# **Norcross Cooperative Ministry**



## I. Hope in Motion

Five years ago, through the Restoring Hope! Campaign, the Norcross Cooperative Ministry (NCM) embarked on an exciting new initiative called the Transform Lives Program (TLP). NCM partnered with families who sincerely wanted to pull themselves out of poverty and re-establish themselves as productive members of society. As a result of TLP, NCM realized that clients need help and guidance outside of our core services. Carefully selected NCM clients were mentored, coached and encouraged to secure the education they needed to once again live successful, productive lives. In the next five years, NCM seeks to expand TLP to afford more clients the opportunity to achieve financial independence. Through Partners for Hope, Norcross Cooperative Ministry will:

- Address additional barriers and issues that prevent NCM clients from improving their lives
- Enhance the life skills and workforce education programs working with other agencies
- Motivate and support clients through the transition process

#### Five-Year Goals:

- Expand employment-related services to NCM clients as well as others in the community through job fairs, resume' writing and job search training
- Increase the number of classes each month to teach NCM clients communication skills, computer training, budgeting and financial management
- Provide a computer center for our clients and program participants and assist them in developing job resumes, applications for assistance and job searches
- Offer financial assistance for critical expenses not available through other agencies (e.g., childcare, housing and transportation)
- Connect each HiM client with case management for guidance and encouragement
- Collaborate with community partners to provide assistance with prescriptions as well as medical, dental and counseling services
- Inform and engage NCM clients and others in the community regarding opportunities through the Hope in Motion initiative

Annual Cost: \$383,529 Five-Year cost: \$1,917,645

### II. Provide New and Expanded General Services

Restoring Hope! had a profound impact on those in need in the greater Norcross area. The quality of life improved significantly for many families who received food, clothing and emergency assistance through NCM. To build on that success, NCM will expand its services and add new programs to better serve client families. Through the Partners for Hope, NCM will have the resources it needs to:

- **Increase funding for emergency assistance** for short-term housing and utility assistance.
- Expand children's services and activities to provide a meaningful experience for children
- Coordinate veteran's services to provide additional assistance to our military veterans
- Improve the availability of basic food and-non-food items such as personal hygiene, toilet paper and diapers
- Grow seasonal programs including school supplies drives, Thanksgiving and Team Elf
- Expand resources for appropriate business interview and job-related attire

#### Five-Year Goals:

- Increase financial assistance for emergency housing and utility support
- Expand the children's ministry to include tutoring as well as daily children's activities whenever NCM is open
- Obtain a multi passenger vehicle to transport food and to assist NCM clients
- Increase the availability of food to specific targeted groups (e.g., healthy after school snacks and summer meals for children at risk)
- Increase the availability of non-food items to include personal care and hygiene products
- Inspire families who are participating in our seasonal programs to give back to the community through acts of service

Annual Cost: \$285,578 Five-Year cost: \$1,427,890

### III. Educate / Communicate

The collaboration and support of individuals, churches, businesses and all who live and work in the greater Norcross area is critical to the ongoing success of the Norcross Cooperative Ministry. As a result of this collaboration, the Partners for Hope initiative will be far greater than the sum of its parts and many of our goals will be achieved and exceeded. Communication and education are keys to our success. Stakeholders must be kept informed of the progress of this program and the benefits experienced by those in need in the greater Norcross area. To accomplish this, the Partners for Hope five-year program will:

- Enhance the existing marketing and communications plan to expand local awareness of the needs of the community and the solutions offered by NCM.
- Communicate regularly with supporters and donors to inform them of the progress of this initiative

#### Five-Year Goals:

- Expand and enhance the NCM website
- Distribute annual reports, bi-annual newsletters, monthly emails and weekly updates via Facebook and other social media avenues
- Host an annual Stakeholders' meeting to report the progress of this initiative
- Produce and distribute videos regarding NCM programs, services and testimonials
- Increase the brand identity of NCM
- Publish a schedule of periodic tours/open house events inviting community partners to learn more about the programs at NCM
- Partner with Stakeholders to enhance NCM's communications plan
- Expand awareness of the needs in the greater Norcross area

Annual Cost: \$30,893 Five-Year cost: \$154,465

Total Five-Year Cost: \$3,500,000

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