



## November 2009

### LATEST NEWS

[Crossroad Health Center](#)

[Families FORWARD](#)

### WELCOME NEW PARTNER AGENCIES

**ERM would like to welcome the following three agencies as partners:**

Music Resource Center

Talbert House/Mt. Airy Center

The Salvation Army Emergency Shelter

### PLEASE DONATE



[CLICK HERE TO DONATE.](#)

Your tax-deductible donation helps to provide reliable transportation for those in need of employment, education, healthcare,

**Dear Matt,**

Welcome to the November 2009 edition of *The Journey*, the monthly newsletter of the Everybody Rides Metro Foundation. Everybody Rides Metro exists to help social service agencies serve their clients. We take this opportunity to share with you the care and concern each agency provides to their community.

Please take a moment to forward this email on to anyone you think may be interested. Use the "forward email" link at the bottom of this email to send it on to others.

## Partner Spotlight on Crossroad Health Center



*Since 1992, the Directors and staff of Crossroad Health Center have been quietly touching the lives of thousands of people living within inner-city Cincinnati. --from the Crossroad Health Center web site.*

Crossroad Health Center began helping patients in 1992 in two

and vital human services.

#### ACTIVITY REPORT

### October 2009

#### Rides by Category:

Education	7,389
Healthcare	9,604
Jobs	24,792
Services	9,005

#### Total Rides

Provided: 50,790

Total Clients: 7,677

Total Reimbursed to Agencies: \$56,101.60  
(includes transfers reimbursed)

#### INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARTNER?

OR, IF ALREADY A PARTNER, INTERESTED IN BEING FEATURED IN *THE JOURNEY?*

We would love to speak with you further about what your organization does and how Everybody Rides Metro can help you (or has already helped you) with your work.

Please contact Rita Potts at 513-632-7609.

[Click here to email Rita.](#)

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classrooms of the Peaslee Neighborhood Center. Serving 500 patients in that first year, they grew to nearly 5,000 patients by 2007 as they celebrated 15 years of service.

By 2000 the Center moved to its current location, which includes a pharmacy, ProScan Pink Ribbon Center for mammograms, and the third floor offices where patients can see a medical provider. Crossroad also provides Bi-lingual Spanish healthcare professionals to serve the Latino population; about 15% of their patients are Spanish speaking.

Crossroad provides primary healthcare to inner-city residents of Cincinnati comparable to those offered in any physician's office. Services include general medical care for all ages, gynecology and prenatal care, mental health counseling and podiatry. Emphasis is placed on educating patients about the value of leading healthier lives. Most commercial insurances are accepted as well as Medicaid, Medicare and self-pay on a sliding fee scale.



The cost of transportation is a huge issue for many of their patients, 80% of whom have incomes at or below the Federal Poverty Level. Often they can get transportation to the center but they have no way home, are referred to specialists at the University of Cincinnati or Children's Hospital, and need help with transportation. The Everybody Rides Metro tokens really help people keep their appointments because they can get a token to ride the bus home.

## Partner Spotlight on Families FORWARD



[CLICK HERE TO VISIT  
OUR WEB SITE.](#)

Please visit the ERM web site, where you will find interesting and helpful information: get the latest news, calculate your carbon footprint, find out how partner agencies use Metro bus tokens to help their clients get to essential services for sustainable lifestyles.

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Families FORWARD was established in 1993 as a school-based program where social workers and families could work together to identify long-term solutions for student and community needs. A parent advisory board worked with the staff of Families FORWARD to establish six programs: family involvement, after-school programs, home-based intervention, summer enrichment, community events and academic enrichment in music and arts.

There are now five Cincinnati schools involved in Families FORWARD. Withrow University High School is one such school, where Everybody Rides Metro is helping to make a difference in the lives of students and families. Families FORWARD assists with a number of things including attendance, disciplinary action, home visits, checking on the family to see if emergency assistance is needed, after-school tutoring, introducing music and arts to students, and monitoring community service.

Withrow and Families FORWARD require students to have 60 hours of community service prior to graduation. Laci Tucker, College Coordinator from Families Forward, keeps track of the students and their community service projects and hours. Last year the students worked with Hoxworth Blood Center on a blood drive, with 85 donors participating.

In addition to community service, Families FORWARD assists students with college preparation. Tucker organizes a college fair and each year about 30 colleges come to Withrow to talk with students. She helps to arrange tours of college campuses for the students, who also get help with learning how to take the ACT/SAT tests. Furthermore, the program also provides \$4,000 scholarships for selected students.

Besides college preparation, Families FORWARD provides career mentoring programs for participants. In one such program, Western-Southern employees provide help for students two days a week for all four years of the student's high school education. Lens Crafters has students visit them once a month for workshops which teach college and career techniques. Local companies assist the students in other ways, too. Gift of Sight is a special program provided by Lucita/Lens Crafters that provides vision screenings and free glasses, if needed, to freshmen.

Shane Fletcher, On-Site Manager for Families Forward at Withrow University High School, says: "The athletic department students need help from Everybody Rides Metro, because being able to afford transportation to get to conditioning sessions and football practice are so important during the summer when students do not have a bus pass."

Keilan Woods, a seventeen year old football player, has dreams of going to college to become a sports analyst. Keilan said, "Without the tokens, I might miss practices and ruin my chance to continue being part of the team."

**Happy Thanksgiving,  
Everybody Rides Metro Foundation**

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Everybody Rides Metro Foundation | 602 Main Street | Suite 1100 | Cincinnati | OH | 45202