

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

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Small talk leads to big impact.

June 25th marked the 39th anniversary of our charitable/free pharmacy. While many people know it is the first free pharmacy established in North Carolina, fewer know it began with a conversation between two strangers.

As part of Leadership Winston-Salem in the summer of 1986, participants were traveling through the city on a bus stopping at various landmarks and other important places in the city. During the bus ride participants were asked to sit next to someone they didn't know. Rev. Ginny Britt, then executive director of Crisis Control Ministry, sat next to Dr. C. Douglas Maynard, who was chair of the Radiation Department at Baptist Hospital (now Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist).

Following introductions and a little small talk, Britt started talking about the increase in clients needing assistance to pay for their prescriptions. "I'm not sure how the conversation started but I found myself sharing this dilemma with Doug," Britt said.

At that time the ministry only designated about \$250 a month for prescription medications. After hearing about the challenge facing the ministry, Maynard told Britt that they were throwing away hundreds of unused samples. "There has to be a way to make this work," said Maynard while telling Britt about the samples.

Not long after that bus ride Britt and Maynard hit the ground running to find ways to support the pharmacy. Maynard held a party for drug representatives a few weeks later to explain the issue, and Britt made a presentation to the board of directors who voted to open the pharmacy less than a year later.

In the early years, samples donated by drug companies and doctors' offices were the source of our medication, but to keep up with demand the ministry eventually started purchasing medications. To help meet this expense, Dr. Maynard approached the Forsyth/Stokes Medical Society, and they adopted the pharmacy as a project. For several years Crisis Control Ministry also hosted a charity basketball game where doctors from Baptist Hospital and Forsyth Hospital played against each other. One-year donations and ticket sales brought in more than \$100,000.

From humble beginnings in a small 8x10 room and a budget of \$250, the pharmacy is now more than 1,700 square feet, and last year dispensed more than 20,000 prescriptions at a value of more than \$3.8 million. While a lot has changed over the years, we still believe our neighbors should not have to choose between buying their prescription medications and other essential needs.

To help us celebrate the pharmacy's 39th anniversary, a generous donor will match all summer donations designated to the pharmacy up to a total of \$100,000. By doubling the impact of your gift, Crisis Control Ministry will be able to ensure even more neighbors' needs are met.

You can mail your donation or give securely at crisiscontrol.org/donate. Together, we can ensure that no one in our community has to choose between prescription medications and other essential needs.



Answering the Call

When Camila found out she could no longer receive her medication through her current provider, she did not know where to turn. With no steady income, Camila had already gone over a month without taking her prescribed medication. During her initial interview with our client services department the interviewer recognized the urgency of the situation. The next day, Camila was able to stop by our Winston-Salem location to pick up her medication. She was also approved as a certified client, meaning she can receive her medication free of charge for an entire year.

With that burden lifted off her shoulders Camila was brought to tears and thanked the entire Crisis Control Ministry staff for helping in her time of need. A lot has changed since 1987, but at Crisis Control Ministry we still believe that our neighbors should not have to choose between buying their prescription medications and other essential needs. When neighbors like Camila are facing a crisis and don't know where to turn, Crisis Control Ministry is here to answer the call.



Help Fill Our Pantries

Our client-choice food pantries in both the Winston-Salem and the Kernersville locations welcome your donations.

For a list of *Most Needed Items*, and resources to help promote Food Drives and Gift of the Month programs, visit our website.

crisiscontrol.org/resources

Gift of the Month

- August:** Toliet Paper & Paper Towels
- September:** Instant Grits & Oatmeal
- October:** Canned Meats

Kids Gift of the Month

- August:** Applesauce Cups or Pouches
- September:** Juice Boxes
- October:** Candy & Cookies

Location Hours

Winston-Salem:

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - Noon
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Kernersville:

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - Noon
Tues. & Thur. 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ashley Edwards

THE MINISTRY MESSENGER is a quarterly publication of Crisis Control Ministry.

Crisis Control Ministry provides assistance with basic life needs to those facing a crisis in Forsyth and Stokes Counties.

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Dear Friends of CCM,

As I sit down to write this final letter as Executive Director of Crisis Control Ministry, my heart is full.

For 27 years, it has been one of the greatest privileges of my life to serve alongside this extraordinary community. Together, we have walked with our neighbors through moments of crisis—offering food, medicine, financial assistance, and most importantly, dignity and hope. It has always been a shared mission and none of us can do this work alone.

To our donors, volunteers, partners, and advocates: thank you. Your generosity has been the reason that Crisis Control Ministry still exists as a vibrant organization. You have shown up with compassion, with faith, and with a deep belief that no one in our community should face hardship alone.

When I reflect on these years, I don't think first about numbers or programs—I think about people. I think about the clients who found stability after a difficult time in their lives, the volunteers who gave their time so selflessly, and the staff whose dedication and heart make this organization what it is every single day. I am especially grateful to have worked alongside such an incredible team. Their commitment to serving others, often in the most challenging circumstances, inspires me daily and gives me great confidence in the future of this organization.

While I retired on June 1, my belief in Crisis Control Ministry's mission has never been stronger. The need remains great—but so does the compassion and commitment of this community. I have no doubt that CCM will continue to grow, adapt, and serve with excellence in the years ahead.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of this work. Thank you for your trust, your support, and your shared heart for our neighbors in need.



Warmest regards,

Margaret P. Elliott

Margaret Elliott
Executive Director

New Staff Member

Larry Rogers

Food Pantry & Warehouse Assistant

Larry Rogers joined Crisis Control Ministry in May. Originally from South Carolina, Larry has over 10 years of warehouse experience.

