In this issue:

In order to know how to address a challenge, the challenge must be properly understood. There are between 5,000 and 10,000 homeless and unstably housed young people in San Francisco. Many of them are not being adequately reached, because they do not fit the profile of those most thought of as “homeless youth,” often because of their race or survival activities. In this issue, we explore who is on the streets, how they are perceived, and how this affects whether or not their needs are getting met. We begin by showing you the faces of our clients, in as representative a manner as possible; are you surprised by what you see?

ATC’S CLIENTS
San Francisco’s population is less than 7% black. In 2007 and 2008, 52% of all homicide victims in San Francisco were black, and 18-29 year-olds are the age group at highest risk of being murdered. What this means is that black youth are dramatically overrepresented as homicide victims in San Francisco. **One of the untold stories around these statistics is the role that homelessness plays in creating violence in the lives of these youth.**

As you will read about in this newsletter, homelessness is a largely invisible problem among black youth in San Francisco. ATC has had its own struggles with this issue. In our Fall 2006 newsletter, I talked about how confused Taj (ATC’s cofounder) and I were, initially, in approaching black youth we were seeing on the streets. We were unsure whether they were homeless, and didn’t know how they would receive us. It took us a few months before we finally stepped back, clarified ATC’s definition of “underserved homeless youth,” and realized that they were exactly the ones we should be targeting. But this was after nearly half a year of being out there night after night, week after week.

Because of the fact that many of our black clients do not feel comfortable with the label “homeless,” they often won’t access services for “homeless youth,” even though they have long been without homes. Because they usually do not dress or act in a way that people generally associate with homeless youth, they are less likely to be targeted by services. This leads to deep disconnection from services, including a particularly crucial one: housing.

Many of our black clients are engaged in the street economies in order to survive, in large part due to societal and historical forces. Additionally, stigma around being identified as homeless and sleeping on the streets can create more pressure to make money. This often means paying $60 a night to stay in a horrible, run-down hotel room that has no bathroom, is dirty, and would not be considered a “home” by most anyone. They pay nearly twice as much for their hotel rooms as I pay for my one-bedroom apartment. It is ridiculous.

There are not many options to make the amount of money that the “hotel room cycle” costs, so they turn to options on the street, where violence is everywhere they turn. If you do business on the street, you will be involved in violence, as a perpetrator or a victim. It is inevitable.

For many of these youth, if you address their homelessness, you are removing the primary incentive to be in the street economy. Take them off the streets, and the violence in their lives drops significantly. I’m not saying it is quite that simple, but in some ways, it is. However, because of the invisibility of their homelessness, this solution is often overlooked.

In the past few years, San Francisco has put a great deal of time and money into violence prevention. However, I have not seen housing put forth as being central to addressing this problem. Maybe it was, and I missed it. I know that most of our clients have. Housing, while not cheap, might be the most cost-effective solution to reduce violence within the community of black street youth, who could not be more high-risk.

After-school programs, job creation, and other existing services are key components to addressing violence in this community. So is housing. ATC has done our clients a disservice by not being as vocal as it should be on the connection between homicide and homelessness for black youth (& Latino youth) in this city. Only in the past couple of years have we started to ring the alarm on this issue. I worry that a stronger voice could have helped save lives. It makes me incredibly sad to think about that possibility. It will not happen again.
**Mission Statement**

At The Crossroads reaches out to homeless youth and young adults at their point of need, and works with them to build healthy and fulfilling lives.

**Core Values**

- Prioritizing meeting the needs of our clients first
- Making services as accessible as possible
- Supporting empowerment
- Respecting individuality

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**What We Do: The Basics**

- ATC walks the streets three nights a week in two areas of San Francisco: Downtown and the Mission. We hand out basic necessities like food, condoms, and socks, and slowly build counseling relationships.
- We work with young people whom others have given up on, who would not get help without us.
- We meet with clients 1-to-1. We listen to them talk about anything they want, with no agenda and no judgment. We help them figure out who they want to be, and how to become that person.
- We keep working with clients after they leave the streets. We continue to support them for as long as they want, helping them build outstanding lives, not just lives of subsistence.
- We work closely with other organizations, connecting our clients with services such as jobs, housing, education, health care, and mental health services.
- We support other programs in their efforts to work with homeless youth through dialogue, trainings, and technical assistance.
- We work with city government to improve the continuum of support for all young people on the streets in San Francisco.

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**Get Involved with At The Crossroads**

**Volunteer**

**Individually**

Do you have free time in the afternoon or evening? Come by our office and sort donated clothing, put away food, drive to the Food Bank and go shopping, or pitch in on a number of other tasks that keep us going. Interested? Email getinvolved@atthecrossroads.org.

**Collect unused gift cards**

Everyone has a gift certificate (or 20) that is sitting around the house, collecting dust. ATC can put them to good use by giving them to our clients or buying items we need. In case you didn't know, most gift certificates in California don't expire. One of our volunteers has already collected thousands of dollars in gift certificates for ATC! And to make it easy, we have an email template you can use to ask friends if they also have gift certificates to donate. Interested? Email getinvolved@atthecrossroads.org.

