



Contact: Terri Voytowich (313) 613- 0097 **e-mail** tvoytowich@crossroadsofmichigan.org

Jerry Najor, Beverly Hills, MI Receives Crossroads “Community Partner” Award

October 13, 2010, Detroit, MI - Crossroads of Michigan, hosted its annual fundraiser and award gala at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

“When the poor are lost, forgotten and have nowhere else to turn they often come to Crossroads,” says Mary Honsel, Crossroads of Michigan Executive Director. “And often, we turn to our friend, Jerry Najor (Fraser Pharmacy) to assist us with the costs of prescriptions and medical supplies for countless individuals that have come to Crossroads for assistance.”

Crossroads is honored to present Jerry Najor, owner-operator of Fraser Pharmacy with the 2010 Heart of Crossroads Community Partner Award. Najor’s willingness to work with Crossroads counselors to provide reasonable pricing on prescriptions and medical supplies and his determination to treat all of the clients Crossroads sends to his pharmacy with respect and dignity, make him the obvious choice for the Crossroads of Michigan “Community Partner.”

In 2009, Crossroads paid more than \$45,000 for prescriptions and medical needs for its clients who had no way to cover these costs themselves. This number would have been much higher if not for the willingness of Najor to keep his prices low and provide the best in pharmacy services for the hundreds of clients Crossroads send to his pharmacy each year. In addition, Crossroads honored: Fred Conn (Crossroads Volunteer), “James A. McLaren” Award and Shelia Cockrel (WSU/formerly of the Detroit City Council), “Gift of Hope” award.

Crossroads of Michigan, founded in 1971, helps keep hope alive by providing emergency assistance, advocacy, a weekly soup kitchen and counseling to the neediest people in the metro area. Crossroads is able to help those in need at both of our Detroit locations at 2424 West Grand Boulevard and 14641 East Jefferson Avenue. Assisting young mothers, teens, the jobless, the elderly, the homeless, the infirm and those just released from Michigan prisons, Crossroads works with clients to meet their immediate needs and help them assess their situations to lessen the likelihood of future problems. Additional information on Crossroads and its award recipients can be found at www.crossroadsofmichigan.org

• JERRY NAJOR •

Community Partner Award, 2010



When the poor are lost, forgotten, and have nowhere else to turn, they often come to Crossroads. But, where does Crossroads turn when we need help? Quite often, we look to our friend, Jerry Najor. As owner-operator of Fraser Pharmacy in Detroit, Jerry is, quite literally, a lifesaver for countless individuals who need assistance with the costs of prescriptions and medical supplies. His willingness to work with our counselors, his reasonable pricing, and his determination to treat all of the clients we send to his pharmacy with respect and dignity, make him the obvious choice to receive the 2010 Heart of Crossroads Community Partner Award this evening.

Jerry Najor has been a Detroit resident all his life. Born in Beverly Hills, Michigan, he attended Wayne State University earning degrees in biology, history and pharmacy. Prior to opening Fraser Pharmacy, Jerry operated Przybylski Pharmacy in the Poletown area. When Jerry was much younger, his father ran a party store on Warren and West Grand Boulevard. Coincidentally, although Jerry was only seven years old at the time, many of his father's customers are, today, shopping at Fraser Pharmacy. These customers know what Crossroads and our clients also know – that Jerry Najor is fair, kind, and a vital link in the connection of business to the community. According to Jerry, he tries to, “complement Crossroads’ commitment to the community through consultations and pharmacy services.” The collaboration between Fraser Pharmacy and Crossroads has resulted in important savings in a program that fills a huge need for those who look to us for emergency help with prescription emergencies.

In 2009, Crossroads paid more than \$45,000 for prescriptions and medical needs for our clients who had no way to cover these costs themselves. This number would have been much higher if not for the willingness of Jerry Najor to keep his prices low and provide the best in pharmacy services for the hundreds of clients we send to his pharmacy each year. Jerry claims he has been influenced by the generosity of his wife, Toni. She has inspired him through her extensive volunteer work at nursing homes and their church. And, three decades ago, Jerry hired an assistant who reflects his commitment to caring. Nancy Adesso, his principal assistant, has worked with Jerry for nearly thirty years. At Fraser Pharmacy, for the poor as well as the agencies that serve them, the spirit of giving and caring is alive and well.

Tonight, we are proud to honor Jerry Najor with the Heart of Crossroads Community Partner Award.

