NEWSLINES OF Hope

Cross-Lines Community Outreach Newsletter

A Night to Remember: Gala for Hope 2026









What an incredible evening! On September 25th, friends, supporters, and community partners gathered at The View at Briarcliff for our annual Gala for Hope, raising an amazing **$204,225 to support our neighbors in Wyandotte County!**

The evening was filled with celebration, generosity, and moments that reminded us why this work matters. One of the most meaningful highlights was hearing James's story, a powerful reminder of the difference that compassion, connection, and access to resources can make in someone's life.

We are deeply grateful to our sponsors, donors, volunteers, Gala committee, and everyone who helped make this special night possible. Your generosity will help Cross-Lines continue providing nourishing meals, groceries, housing support, and pathways to stability for neighbors facing hardship.

Thank you for making Gala for Hope 2026 a tremendous success!

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Every day at Cross-Lines, our neighbors come through our doors seeking a meal, groceries, housing assistance, or simply someone willing to listen. As we reflect on the first nine months of 2026, we are reminded of both the tremendous need in our community and the incredible impact made possible by our supporters.



These numbers represent more than services provided. They represent parents choosing groceries for their families, individuals finding a hot meal and a welcoming space, and neighbors taking important steps toward safe and stable housing. As the cost of living continues to put pressure on households throughout Wyandotte County, Cross-Lines remains committed to meeting immediate needs while helping neighbors build greater stability.

None of this happens without you. Your generosity, volunteer service, and commitment to our mission make this work possible. Thank you for helping us turn compassion into action.

Give Soap, Spread Hope!

Sometimes, the smallest essentials make a big difference. For the last few months of the year, we'd love to accept in-kind donations of soaps at The Market.

For many of our neighbors, everyday items like hand soap, dish soap, and laundry detergent can be difficult to afford when budgets are already stretched thin.

If you are looking for a way to make an immediate impact: Every bottle makes a difference! Thank you for helping us meet our neighbors' everyday needs with dignity and care.



Christmas Store 2026: Bringing Joy to WYCO

The holiday season is just around the corner, and preparations for the Cross-Lines Christmas Store are underway!



This year, **400 families** have already signed up to participate in this special program, which helps bring holiday joy to families experiencing financial hardship in Wyandotte County.

For many households, the holidays can be an especially stressful time. With the rising costs of groceries, housing, utilities, and other essentials, finding room in the budget for Christmas gifts can feel impossible. The Christmas Store helps ease that burden, allowing families to celebrate the season while preserving their resources for everyday necessities.

What makes the Christmas Store truly special is the incredible community of volunteers who bring it to life. Each year, generous individuals, churches, businesses, and community groups come together to help make the program possible. From organizing donated items and preparing the shopping space to welcoming families and helping everything run smoothly, volunteers contribute countless hours of care and dedication. Their work goes far beyond the logistics of running a holiday program. Every warm greeting, thoughtfully arranged display, and helping hand contributes to an experience rooted in dignity, kindness, and the spirit of the season. The Christmas Store is a wonderful example of what happens when a community comes together around a shared purpose.

Ready to help? We are accepting Walmart Gift Cards in $20 increments! You can drop them off at Cross-Lines during operating hours or contact Rachel Magathan: RachelM@cross-lines.org









Homelessness in Wyandotte County: Challenges, Progress, and Hope

Homelessness remains one of the most pressing challenges facing Wyandotte County. Rising housing costs, limited affordable housing options, and gaps in available shelter and supportive services leave many of our neighbors vulnerable to housing instability. For individuals experiencing homelessness, the journey toward permanent housing is rarely straightforward. Challenges such as securing identification, finding affordable housing, accessing transportation, and navigating complex support systems can create significant barriers. Yet, even amid these challenges, **there are reasons for hope.**

Through September 2026, Cross-Lines made 896 street outreach contacts and helped 36 individuals secure housing. Each successful housing placement represents an opportunity for greater safety, stability, and a fresh start.

Our Street Outreach and Housing Stabilization teams work to build relationships, connect neighbors with essential resources, and help individuals and families take steps toward stable housing. This work requires patience, persistence, collaboration, and, above all, compassion.

While progress is being made, the need for affordable housing, accessible services, and sustainable solutions remains urgent. Cross-Lines is committed to working alongside community partners to address these challenges and advocate for the dignity of every neighbor. **Because everyone deserves a safe place to call home**

Thank You for Being Part of Our Community

As we approach the final months of 2026, we are filled with gratitude for the many ways our community continues to show up.

Whether you attended Gala for Hope, volunteered your time, made a financial gift, or shared our mission with a friend, you are helping create meaningful change in Wyandotte County.
Thank you for believing in the power of neighbors helping neighbors.

CROSS•LINES
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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!

Quick, easy, and secure donation