# Wayside Cross Ministries ANNUAL REPORT 2011

# COLLABORATION

### COLLABORATION The art of Working together

Recently, one of my colleagues sent me the following quote: "Having core values will cost you. Not having core values will destroy you." At times, we can all drift away from our principles. At Wayside Cross Ministries (WCM), we intentionally treat certain values as essential and non-negotiable. Collaboration is one of them; living in a competitive world and in a complex time, healthy alliances are crucial to advancing God's kingdom.

The Leadership Bible tells a story about a boy who valiantly, but unsuccessfully, attempts to move a heavy log to clear a path to his favorite hideout. His father stands quietly nearby, watching his son struggle. Finally, the dad says, "Son, why aren't you using all of your strength?" Confused and a little angry, the boy responds, "Dad, I am using every last bit of strength I have!" His father quietly answers, "No, son, you are not. You haven't asked me to help."

Praise God that we are not alone! Many like-minded partners share our goals and aspirations, and we are grateful for your collaboration in 2011. Some of the stories about collaboration in this annual report lightened our load, and created extra value, stability and growth in many areas. God was mightily at work transforming lives through the generosity and spirit of collaboration that we saw last year. It took God's favor and an amazing effort by our faithful donors and volunteers to see us through.

We are truly blessed by many bonded brothers and sisters in Christ who complement what we do at Wayside Cross. As we look forward, we remain committed to our core values, as we empower and transform the afflicted. On behalf of the WCM board, staff, residents and clients, thank you for your support and partnership.



James Lukose, Executive Director

# MINISTRY EFFECTIVENESS

### Master's Touch Ministry

- 50 men graduated Master's Touch Program
- 8 men graduated Greenawalt Learning Center
- 13 men completed "Designed for a Work"
- 33 graduates found full-time jobs
- 7 men reconciled with wife or family
- 75 men made professions of faith in Christ
- 10 men promoted to full-time resident assistants
- 4 men promoted to Resident Staff
- 8 men resided at our discipleship house -Horizon

### Lifespring Ministry

- 67 women and 47 children served, a total of 24 families served
- 12% of women completed the year program
- 58% made a profession of faith or rededicated their life to Christ
- 58% showed remarkable improvement in communications skills
- 81% showed remarkable improvement in parenting skills
- 42% completed computer training classes
- 60% of Phase III clients obtained jobs
- Currently have contact with 45% of alumni

#### Additions to the program:

Organic Gardening, Resume Writing and Interviewing Skills, in depth class on Guilt & Shame, and a Big Sister Program

### Elgin Wayside Center

- Meals served 14,932
- Counseling appointments 3,484
- 626 Bible studies taught by volunteersJust under 300 individuals served throughout the year
- 66 individuals placed in permanent or supportive housing

### Hope Outreach

- Up to 40 men at one time were provided daily, real-life work experience in our warehouse, transportation department, maintenance shop, and Hope Chest Resale Store
- 8 ministry vehicles maintained logged 3500+ miles/month
- Scheduled, transported, sorted, and refurbished over 300,000 donated articles of clothing, furniture, household goods and sundry items. These items were sold at the Hope Chest Resale Store or distributed to under-resourced men, women, and children in the community or within one of Wayside's ministries
- Assisted local churches with 72 referrals for clothing, housewares, and furniture
- Collaborated with World Relief in Aurora to provide clothing and housewares for 57 refugee families
- Provided 223 families in the community with furniture, clothing, and other basic needs through our Community Outreach program
- 585 bales at 700 lbs. each of clothing and 800+ bags of shoes at 40 lbs. each were recycled with the majority of those items going to third world developing countries
- Partnered with 23 local churches to host Compassion Drives with the purpose of collecting clothes, furniture, and other household items that could be used in our Hope Chest Resale Store as well as other areas of our ministries
- Proceeds from our Hope Chest Resale Store along with our income from recycling clothing, shoes, and scrap metal totaled over \$451,241 all of which went to fund the ministry efforts at Wayside Cross Ministries

### New Life Corrections Ministry

- We continued our weekly classes (Bible Study, Dads' Classes), worship services, literat ure distribution, and counseling in six facilities, monthly in a seventh facility
- We continued our one-on-one evangelistic contact with roughly 1000 - 1500 inmates per month
- Our weekly "Dads' Classes" expanded to two more County Jails (McHenry and Kendall), and to all 25 male Illinois State Prisons as 2-Day Seminars
- 270 men graduated from our "Dads' Classes" (up from 121 in 2010)
- Welcomed 70 chaplains & volunteers to a One-Day Training Seminar
- Number of volunteers remained about the same (150), although with more involvement
- Correspondence Bible Lessons continued, and increased
- Arranged for over 70 prison inmates to come to Master's Touch after their release