Before joining the Crisis Control Ministry Team worked as a volunteer in our Winston-Salem of over a year helping in the warehouse and the pⁿ Larry says, "I'm excited and grafetful for the opportunity to join the Crisis Control Ministry Team."

Outside of work, Larry enjoys and creating art and music.



A Legacy of Care, Compassion & Grace

For the past 27 years, Margaret Elliott has worked tirelessly to ensure Crisis Control Ministry lives up to its mission of assisting people in crisis to meet essential life needs and empowering them toward greater stability and well-being.

Even in times of uncertainty, Elliott has been willing to make tough decisions for the betterment of Crisis Control Ministry and our neighbors facing a crisis.

In 2020, while many nonprofits and businesses were closing their doors due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Elliott, staff and a team of dedicated volunteers, implemented phone interview and curb-side service for Crisis Control's pantry and pharmacy.

"Margaret's impact on Crisis Control Ministry has led to the expansion of the organization in its operations and reach within the community," said Kimberly Bostic, chair of Crisis Control Ministry's Board of Directors. "She has led new ways of thinking to best serve the clients, staff and volunteers; leading by example to get work done. Margaret's efforts have not only strengthened teamwork among us all but also resulted in improved efficiency and a smoother continuation of the Ministry's operations."

Under Elliott's leadership, Crisis Control Ministry was awarded the Joel A. & Claudette B. Weston Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Management, and the Nonprofit Sector Stewardship Award, which is awarded annually by the North Carolina Center for Nonprofits. Additionally, the ministry has received top level accreditation from the North Carolina Association of Free Clinics, named a finalist for the Triad Business Journal's Best Places to Work Award and the ministry received a four-star rating from Charity Navigator.

In addition to her commitment to Crisis Control Ministry, Elliott still finds time to volunteer and serve on several different boards in the community. She has served on the Improving Population Health Action Community Advisory Board for Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, as a board member for Leadership America, and on the Advisory Committee for the North Carolina Association of Free Clinics. She's also a 1996 graduate of Leadership Winston-Salem. Currently she serves on the Board of Directors for the YMCA of Northwest North Carolina, the Executive Committee for the Healthy Forsyth Coalition, the Advocacy Committee for the Asset Building Coalition, and the Cancer Center Community Advisory Board (for Atrium Health). Elliott is also an ordained ruling elder with the Presbyterian Church (USA).

When asked about her legacy and the time she spent at Crisis Control Ministry, Elliott said the staff is her legacy. "I know it sounds cliché, but when you hire people who are smarter than you and you let them do their job things go really well," Elliott shared.

"When you support each other, you do your job better, and the community is better off for it. I honestly believe that will be the biggest legacy, that we continue on with the culture of this organization and I have no doubt that will happen."



Celebrating the legacy of Paul Cribb

Dependable. Trustworthy. Respected.

Caring. Those are just a few of the words used to describe Paul Cribb, Crisis Control Ministry's long-time Operations Manager. Cribb, who has been with the ministry since 1999 officially retired on July 1, cementing his legacy as one of the most impactful figures in Crisis Control Ministry's history.

A native of Winston-Salem, Cribb joined Crisis Control Ministry in the summer of 1999 after earning his associate's degree in computer database management from Ashworth University and over 20 years in the grocery business. On paper, as operations manager at Crisis Control Ministry, Cribb oversaw building maintenance, managed our database, warehouse and food pantry operations, as well as all food drives and in-kind donations.

What you won't see in that description is the countless number of hours Paul has spent staying after regular business hours, the weekends he has spent managing food drives, or the miles he has spent driving across the state to make sure clients, volunteers and staff have everything they need. During his time with Crisis Control Ministry, Cribb was also instrumental in bringing the first client-choice food pantry to Forsyth County, and he helped establish Food Day at the Fair in partnership with the Carolina Classic Fair. Cribb has also led the way for all major renovation projects over the past two decades including the construction of the warehouse and expansion of the pantry and pharmacy at our Winston-Salem Office, and the renovation of our Kernersville office.

"Twenty-seven years is a long time to work with somebody, and it has truly been an honor and a pleasure to get to know Paul and to have him here," said Margaret Elliott, former executive director. "I can honestly say Crisis Control Ministry is a much better place because of him."



THANK YOU!



Thank you to everyone who supported Hope du Jour 2026. Without our sponsors, participating restaurants, and **YOU** Hope du Jour wouldn't be possible.



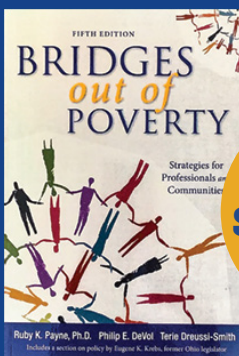
SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday
OCTOBER 7

Join us at Crisis Control Ministry's Food Drive at the Carolina Classic Fair, where admission is free with the donation of 5 non-perishable food items per person.

SIGN UP TODAY

October 23 in Winston-Salem



FREE SEMINAR

You're invited to attend this free community seminar, exploring the impact of poverty. It is designed to develop understanding of the effects of poverty across social and economic groups. Individuals who work regularly with those living in poverty or want to advocate for those in poverty will benefit from this discussion. It is based on the book, "Bridges Out of Poverty," by Ruby Payne, Philip DeVol, and Terie Smith.

To register, visit crisiscontrol.org/news-events.



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday
OCTOBER 18

Winston-Salem/Forsyth County
CROP Hunger Walk at Corpening Plaza

To register to walk, visit cropwalkforsyth.org.

For information about volunteering, email volunteer@crisiscontrol.org.