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

RECENT GRADUATE PROFILE

Henry was referred to Crossroads after spending time in the Loudoun Adult Detention Center for a probation infraction. To rebuild his employment history, he knew that finding a job quickly would be paramount. A job interview was arranged, but Henry did not have the funds or transportation to get there. Crossroads was able to cover the cost through the **Mary Tett Bridge Fund**. The interview went well, and Henry was hired!

Maria was referred to Crossroads by the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center after losing her job. At our Orientation she was noticeably sad and expressed her concerns about falling behind on her bills. But within a week after completing our program, an interview was arranged, and Maria was hired by a local moving company. Maria was overjoyed to have a job again, but she did not have the means to purchase the specific pants and shoes required by the new position. Again, the **Mary Tett Bridge Fund** came to the rescue, and Maria started work the following Monday.

2023 MISSION UPDATE

To date, we have had **43** placements, more than **100** employer contacts, and identified **130** new job openings. We are interviewing record numbers of new applicants and always adhere to our motto, which is that “we get to know the person, not just the resume!” Over the years Crossroads has interviewed hundreds of job seekers, each with their own story.

In Loudoun County it can be easy to overlook the struggles faced by some of our neighbors. Crossroads Jobs provides free, individualized job search and placement services for anyone actively searching for work. Our program lends itself to people who are experiencing barriers to employment.

Barriers include any conditions that could make finding (or maintaining) employment difficult. Examples of barriers include lack of adequate housing, clothing, or food; limited English-speaking ability, a criminal record; no formal education or work experience; unreliable transportation, or insufficient childcare arrangements. Even a gap in work history or simply a lack of confidence can present a barrier to employment!

A job provides sustenance, dignity, and hope, reducing or eliminating the need to rely on local safety net programs.

THANK YOU!

To **Crossroads United Methodist Church** for their generous support of our program and sincere apologies for the omission in our last newsletter! It is no coincidence that we share a name with CUMC. Twelve years ago, Crossroads Jobs was a dream that grew wings during a brainstorming meeting between now-retired CUMC pastor Dave Norman, his wife, Cathy, the church finance director, Tom Nealley, and Carol Smith. CUMC has been a steadfast supporter of our program ever since and graciously allowed us to use the powerfully appropriate name of Crossroads. We are so grateful.

A SPECIAL VISIT

We were thrilled to have a visit from two sister organizations, Jubilee Jobs D.C. and Jubilee Jobs, Lexington Kentucky. Crossroads Jobs and JJ Lexington are modeled on the highly successful JJ D.C., founded in 1981

to provide free job preparedness and placement services to inner-city residents of NW & SE Washington, D.C. To date, JJ D.C. has placed more than 27,000 individuals in permanent employment.



MARY TETT BRIDGE FUND (MTBF)

The **MTBF** provides essential resources for applicants who are experiencing barriers to employment, as is made clear in our *Recent Graduate Profile*. ***We are incredibly grateful to the individuals who donate to this important fund.***

Alejandro fled his home country, leaving all possessions behind. After receiving asylum in the U.S., he promptly started free English classes. Unfortunately, the fee for a work permit was prohibitive – it was the ‘catch-22’ situation of no job prospects to cover expenses for the documents required to get a job! He came to CJ, completed the application and, thanks to the **MTBF**, was able to submit his application for legal work status. Alejandro is in close contact with his job counselor and will be interviewing as soon as the work permit is in hand!

KUDOS TO OUR LOCAL EMPLOYERS

- Panera – Sterling
- Erickson Senior Living – Ashby Ponds
- Matchbox Restaurant
- LCPS – Nutrition
- JK Moving Services
- Shirley Contracting Co., LLC
- Loudoun Hunger Relief
- Fairfax Fire Extinguisher



Yanci at work!



CJ Staff: (L to R) Yanci, Betsy, Carol, Catherine & Lisa

Please consider donating to Crossroads Jobs:
A hand up for sustenance, dignity, and hope

<https://crossroadsjobs.org/donate/>



Betsy interviewing a new applicant

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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