### Urban Youth Ministry

- After school tutoring 80 kids at Aurora schools
- Aurora Neighborhood Baseball 150 at-risk youth
- 120 elementary age kids attended summer day camp
- Refugee program 75 kids from various countries
- Coats for Kids more than 300
- Toy distribution more than 300
- Easter basket distribution 200

### ELGIN Collaboration - Creates Synergy



Elgin Center volunteers



We have no homeless in Elgin, was the incredulous comment by an area resident. In reply, I tried to politely explain that wasn't quite true, but he *could* get that impression because of the effective collaboration of organizations like The Wayside Center and PADS of Elgin. Together, Wayside Center and PADS are like two sides of a coin. While many of the guests and services intersect, the 360 degree care provides attention not only to physical needs, but also psycho/social and spiritual ones as well. In short, Wayside is *Day* and PADS is *Night*.

PADS of Elgin dates back to 1989 and was intended as a safe haven for homeless men, women, and children during the evening hours. Originally established by three local clergymen, the shelter provided sleeping space in church buildings during the cold winter months.

Several years later, The Wayside Center was founded to minister to the same population, but during the daytime hours. With an ultimate focus upon spiritual needs, particularly a growing personal relationship with Jesus Christ, Wayside would offer counterpart services like meals, hot showers, laundry facilities, counseling, and job training during the day. While PADS would move from church to church, Wayside had a storefront downtown. Still, the homeless of the community spent much of their time on the move.

In 2007 however, it all changed when day and night came together under one roof. Moving to an industrial park near Elgin Community College, the two organizations located in connected and adjacent spaces in the same building. With over 12,000 square feet combined, the guests were provided greater occupational and educational opportunities.

While the distinction is basically day services (Wayside) and night services (PADS), both organizations benefit from the shared showers, laundry facilities, eating area, and offices. Without collaboration, each organization would probably need 30% larger facilities, thus incurring significantly more expenses. The guests also benefit from a centralized location, with less confusion and transportation needs. To many, it may not look like there are any homeless in Elgin. It is not hard to imagine, however, how much differently things would appear if it were not for the cooperation and collaboration of organizations like PADS and The Wayside Center.

Phil Wood, Director, Elgin Wayside Center



### HOPE OUTREACH COLLABORATION - WITH A LIKE-MINDED CHURCH

According to one source, collaboration is defined as "working together to achieve a goal. It is a recursive process where two or more people or organizations work together to realize shared goals."

This can be said about our relationship with the Compass Church (formerly Evangelical Free Church) of Naperville with whom we have partnered with as long as the church has been in existence. Compass Church was started over 40 years ago by Spencer Sawyer who was serving as the project manager for our Lifespring Center building program at the time. Spencer also served for over 30 years on the board of directors for Wayside Cross Ministries. Aside from Mr. Sawyer's involvement, Compass Church's Youth have been involved consistently over the last 25 years. They typically have participated in various serving opportunities that benefit our residents and the community at both of the Wayside facilities in Aurora.

The Compass Church's involvement doesn't end there, however. Tom Erbach and Steve Madawick have both been involved in the mentoring and teaching aspects of our

Kale Little, Hope Outreach Coordinator

Stan Davis, Hope Chest, Store Manager Master's Touch program. They are an integral part of this program and its relationships such as this one that assists in our program's success.

Recently, the Compass Church has gotten involved in another way. Through our Hope Outreach ministry, we are able to help local churches host a "Compassion Drive" to collect clothing and

household items to benefit the ministries of Wayside, as well as needy families that we are able to help throughout the community. Compass Church has held a Compassion Drive twice a year for the past few years.

As you can see, the Compass Church is a very important collaborative partner in the day to day operations of Wayside Cross Ministries.

We thank the Compass Church for the many years of dedication to the goal of transforming the lives of men and women here at Wayside.





# LIFESPRING Collaboration - Leads to cooperation and team work

What happens when 15 dedicated Lifespring volunteers see a need? They work together to see that need met!

