



# Shepherd's Crossing

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*Share your blessings—Make a difference*

## Meet Roman **Learning How to Help His Family**

Roman, a skilled self-employed carpenter, recently suffered a compound fracture of his leg. He has had to have two surgeries and will be unable to work for an extended time. Roman is a single parent of a son (6) and daughter (4). He came to Shepherd's Crossing to find out what assistance might be available to help through this crisis time. His savings account would not cover his expenses for the time he would be off work. The counselor suggested setting up a budget for his savings, which would determine how much assistance he would need.

Several cost savings ideas were suggested: child-care costs could be reduced while he was home; the schedule of daily church meals and a neighbor would provide transportation for his son to and from school. He found out that a neighborhood Bible study group was going to provide some laundry and house cleaning services. Other social service agencies committed to provide additional assistance as needed and arrangements were made to defer his business vehicle payments.

When Roman came to Shepherd's Crossing, he was frustrated and discouraged. Now, he is saying, "Because of Shepherd's Crossing's guidance and care and the generosity of the people of Manhattan, my family and I are so blessed!"

*Warren Holmes, Director of Client Services*

## And A Good Time Was Had By All



More than 150 attended the annual meeting on February 5 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church. Guests at the meeting included representatives from our churches, funding agencies and partner agencies (those that work with us referring clients in both directions). Steve's Floral provided beautiful flowers for the tables. The Knights of Columbus served a wonderful meal featuring smoked pork chops wrapped in bacon. Unbelievably delicious! Dave Lewis did

his usual clever job as Master of Ceremony, especially in his introduction of the K-State Brass Quintet. The students, all from the K-State Marching Band, concluded their presentation with a rousing rendition of the Wabash Cannon Ball. It brought back fond memories of the pep band's appearance with the Classy Cats last year! In a brief business meeting, we elected directors for another two-year term with all but Suzanne Otto, who had completed six years, and Andy Fund, who chose not to serve another term to pursue other interests. President Terry Arthur thanked both of them for their dedicated service. Betsy Barrett was elected as a new board member representing St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Cindy Sloan was elected to a full two-year term. New officers will be elected by the Board at its February meeting. The highlight of the evening was the recognition of our outstanding team of volunteers. Those present received a gift card in appreciation for their service. They donated more than 2,800 hours in 2017. As the meeting approached adjournment, Beverly Olson and C. Clyde Jones thanked Terry Arthur for his four years as President. He served longer than any previous President. Beverly and C. Clyde told the audience what a great leader Terry has been. Using the title of the best-selling book by Jim Collins, *Good to Great*, C. Clyde praised Terry for taking a good organization and making it stronger. Thanks so much, Terry, for your strong leadership.



## New Office Manager: Beth Klug

The Board of Directors recently approved a new half-time position, entitled Office Manager. We are extremely pleased to welcome Beth Klug to our management team. Beth has a rich background in financial administration and a strong working knowledge of QuickBooks and Microsoft software. She is currently the Financial and Development Administrator at Life Choice Ministries on a half-time basis. She will be responsible for financial and accounting functions, reporting to the Executive Director. She will also work with the Development Officer (C. Clyde Jones) in writing grant proposals.

*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.

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# Budget Counseling at Shepherd’s Crossing



Along with financial support for utilities, rent, and prescription medications, Shepherd’s Crossing provides budget counseling that can help some clients find ways to make long-term improvements in their financial health. We have done this from the beginning and are now being aided in this mission by students from Dr. Martin Seay’s K-State’s Personal Financial Planning class. Before receiving financial assistance,

each client sits down with a counselor to build a budget of monthly expenses. The budget is broken down into three parts—income, fixed expenses, and flexible expenses. Income can come from salaries, pensions, social services payments, food stamps, unemployment, disability or child support. Fixed expenses include rent, utilities, car payments, insurance (home, car and health) food and gas. Flexible expenses can often add up quickly if we don’t pay attention to a monthly budget. Counselors ask about monthly expenses for TV, clothing, entertainment, pets, lottery, beauty products, etc. Other expenses may be necessary but could be restructured or more affordable options chosen for phones, medical bills, student loans, prescription drugs, credit card bills, or pay day loans. In providing this service, we hope to lessen the strain on our client’s lives in the months following their visit to Shepherd’s Crossing.



# From the President

Shepherd’s Crossing had a successful year in 2017 in service to our clients and the Manhattan community. We experienced a greater number of requests for assistance in 2017 than in previous years, and through the work of our excellent staff and volunteers we were able to provide counseling and grants to those who qualified for our assistance and thereby fulfill our mission. Beth Klug joined our staff in December, as Office Manager, and we are pleased to have her help with the financial and business related duties the organization requires.

I would like to thank our staff, volunteers and board of directors for all of their work this past year, and especially recognize Suzanne Otto and Andy Fund, as both will be retiring from the expire in February, and I would like to also thank all those who have provided financial support to our organization, without which we would not have been able to provide the services necessary for our clients. We end 2017 in good position to continue our work in the New Year. Dave Rogers will take over as President in February, and I want to wish him well as he leads our organization.

- Terry Arthur, President

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It's easy to set it up at:  
[www.shepherdscrossing.info](http://www.shepherdscrossing.info)  
then click the DONATE NOW link.

# From the Executive Director

World famous heart surgeon, Dr. Denton Cooley, assesses the benefits of praise or the potential of the healing word saying, “In the quest for healthier hearts, we cannot afford to discount either the power of the emotions or the potential of the healing word. Praise is the easiest and least expensive way to compensate employees, friends, and loved ones and to further a positive environment where individuals give their best.” Many changes will occur when we give praise versus criticism because it motivates. Remember when you were young and the teacher returned your test paper with red marks showing the wrong answers? How much better would you have felt if the test

paper highlighted all of the correct answers instead? Most of our Shepherd’s Crossing clients realize that they have made some bad decisions that have brought them to their financial crisis. We don’t need to mark their budget papers in red ink; instead we can highlight their good choices and encourage them to make better choices in their weak areas. Over two thousand years ago, the Apostle Paul said in Philippians 4:8, “Finally, sisters and brothers, if anything is true, noble, just, pure, lovely, admirable, or excellent, focus on what is praiseworthy in others.” Invest in the happiness of others.

- Beverly Olson



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