



# Shepherd's Crossing

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*Share your blessings—Make a difference*

## An Angel on your Shoulder

Late on a Thursday afternoon, just minutes before the Konza Prairie Community Health Clinic Dental Office closed for the day, Warren Holmes, director of client services, called the Guardian Angels, asking if the Angels could help a Shepherd's Crossing client with dental work. The client was at Shepherd's Crossing, suffering much pain from a broken crown but without any funds to pay for care. He had been to the Dental Clinic in Manhattan but could not be helped without payment. Yes, was the quick and enthusiastic answer from the Angels representative. He called the Dental Clinic a couple of minutes before 5 p.m. and promised to pay for an exam and x-ray. He further offered to pay for the later dental work, including an extraction and replacing of the crown.

The Crossing works with many other agencies to meet the needs of clients. **Guardian Angels** and **Fairy Godmothers** each make grants to our clients for assistance other than rent, utilities and prescription medications. Leading items are car repairs, beds for unfurnished apartments and bicycles for getting back and forth to work.

## Unexpected Blessing

In September, Shepherd's Crossing received a check from the Memorial Hospital Association Foundation in the amount of \$57,647, designated to "substantially improve the health and well-being of people in our community." The Foundation was making a distribution from funds associated with the sale of the hospital property on Sunset Avenue. Shepherd's Crossing applied for a grant in August, making the case that providing prescription medications and rent and utility assistance to keep people in their homes was a crucial foundation piece for human health. The grant will be used to increase the amounts given to support qualified low-income individuals, with preference given to disabled clients and to single-parent households with children. Many thanks to the MHA Foundation for this unexpected gift.

## Mark your Calendars

The Board of Directors has scheduled the 2016 annual meeting on January 26 at St. Thomas More's Utopia Center. All church representatives, with their pastor(s) and mission committee chairs, are encouraged to attend. Invitations will be mailed in early January. This will be the 15th anniversary of Shepherd's Crossing and will provide an opportunity for celebration and recognition. Stay tuned for more information.

*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.

## Tanya's Story

Tanya Khvitsko was one of the first five children brought to Kansas City by Project Restoration in 1998. She was not yet six years old when she received her first prostheses. She came every summer after that until she was 18. Then, she completed a two-year program at Cottey College, followed by a bachelor's degree at Mid-America Nazarene University. After graduation, she worked at Knit-Rite, a company that produces prosthetic socks. In order to comply with visa regulations, she returned to Mid-America Nazarene where she is currently working on an MBA degree. Tanya started her "running career" during the summers in Kansas City and throughout her college/university years. When she received her prostheses specifically for running, she said she is now "flying." Currently, she volunteers with a program that coaches young junior high girls in their running endeavors two to three times a week.



Tatsiana "Tanya" Khvitsko with C. Clyde Jones.

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## Meet Katie Tieben, Intern Extraordinaire



I was born and raised in Dodge City, Kansas. My hobbies include running with my dog, riding my horses, and spending time with my family, friends and boyfriend. I am finishing my Bachelor's Degree in Family Studies and Human Services at K-State in December. My short-term goals are to continue my education at Avila University to pursue a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology.

After I complete the two-year graduate program, I plan to get my LPC license and become a licensed professional counselor. In the future, I would love to open up my own private practice to counsel children, families, and groups who are experiencing mental, behavioral, and emotional problems and disorders.

As an Intern at Shepherd's Crossing, I have had the opportunity to conduct budget counseling sessions, learn various things about the funding for this agency, help C. Clyde Jones update the donor database and input client information into the database, and assist Beverly and Warren in any other work that is needed to be done. I have also attended various meetings that have enabled me to learn even more about Shepherd's Crossing.

## 4th Annual C. Clyde Fun/Run/Walk a Success

October 3rd presented perfect fall weather for the 190 people who registered to run and/or walk. Some 15 churches had representatives, with the traveling trophy for the church with the largest number of participants remaining at First United Methodist, who had 20. St. Thomas More came in a close second with 17. We were blessed with the presence of Tatsiana "Tanya" Khvitsko, a double amputee from Belarus. (See *previous page, Tanya's Story.*) More than 70 sponsors donated more than \$21,500 in cash, plus more than \$5,000 in in-kind donations. GTM donated half the cost of the t-shirts, Pepsi Distributors provided beverages, East Side/West Side Markets donated apples and other fruit at cost and Manhattan Broadcasting Company donated 15 days of public service announcements on five stations. Amy Mortimer Garman, Dave Lewis and Coach Bill Snyder each graciously recorded the announcements, donating their services to the cause. Our Board of Directors, our staff and our clients extend a huge shout of appreciation to all of these supportive people.

## Campfire at the Keatings'

Rita and Pat Keating hosted another special evening at their home on October 15 for members of Seven Dolors Catholic Church. The Keatings have graciously opened their home on several occasions to increase awareness of our programs and to offer their guests the opportunity to become supporters of the Crossing. Father Kerry Ninemeier graced us with his presence and reminded us that he had completed the 5k on October 3rd. Greatly appreciated support, Father! Rosie Rundell, one of the founders of the Crossing in 2000, told of the formation of the organization and introduced Board President



Co-hostesses Phyllis Allerheiligen, Mitzi Richards and Kathy Buhl with Willie the Wildcat.

Terry Arthur, Executive Director Beverly Olson and C. Clyde Jones, who made brief remarks to the gathering. There aren't enough words to express adequate thanks to Rita and Pat.



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NEWS

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