# What is it and who makes it all happen?

For the past seven years a 15 member committee known as the Lifespring Partners has worked diligently to host the annual Lifespring Benefit Auction. Founded by board member Mary Lou Molter, this event has become Lifespring's largest fundraiser. This year alone the Partners collaborated with over 83 businesses, 22 churches and 38 individuals to provide financial support and/or an item for auction. Along with this devoted team, 29 volunteers worked the night of the Auction to make sure that attention was given to every detail.

### The Result!

A little over \$99,000 was raised this year, which will help with close to 30% of Lifespring's expenses. Women and children who have lost their way will hear of God's love and forgiveness.

The community has the opportunity to invest in lives! Business partners, individuals, churches and service organizations have the chance to make a difference.

Over 1200 people who have attended the last seven Auctions enjoyed a great evening while helping families in our community. How do you beat that?

They say that those who serve....receive the most. Our committee knows that all of the hard work and collaboration is worth it.

Lives are transformed and God is proclaimed!

#### Lynda Dorsch, Director, Lifespring Ministry











# MASTER'S TOUCH COLLABORATION - A HEALTHY ALLIANCE



The Master's Touch Ministry is a comprehensive residential program for men whose lives are broken. While our primary focus is spiritual—a Bible-based, Christ-centered solution to the crisis in which our residents find themselves as the result of drugs, alcohol, or some other destructive behavior pattern—we also meet the primary physical needs of our men—food, clothing, and shelter. We also provide assistance to our residents seeking medical services through our collaboration with Aunt Martha's Health Center.

In June of 2004, Aunt Martha's was one of only five organizations in the country to receive federal funding to open a new health center for the hurting and needy. Later that year, their Mobile Health Team began providing services to Master's Touch residents, at no cost. For the past seven years, Aunt Martha's team (comprising a Medical Doctor, Nurse Practitioner, Nurse, and Medical Technician) has arrived at Wayside on Wednesday at 5:45 pm. For the next 90 minutes or so, they see all of the Master's Touch residents who had signed-up for an appointment.

The Aunt Martha's team:

- examines the men, (who typically number between 6 and 12 per week)
- provides medical diagnoses
- prescribes medication, and/or
- schedules follow-up appointments

In addition to the on-site appointments on Wednesday evenings, Aunt Martha's also coordinates off-site Dental and Eye Care exams for our residents. Further, they provide medical pre-screening for our residents' "work readiness" profiles, including TB tests.

We thank God for His provision of Aunt Martha's services. What a blessing they are to our ministry!

Randy Tomassi, Director, Master's Touch Ministry

## NEW LIFE CORRECTIONS COLLABORATION - A JOYFUL UNDERTAKING

What a joy! Collaboration is a joy! Collaboration means I don't have to do it all myself! It's a good thing, because I'm not equipped to do it all myself! Collaboration means I get to do what I'm good at doing, and allow others to do what they're good at doing.

Collaboration is to work with another or others on a joint project. As a Christian, I'm "to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up" (Ephesians 4:12). Collaboration makes this possible.

For example, I get the privilege of being an "ambassador for Christ" in the Jails & Prisons, "making sure" that as many as possible hear the Gospel. What a privilege I have! I love to preach the Gospel, especially to those who've not heard it before. Oh I know that we often think that just growing up here in the US of A means we've heard the Gospel. But it's not true! 50%, or more, of our friends and neighbors don't go to church or listen to Christian radio. And even if people do hear it with their ears, they too often don't "hear" it with their hearts. And this is what God has blessed me to do... communicate the Gospel into people's hearts - especially inmates' hearts...

But this is not all that's required in fulfilling the Great Commission! Jesus left us with the command to "Go and make disciples..." (Matthew 28:19). Of course, preaching the Gospel is the "first part" of making disciples, but it's only the "first part." COLLABORATING with the Master's Touch Ministry at Wayside Cross, allows me to continue focusing on taking the Gospel behind bars, while Master's Touch focuses on discipleship. And the quality of the Master's Touch Ministry gives me confidence that I've "handed off" the inmates to quality discipleship!

And, there are so many inmates who just don't have a place to go when they're released. In fact, I receive at least one letter EVERY DAY from an inmate needing a place to live after release from jail or prison. Some of the inmates don't qualify for acceptance into Master's Touch, and to them we have to say "No." We don't like it, and it's difficult to say "No." We don't like it, and it's difficult to say "No." But it sure is a joy to be able to say "Yes" when the inmate does qualify. I praise God for the blessing of being able to COLLABORATE with the Master's Touch Ministry. Yes indeed, collaboration is a joy!

