

Crossroads Connection

Crossroads School

April 2010

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What's Happening at Crossroads

Momentum is building!

Things continue to happen quickly! We are excited to see God moving and making things happen in His timing. In late March/early April Connie's dad flew to Colorado to offer his expertise in development major gift campaigns. He was not only helpful in assisting us in finalizing our Development Plan but a source of great encouragement as well!

We are close to the half-way mark in our fundraising, with just under \$100,000 in cash, pledges, and in-kind contributions at this point. Recently, we've made presentations during worship services at the Journey Church and Front Range Christian Fellowship, and had many people express interest and enthusiasm about Crossroads. We also had a display at the Colorado Christian University Internship Fair, talking to students about the possibility of serving in an internship at Crossroads School.



Raising the funds to open Crossroads in the fall is by far the largest obstacle we have to overcome. In the coming weeks we will be actively contacting potential donors about supporting Crossroads.

We need individuals and families who will make a contribution of \$100, \$500, or more over the next 12 months to help start this important ministry. Just \$375 will cover a student for a week; \$1500 for a month; \$15,000 for a full year. Will YOU invest in the life of a troubled teen?

Successful Model

The Denver Street School

Crossroads School will be modeled after the Denver Street School (DSS) and will be a member of the Street Schools Network (SSN). As part of membership, the Street Schools Network offers a process leading to nationally-recognized accreditation.

The Denver Street School (DSS) is a Christian alternative secondary school primarily serving the troubled and at-risk youth of the Denver metropolitan area. The school was founded by Tom Tillapaugh in 1985 in a house off East Colfax in Denver's Capitol Hill neighborhood. DSS is a comprehensive high school, fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges & Schools and offering its students athletics, special education, a literacy program, and a solid core curriculum. DSS is the alternative school of choice for many public school counselors, probation officers, and social work agencies.

In 1989, Tillapaugh began to receive calls from educators in other cities who desired to start schools based on the Denver Street School model. In response to this growing demand, Tillapaugh founded the National Association of Street Schools, later renamed the Street Schools Network (SSN). The SSN currently has over 40 member schools throughout the nation.

In 2003, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation strongly endorsed the Denver Street School model of individualized, personalized education in a small school setting by including NASS as the only faith-based model in its Alternative High School Initiative. The National Association of Street Schools received \$1.1 million to help replicate the street school model in opening ten new schools nationally.

In The News

The Word Is Spreading!

Go to the links below to listen or read about the excitement in the community about Crossroads School and the possibilities it will provide!

Crossroads on the radio:

<http://www.crossroadslongmont.org/>

Crossroads in the Longmont Times-Call newspaper:

http://www.timescall.com/News_Story.asp?ID=21553

Community Feedback

Longmont Speaks. . .

Here's what some people are saying as they learn about Crossroads School:

"My husband and I just read the Times-Call article about the special school you are opening. I must tell you it brought tears to my eyes. We have a son who is in fourth grade and is struggling to say the least. We have investigated alternatives for him but have not had much success. Crossroads sounds like a possible fit for our son."

"I hope the St. Vrain School Board funds part of this at some point. I have witnessed troubled kids get shuffled from the classroom to the 'office', to the cafeteria for 'clean-up' duty, to 'homework club', and another classroom, where an art teacher has to monitor them while they talk back, make various derogatory remarks, act out, and more. What a time waster for the students and the teachers, and their fellow students, as these kids DO take time away from the majority who ARE working. I could probably pick out 12-15 children from just my son's middle school that would benefit from this program, and our school is considered one of the 'better' ones. These children need help academically, emotionally, and perhaps some work with their parents to assess their home situations."

"I just read your article in the Longmont Weekly concerning the opening of the alternative school for troubled youth. It was exciting and encouraging to read about your plans."

"Everything that I read about this school's mission has me excited for the much-needed opportunities this will offer your future students."

Upcoming Events

Everyone Welcome

- **Open House:** Friday, April 16, 5-8 pm: Open House for interested parents, students, teachers, and volunteers at the Journey Church (1285 S. Fordham St., Longmont): Drop in to see where the school will be, meet Barb, Connie, and Joanna, and enjoy refreshments. We'd love to see you!
 - **Church Presentation:** Sunday, April 25: Crossroads will be presented during worship services at Grace Evangelical Free Church in Longmont.
 - **Cinco de Mayo:** Saturday, May 1, 10:30 am-6:30 pm: Crossroads will have a display at the Longmont Cinco de Mayo Festival in Roosevelt Park, which is expected to attract over 4,000 people. Stop by and say hello if you're at the festival!
 - **Garage Sale:** Saturday, May 22, 8 am-noon: Crossroads Garage Sale at the Journey Church (1285 S. Fordham St., Longmont): Donate used items for the sale or volunteer to help sort and organize by e-mailing us at crossroadsinformation@yahoo.com, or stop by and shop!
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