

NEWSLINES OF *Hope*

Cross-Lines Community Outreach Newsletter

Nourishing Hope: Fighting Food Insecurity



Photo: Jessica Schmidberger

Cross-Lines' Impact Over the Last Six Months

At Cross-Lines, we believe that access to nutritious food is a *fundamental right, not a privilege*. Over the past six months, our commitment to fighting food insecurity has remained unwavering, and thanks to the support of our community, we've made a profound impact:

- **6,730 visits to The Community Market**, providing families with fresh and nutritious food.
- **\$1,009,500 worth of food** distributed to those in need.
- **25,753 meals served in The Kitchen**, ensuring that no one in our community goes hungry.

These numbers reflect more than just statistics—they represent families who can put dinner on the table, seniors who don't have to choose between food and medication, and individuals who know they have a place to turn when times are tough.

But the fight isn't over. Food insecurity continues to affect thousands in Wyandotte County, and we need your help. Whether through volunteering, donations, or advocacy, every effort makes a difference.

Together, we are nourishing our neighbors and strengthening our community. Thank you for being a part of the Cross-Lines mission!

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Farewell, Teresa

After six incredible years of dedication, compassion, and hard work, we bid a heartfelt farewell to our Kitchen Manager, Teresa Vazquez.

Teresa's kindness and unwavering commitment to serving our community have touched countless lives. She has been the heart of The Kitchen, ensuring that everyone who walked through our doors, whether facing hardship, hunger, or loneliness, was met not only with a nourishing meal but also with a warm smile and a sense of belonging. Her leadership, generosity, and passion have made a lasting impact, and her presence will be deeply missed.



Teresa has been an essential part of Cross-Lines, and while we are sad to see her go, we are also incredibly excited for her next adventure.

Please join us in expressing our deepest gratitude to Teresa for her years of service, dedication, and love for our community. We wish her nothing but the best in this next chapter of her journey!

KCK Cold Weather Shelter Recap

As temperatures dropped this winter, the KCK Cold Weather Shelter became a critical lifeline for those experiencing homelessness. Over 32 nights, the shelter provided warmth, safety, and connection to vital resources for 227 unique guests: 74% male and 26% female, including 11 veterans.

Beyond offering emergency shelter, this project served as a bridge to stability. Thanks to our staff's dedicated efforts, 18 individuals have already secured housing, with at least five more expected to resolve their homelessness in the coming weeks.

Key Impact Stats:

- Total Bed Nights: 1,468
- Nights Guests Diverted to Hotels: 16
- Nights at Capacity: 22
- Nights Open: 32 (25 at 645 Nebraska Ave; 7 at 550 State Ave)

Midseason, Cross-Lines and our partners relocated the shelter to expand capacity and offer 24/7 sheltering options in Wyandotte County. This collaboration ensured no one was left out in the cold, with hotel stays provided during the most extreme weather.

The KCK Cold Weather Shelter is more than just an emergency response. It's a pathway to permanent housing and comprehensive support. **Thank you to our partners, volunteers, and supporters for making this lifesaving work possible!**

Sep '24 - Feb '25 Program Updates

MARKET

The Community Market continues to be a vital resource for those struggling with food insecurity in our community.

The Market provides respectful and dignified service to our shoppers and culturally diverse food options.

Shopper visits: 6,730

KITCHEN

The Community Kitchen continues to provide hot breakfast, lunch, and take-away sack lunches to anyone who needs a meal.

The Kitchen also serves as a community gathering place, providing stability to those seeking it.

Meals provided: 25,573

HOUSING

Cross-Lines' Financial Assistance and Housing Stabilization programs serve families and individuals who are homeless or at risk of losing their housing or access to utilities.

Often, participants have experienced a crisis and have nowhere else to turn.

People Housed: 18
Total Assistance: \$72,354

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are incredibly important to Cross-Lines.

However you connect with Cross-Lines, we appreciate and celebrate all of the amazing people committed to supporting our community. If you have volunteered with Cross-Lines, we appreciate YOU!

Volunteer hours: 8,997

New Equipment, New Possibilities

Thank You, Amazon, for Powering Our Community Market!



Cross-Lines extends a heartfelt thank you to Amazon for their generous \$10,000 donation, which made it possible for us to purchase a new forklift for The Community Market! This essential piece of equipment allows us to move and distribute thousands of pounds of food more efficiently, ensuring that families in Wyandotte County have access to the nutritious food they need.

The Community Market serves as a vital resource for our neighbors facing food insecurity, welcoming thousands of visits each year. With Amazon's support, we can continue to stock shelves, unload deliveries, and provide fresh, healthy food to those who need it most.

We are grateful for partners like Amazon, whose generosity strengthens our mission and helps us serve our community with dignity and care. Thank you for investing in Cross-Lines and in the fight against hunger!

2025 Events- Save the Dates!



Sponsorships and Tickets HERE:



Legacy Breakfast

May 14th, 2025

8:00 am

The Vox Theater

Join us for the **Legacy Breakfast**, a morning of inspiration and impact as we celebrate the work of Cross-Lines and those who make it possible. Your support helps us continue our mission to fight poverty and uplift our community. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of something truly meaningful! Sponsorships and Tickets on sale NOW!

Gala for Hope

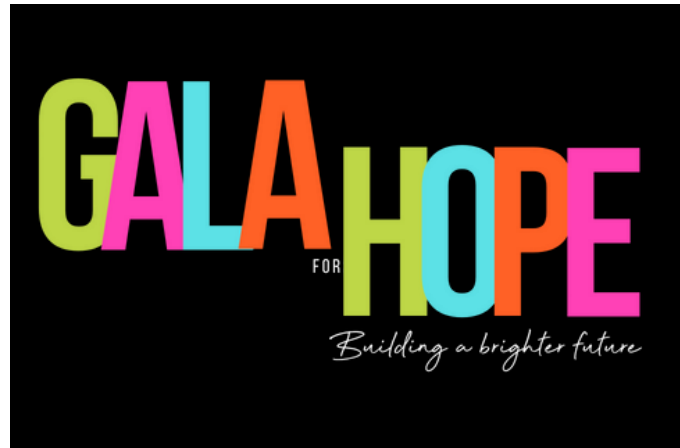
September 26th, 2025

6:00 pm

The View at Briarcliff

The Gala for Hope returns on September 26th!

Sponsorship opportunities are available now, offering a meaningful way to support our mission. Tickets go on sale in July—mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details on how you can be part of this special night!



CROSS • LINES
COMMUNITY OUTREACH, INC.

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Our vital programs rely on your generosity. Make an immediate impact by donating to Cross-Lines today at www.cross-lines.org, or by sending your donation using the enclosed envelope. Your support helps us change lives every day—join us in making a difference now!

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