Tom Beatty, Director, New Life Corrections





Master's Touch Malachi Dad's class volunteers and residents.

# URBAN YOUTH MINISTRY COLLABORATION - IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

The Urban Youth Ministry is continually honored with God-sent partnerships and collaborations. It is through these unions that we are able to share the love of Jesus Christ with our community via our many outreach programs.

While we collaborate with many organizations in our initiative, the focus for this article is on the long-time relationship that we have had with Nicor and its employees.

This winter, like many before, the collaboration with Nicor has enabled us to provide new coats for kids in our Coats for Kids initiative. For more than 7 years, employees and the management of Nicor have reached out to provide us with new coats, hats, gloves, and more. All of these items are given so that the Urban Youth Ministry can be a vehicle and share love (and warmth) with youth in our community. Below are some photos that show the results of our friendship and partnership with Nicor and its employees.

Once again, I would like to give a huge thanks to Nicor and its employees for the love and kindness that they have shared and continue to share with the youth of our community.

Scot Thurman, Director, Urban Youth Ministry









# BRIDGE TO LIFE UPDATE

In the spring of 2009, Wayside Cross Ministries launched the Bridge to Life Capital Campaign to raise funds in the amount of \$7,478,868 to provide a new facility, additional staff, and programming to serve the Master's Touch men's ministry. To date, the campaign has raised funds in the amount of \$3.53 million.

Thus far, we have received grants to underwrite this capital project from several foundations. Others have demonstrated an interest in funding the project but are waiting in the wings until additional funds are raised ensuring the viability of the project. The campaign took a giant step forward at two Bridge to Life fund-raising events held in September 2010 at the Aurora Country Club and September 2011 at the Arrowhead Golf Club. Pledges and gifts collected at those two events totaled \$1,275,000. A construction committee is in place to immediately move forward with building construction as soon as 75% of the cost of construction is covered by funds raised. Two members of the committee have stepped forward to volunteer their time to serve as

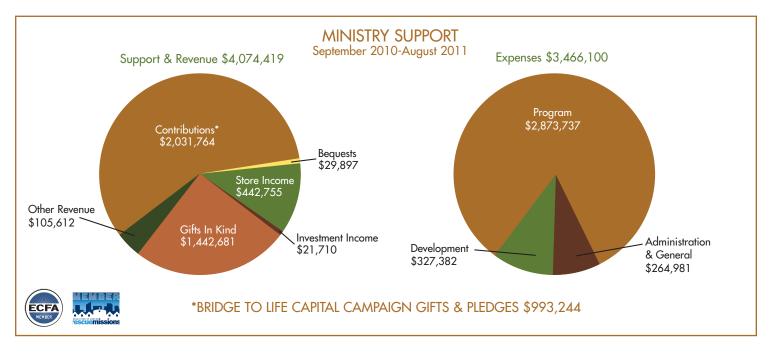
Owners' Representatives overseeing the various phases of demolition and construction. This will provide thousands of dollars of savings.

We are thankful for the generous response to the campaign thus far. This would not be possible apart from God's blessing and the involvement and support of many caring, committed people.

To achieve this goal, Wayside Cross will need the generous support of current donors, individuals, businesses, churches and hundreds of new contributors.

You are invited to collaborate with WCM and become a partner in making this vision a reality.





### MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

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#### Business Office Staff

Diana Nelson - Accounts Manger

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#### Annual Campaign Committee

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#### Elgin Wayside Center Staff

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#### Hope Outreach Ministry Staff

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#### Hope Outreach

Steering Committee Tom Boehne - Chair Stan Davis Linda Kennedy Kale Little James Lukose Mary Lou Molter Thron Nelson

#### Lifespring Ministry Staff

Lynda Dorsch - Director Marquerite Blitch - Case Manager Brionna Farmer - Shift Supervisor Wayne Hill - Counselor Denise McGhee - Shift Supervisor Kim Swierenga - Case Manager

#### Lifespring Partners

Colleen Bente Fernando Castreion Sue Stanley Castrejon -Auction Manager Lynda Dorsch Mike Dorsch Audrey Hexdall Debbie Johnston Helen LeBeau James Lukose Michon Mohan Diana Nelson Susie Pepp - Auction Co-Chair Peter Pabon - WCM Board Representative Deb Starner Guy Starner Kevin Trenkamp Rachel Trenkamp -Auction Co-Chair Stephanie Walsh Cindy Wills - Secretary

#### Master's Touch Ministry Staff

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#### Master's Touch

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#### New Life Corrections Advisory Board

