



# Shepherd's Crossing

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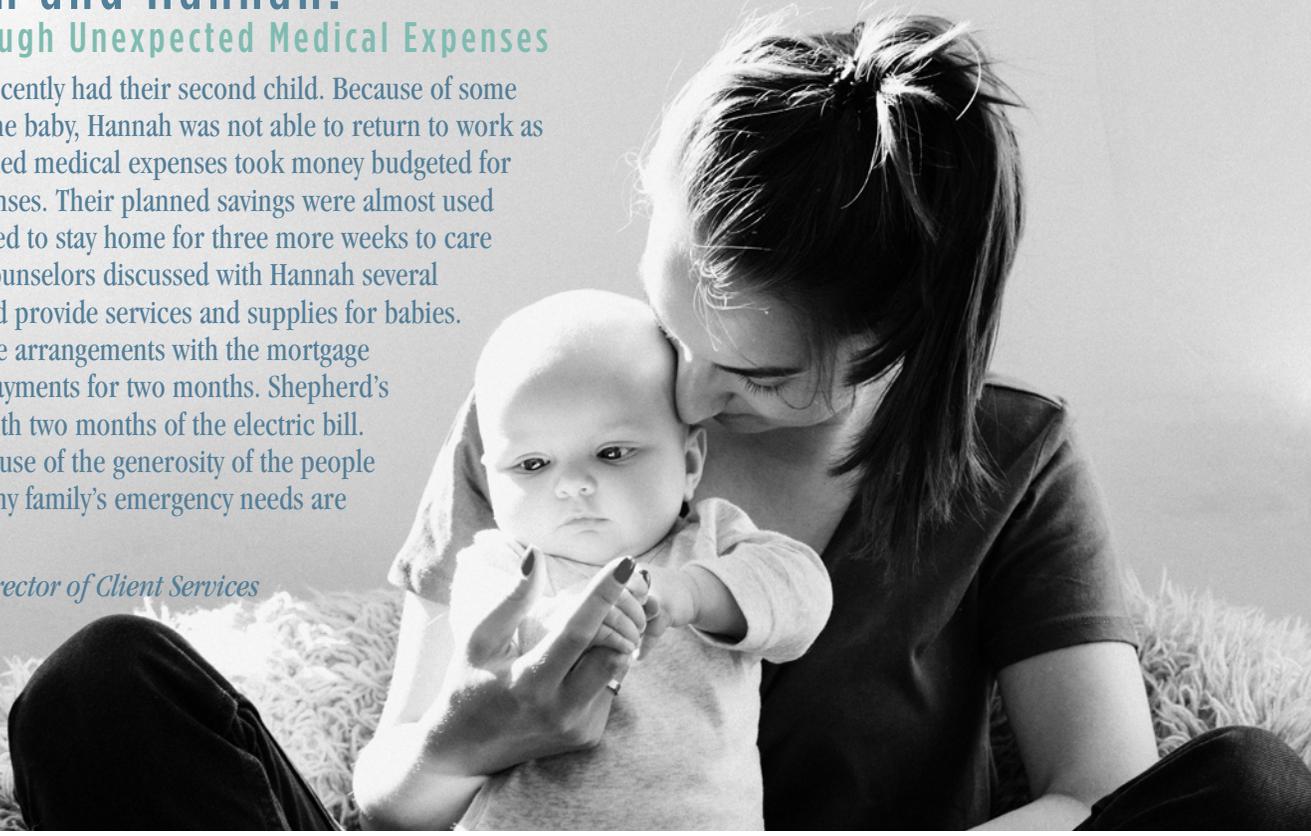
Sharing with the Shepherd

*Share your blessings—Make a difference*

## Meet Josh and Hannah: Working through Unexpected Medical Expenses

Josh and Hannah recently had their second child. Because of some health issues with the baby, Hannah was not able to return to work as scheduled. Unplanned medical expenses took money budgeted for normal family expenses. Their planned savings were almost used up as Hannah needed to stay home for three more weeks to care for the baby. Our counselors discussed with Hannah several resources that could provide services and supplies for babies. The counselor made arrangements with the mortgage company to wave payments for two months. Shepherd's Crossing assisted with two months of the electric bill. Hannah said, "Because of the generosity of the people of our community my family's emergency needs are being met."

*Warren Holmes, Director of Client Services*



## Updates and News from Shepherd's Crossing

### From the President



Dave Rogers Thank you so much to Saint Thomas More, their youth and Knights for making our annual meeting on January 14 so fantastic. It was my honor to acknowledge publicly the great work done by our Director Beth Klug, Client Services Manager Warren Holmes, our interns and all the wonderful and dedicated volunteers. The more I am associated with these people and this mission the more humbled I am. But also, the more confused at what all the needs are and all the resources available to assist with those needs. Shepherd's Crossing works with a host of other "partner agencies" and funding sources to magnify the impact our member churches have in meeting these needs in our community.

