

C.R.O.S. currents



Dear Friends of C.R.O.S. Ministries,

I find myself wiping tears from my eyes a lot lately as I think about the growing number of hungry children and seniors in our community.



By the close of 2011, more than 45,000 men, women, and children will have passed through our community food pantry doors for emergency food assistance and more than 100,000 hot meals will have been served at The Caring Kitchen.

Feeding America estimates that 17% of Palm Beach County residents are food insecure; they do not know where their next meal will come from. More and more families and individuals who were once economically secure are being threatened by unemployment, foreclosures, and the faltering economy.

At this holy time of year, when we think so much about giving, please, remember those who don't have enough to eat. Regardless of your faith tradition, we are all called to care for those who are hurting and most in need.



Thank you for your ongoing support of C.R.O.S. Ministries. Please know that you make a difference in people's lives.

Peace and grace,

Pam

Rev. Pamela A. Cahoon
Executive Director

Tis' the Season...

As you contemplate your year-end gift giving, please consider making a gift to C.R.O.S. Ministries comprehensive food programs and help many people on the path to economic self-sufficiency.



Here are just a few examples of how C.R.O.S. Ministries helps families and individuals in our community.

...*Three healthy young boys* are a great motivator for a family to put aside poverty and past mistakes, and focus on the future. Through C.R.O.S. Ministries Caring Kitchen and CROS Camps, they receive assistance to keep their boys fed, clothed, and on the right path.

...*Struggling* to make ends meet on her own, a woman took in her two granddaughters when they had nowhere else to go. Thanks to one of C.R.O.S. Ministries' community food pantries, she is able to ensure her granddaughters do not go hungry and receive all their nutritional needs.

...*Unemployed and Homeless* after being evicted from her home, C.R.O.S. Ministries' Caring Kitchen helped a single mother of three find temporary housing which leads to permanent stable housing. Now employed, she is slowly gaining back her family's financial independence.

None of this work is possible without your support. Together we can end childhood hunger in Palm Beach County, prevent the spiral into homelessness, and assist those on their journey out of homelessness.

C.R.O.S. Ministries is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization collaborating with people of different faiths and organizations to create solutions to the unmet needs of people in our community.

Holiday Gift Giving

Not sure what to get that special someone for the holidays? Want to remember a loved one in an extraordinary way?



Making a contribution to C.R.O.S. Ministries in honor or in memory of a loved one can make a huge difference for people in need. Our food programs provide emergency food, hot meals, and basic needs assistance to families and individuals trying to make ends meet and on the verge of homelessness.

C.R.O.S. Ministries

301 1st Avenue South
Lake Worth, FL 33460
Phone: 561-233-9009
Fax: 561-233-9819
email: info@crosmministries.org
www.crosmministries.org

Mission: C.R.O.S. Ministries collaborates with people of different faiths and organizations to create solutions to the unmet needs of people in our community.

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Come Glean with C.R.O.S. Ministries!

Gleaning is a process in which volunteers pick crops from the fields of farmers; produce that might otherwise go to waste. The fresh, nutritious food is then distributed to more than 100 community food pantries around the county. During the past gleaning season, more than 300,000 pounds of sweet corn, tomatoes, green beans, green peppers cucumbers, potatoes and mangoes were gleaned by more than 2,000 volunteers. The upcoming gleaning season begins in December and continues every Saturday until the end of May from 8:45am to noon, depending on weather. Gleaning is a great community service project for youth groups, families, office groups, and intergenerational groups of all sizes. For more information, contact Viviane at 561-233-9009 ext.107, email vfilsaime@crosmministries.org.



Please remember
C.R.O.S. Ministries in your will!

WISHLIST

Peanut Butter
Rice
Beans
Tuna Fish
Macaroni and Cheese
Canned Food

Blankets
Beds
Gently Used Clothing
Baby Diapers
Adult Diapers

Toiletry items needed for hygiene kits

Travel-size toiletry items are needed for hygiene kits for the homeless.

Soap	Deodorant
Razor	Toothpaste
Lotion	Toothbrush
	Shampoo

Women's sanitary items may be given separately and will be added as needed.

Please package items in gallon size food storage bags and bring your donation to:

The Caring Kitchen
196 NW 8th Ave.
Delray Beach

Long Term Volunteers for our Food Pantries

Drivers to pick up and transport food to our various food pantry locations

Please refer to the website, www.crosmministries.org for a longer wish list and addresses to our Community Food Panties and The Caring Kitchen.

17th Annual CROS Walk

Thank you 2011 CROS Walk Sponsors!

Popeye's Louisiana Chicken
Friends of Jeffrey Spagna
The Corella and Bertram Bonner Foundation
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
UMC of the Palm Beaches
Edwards Electrical Enterprises
G.W. Purucker Homes, Inc.
Law Office of Valentin Rodriquez, P.A.



First United Methodist Church of Boynton Beach



First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach



Lakeside Presbyterian Church



West Palm Beach Amateur Radio Club



CROS Camp Interns

CROS Walk 2011 was a great success!
For more pictures from the event, please visit our
Facebook page www.facebook.com/#!/CROSministries.
Photos by Leonard Bryant Photography
CROS Walk 2012 - 10/14/12

6th Annual End Hunger Dinner



left to right: Executive Director Rev. Pam Cahoon, Vickie Greenfield, Robert Greenfield, Caring Kitchen Program Director April Hazamy, and South County Director Rev. Juanita Bryant Goode. Photo by Leonard Bryant Photography.

DIG

Doing It Green

A Global Organic Restaurant
5199 West Atlantic Avenue
Delray Beach

Thank you **Robert and Vickie Greenfield** for once again hosting C.R.O.S. Ministries' 6th Annual End Hunger Dinner. Guests were treated to a wonderful three course organic dinner. The Greenfields donated not only their restaurant, but all the food, and waitstaff for the evening so all proceeds went directly to purchase food for our food programs. If you haven't been to DIG, Doing It Green, yet in Delray Beach, you are definitely missing out!

C.R.O.S. Ministries' ACCESS Outreach Program

Through our ongoing partnership with the Department of Children and Families, C.R.O.S. Ministries was chosen to participate in DCF's new pilot ACCESS Outreach Program. We are one of just seven organizations throughout Florida given this opportunity AND the only agency in Palm Beach County to perform this direct service.

The new pilot program focuses on finding the 46% of individuals and families in Palm Beach County who are eligible for government assistance but have never applied. Thanks to grant funding from the United Way of Palm Beach County, C.R.O.S. Ministries now employs two Benefit Specialists to assist first time food stamp applicants with their applications and formal interviews. The Federal Gross Income Limits are listed below.

Household Size	Monthly Gross Income Limits
1	\$1,815
2	\$2,452
3	\$3,088
4	\$3,725
5	\$4,362
Each additional Household Member add \$636	

For times, locations, or to schedule an appointment for this free service, please call 561-233-9009 x112.

Save the Date

*The 7th Annual
C.R.O.S. Ministries
Magical Evening of Music*



April 12, 2012

Old School Square

51 N. Swinton Ave, Delray Beach

6:30pm – 9:00pm



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