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#### Urban Youth Ministry

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#### Bridge to Life

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# WAYSIDE CROSS MINISTRIES BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Pictured left to right, front row: Mark Tudor, Peter Pabon. James Lukose, Executive Director, John Ross, Craig Zimmerman, William Wallbaum. Second row: Tim Rueter. Thomas Wells, Tom Boehne, Tom Hartman. Mike McKenna. Not pictured: Linda Kennedy, Stephen Rhodes, Michael Armstrong, Sandra Fulton, Georgia Gordon, Mary Lou Molter, Jeffrey Roberts, Ruth Wagner



James Callahan, Development Director

### WCM ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. JAMES CALLAHAN AS THE NEW DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

We would like you to join us in welcoming James Callahan to our WCM family.

Jim brings twenty years of pastoral, administrative, and academic experience to his role as Development Director with Wayside Cross Ministries.

Jim earned his Ph.D. in religious studies from Marquette University, his M.A. in theology from Wheaton College Graduate School and a B.S. in biblical studies from Emmaus Bible College. He has taught at Wheaton College, Elmhurst College and Northern Seminary, and he's published several books and over a dozen academic journal articles on Christian faith and culture. He has served as a pastoral worker in Wheaton and Oak Park, preaching weekly and leading discipleship ministries. Jim and his wife Anita have been married for almost thirty years and have five children, from college to grade school age. They enjoy family meals together and serving at Lake Geneva Youth Camp. The Callahans have lived in the city of Chicago for twenty years, in the Galewood neighborhood.

# heritage society

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The Heritage Society was created in 1998. Membership includes benefactors who have faithfully and generously made financial contributions to the ministry over the past 20 years with contributions totaling \$5,000 or more. We thank God for you, year after year, making generous gifts. You've provided a bedrock of support for our ongoing work.

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If we inadvertently left anyone off the list we apologize and would like to hear from you so you may be included in the next Heritage Day Luncheon. Please contact Debbie Butler, Communications Manager at 630-723-3419 or email her at dbutler@waysidecross.org.

## PRAYER IS IMPORTANT AT WAYSIDE CROSS MINISTRIES

Prayer is so important at Wayside Cross Ministries that it is an organized part of the workday. Most staff members at Wayside are part of a prayer group that meets weekly to share prayer concerns and requests.

This year the prayer groups have taken on a new task - praying for our supporters. It began as a result of Executive Director James Lukose's request to donors with his Christmas message when he asked "Can we pray for you?"

Over 150 prayer requests were returned, with a variety of wishes. Many were for health concerns, such as "pray that \_\_\_\_\_'s cancer or (other disease) is cured" or that " wins his battle against drugs (or alcohol)." Many were for spiritual requests: "pray that (generally a child), learns to love the Lord, or returns to church." Today's troubled economy brought many requests: "Pray that my house sells, or that I find a job, or that I find the money to pay my bills." There were

many others, such as "peace for the world" or "may God continue to bless Wayside".

All were heartfelt and all received our attention. James prayed for the requests as they came in and shared them with the prayer groups, who also prayed for the request. A card from the group that prayed has been mailed to those making the request, except in those instances when there was no return address.

The requests are becoming infrequent now but we received a card from a woman stating that her son is now sober and thanking us for the prayers. The praise goes to God. Our prayer groups are continuing to pray for individual donors by name each week.

As we continue to pray, if you have a prayer request, please mail it to James Lukose, Wayside Cross Ministries, 215 E. New York Street, Aurora, IL 60505 or email him at jlukose@waysidecross.org.

### Editor Debbie Butler

Executive Director James Lukose

#### DIVISIONS OF WCM

■MASTER'S TOUCH

- LIFESPRING MINISTRY
- NEW LIFE CORRECTIONS

■ WAYSIDE CENTER ELGIN

- URBAN YOUTH MINISTRY
- HOPE OUTREACH

#### MISSION

To honor God by loving and serving the afflicted and powerless through sharing the Gospel of forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ by empowering them to be disciples of Christ

#### VISION

To be a Christ-centered ministry pursuing excellence through transformed lives for God's glory.

#### CORF VALUES

#### WAYSIDE CROSS MIN-ISTRIES

215 E. New York Street Aurora, IL 60505-3491 Phone 630 892-4239 Fax 630 892-4259 www.waysidecross.org Email: dbutler@waysidecross.org

### Donate on our website www.waysidecross.org