You've probably heard the term "Knowledge is Power". This is why we offer, recommend, and sometimes require financial education for our clients. But we can benefit from education also. **SAVE THE DATE: March 30 from 9 a.m. – noon.** We will be holding a retreat for our member churches and other interested parties to share and discuss how all the partner agencies interact and how importantly Shepherd's Crossing fits into the larger group providing social services relief in our community. The more we know, the more we can help because together we do great things.

*—Dave Rogers*

Join many others as a recurring online donor. It's easy to set it up at: [www.shepherdscrossing.info](http://www.shepherdscrossing.info) then click the DONATE NOW link.

*Shepherd's Crossing's mission is to provide compassionate and caring assistance to those in need of a listening ear and financial support.*

OPEN: Tuesday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. & Thursday 2-5:30 p.m.

### From the Executive Director

*"Hope is being able to see that there is light, despite all of the darkness."*

*—Desmond Tutu*

At Shepherd's Crossing we aspire to become a ray of that light and hope. Our goal is to offer financial assistance and in doing so, offer guidance, encouragement and hope. We recently had a visit from a former client who had come to us many times needing assistance. She was overwhelmed with huge credit card debt, which made it difficult for her to stay current on her rent and utility bills. Our counselors worked with her on budgeting, setting priorities, creating goals and directing her to an organization that was able to consolidate her credit card debt into a manageable loan. She faithfully made her payments on time, and when it was possible paid more than required. She proudly brought in a copy of her cut up credit cards and paid in full loan papers! How exciting to see that glimmer of hope and encouragement blossom into such success and happiness! My hope for the coming year is for Shepherd's Crossing to continue to be that light in the lives of many.

*—Beth Klug*

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### Meet Our New Director, Caprice Becker

Caprice was elected to a new term on the Board of Directors at our annual meeting. These are her words:

*My involvement with Shepherd's Crossing began in 2001 with an announcement in Manhattan Mennonite Church's bulletin asking if anyone would be interested in being on the Board of Directors of a new organization formed to provide emergency rent and utility assistance to Manhattan residents. The purpose of the organization appealed to me, so I joined the board just a few months after Shepherd's Crossing opened its doors. My time on the board was a great learning experience. It was exciting to see how decisions about operations were made. We had to figure out what information was important for Shepherd's Crossing to get during intake to make sure we were serving the population we meant to, how to facilitate our clients' getting the opportunity to improve their financial situations, and how to stay viable.*

*During my time on the Board of Directors I became committed to Shepherd's Crossing. When my term was up my transition to a volunteer seemed logical. Another learning curve met me. It took awhile to get comfortable doing client intake. Some clients come in with very specific needs that we can solve as an immediate problem and help them get on their way. Others come in with needs so great we can only make a dent. I have learned more about non-profit organizations in Manhattan than I ever thought I wanted to know. And then, there were the people I have worked with. The other board members, the many directors I have volunteered under, the other volunteers and the students from Kansas State and Manhattan Christian College have all enriched my life. We didn't always agree, and still don't, on the best methods to assist our clients. However, we always agreed there is still work to be done and that we needed to work together with great respect. I am honored to be asked to return to the Board of Directors. May we continue to do God's work.*

### Meet Our New Executive Director



Beth Klug joined us in February a year ago as our Office Manager. We reported her appointment in last year's February letter. Beth joined us with vast experience as an accountant and a financial administrator in not-for profits.

Beth Klug  
When our Executive Director, Beverly Olson, resigned in November, 2018, Beth was able to step into the position on a moment's notice. How fortunate we are to have her as our new Executive Director. Beth loves working with people and has a wide network of acquaintances in the non-profit community. Thanks, Beth, for making certain we could carry out our mission!

### Sharing with the Shepherd

Since 2003, February has been Sharing with the Shepherd month. That first year, we asked restaurants, jewelers and florists to donate a percent of profits or sales on Valentine's Day, especially from customers who mentioned Shepherd's Crossing. That first year, we took in about \$3,000. In 2005, we expanded our asking to all businesses. Each December, we send a letter asking folks to put SWS on their philanthropy calendar for the next year. Of course, if they want to make a gift for tax reasons before the end of the year, we were happy to accept it. Since 2005, we've appeared on KMAN's In Focus program every year, creating a lot of awareness about our mission. Manhattan Broadcasting Company has given us three weeks of public service announcements on each of their stations. What an enormous blessing that has been. Thanks to Rich Wartell, former General Manager and to Corey Reeves, current GM. Additionally, the Manhattan Rotarary Club has dedicated its Cup Money each February. With generous matches from three Rotarians, the Cup Money has produced more that \$30,000.



NEWS