**Email list**

Sign up to receive emails twice a month about volunteer opportunities, organizational updates, and ways to get involved. Send an email to getinvolved@atthecrossroads.org, with the subject heading “Join the ATC email list.”

**Expand our network**

**Share our documentary**

After you watch our documentary, if you like it, invite your friends over for lunch, cocktails or dinner to check it out. An ATC staff member can join you to discuss our work. It's a great way to introduce people to ATC. Email getinvolved@atthecrossroads.org and let us know.

**Share our newsletter**

Please let others who might be interested in ATC know about our work! If you want us to send people our newsletter, email us their names and addresses, and we'll send them copies. Email getinvolved@atthecrossroads.org.

**Be creative**

We're open to hearing your ideas for supporting ATC. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us through email (getinvolved@atthecrossroads.org) or phone (415-487-0691 x101).

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**Make a donation to ATC**

You’ll experience a sense of happiness and fulfillment that you’ve never known. You’ll want to do it again and again. In all seriousness, the future of At The Crossroads depends on the generosity of individuals who believe in our work. **Make a credit card donation at www.atthecrossroads.org.**

**Or make checks payable to: “At The Crossroads, a project of CI.”**

**Watch our documentary**

In Spring 2008, Monica Lam filmed a documentary that takes you into the world of our clients and our work. You can find it at [www.atthecrossroads.org](http://www.atthecrossroads.org). It is 15 minutes long, and we promise you won’t regret taking the time to watch it.
The Differing Experiences of Black and White Street Youth

In 2009 the Journal of Social Science and Medicine released an article titled, “The worlds of homeless white and African American youth in San Francisco.” This article speaks directly to the disparities between black and white youth living on the streets, and has brought attention to an issue that ATC has been witnessing for many years. The differences focus on how youth identify themselves, what behaviors they participate in on the streets, and the roles that their families and larger communities play in their lives. It sheds light on how these differences affect the way that they seek out support.

How the project came about

Colette (Coco) Auerswald, the lead researcher for this project, has dedicated a great deal of her time over the past 15 years to homeless youth. In the mid 90s, when Coco started working with marginalized communities, specifically focusing on youth and HIV, she noticed that the majority of the research focused on “the bad things these bad kids do.” An important fact missing, she realized, was that they were living on the streets. “It was disembodied from the fact that they were homeless,” says Auerswald, a physician specializing in adolescent medicine, “and there was therefore a social circumstance and a culture that would affect what people’s choices were.”

During the course of previous research with youth living in the Haight and Castro, it became obvious to Coco that “there were these big groups of kids who lived in the same space but actually had totally different life experiences and were labeled homeless kids, and did not necessarily see themselves in the same way.” Missing were the many youth who lived and hung out on Market Street, who are predominantly black. For this reason, her recent research focused on interviewing as many youth outside of the Haight and Castro areas, and worked on including black youth. She says, “We were interested in what their experience was on the street and how that translated for service providers in terms of risk behavior and access to services.”

Disconnect with services

The differences between black and white youth mostly center around identity, connections with community and family, and accessing homeless youth services. “What it really seemed to me,” says Coco, “was that the white kids have a strong identity, were easy to identify, were easy to count, and so they were identified as homeless. Many of them were very vocal about their needs and very visible about finding services.” Black youth, on the other hand, were more likely to say that there were no services for them or to point to programs in the communities where they come from that no longer existed due to lack of funding.

Many black youth, she says, reported only accessing services in jail. “Basically they would get arrested, and when you go ask them how they got tested for STDs, for the most part, they would say, ‘I got tested when I was in jail.’ But that’s really not a way to get services.” These youth, she found, simply did not see themselves as homeless, so the services targeting homeless youth were of little interest to them. “So instead of having this immense catalog of services that they accessed, there was nothing they said they were accessing. These youth sounded like they were sort of humiliating the outreach workers, ‘Oh yeah, I take the toothbrush and then I give it to someone who really needs it.’” This is something ATC has frequently experienced, where black youth have an initial skepticism around our work, and question whether it is a fit for them.

Black youth tend to eschew the label “homeless” and are more difficult for traditional homeless youth providers to target as potential clients. “They have new clothes, they look really great, yet they are unstably housed. The young people of color generally rejected the term homeless and so if we would ask them if they were homeless, they were insulted because for them that term was affiliated with these gross, smelly, injection drug-using white kids, who

“I think that it is very important to pay attention to disparities and if we just ignore them people get left out.”

— Colette (Coco) Auerswald


**“living in a place not meant for human habitation (street, park, abandoned building, beach, vehicle)
Approximately 70% of the youth we work with are black or Latino. They are generally well-dressed, and people walk by them never considering that they could be homeless. They get labels like drug-dealer or gang member, and are often targeted exclusively by the police, rather than by homeless youth services. Yet they exist on the streets, making money however they can to get by, without a consistent place to sleep, years removed from anywhere that felt like “home.”

Homeless? Nah, not me.
Many of these youth do not identify as homeless, and therefore are unlikely to go into programs for “homeless youth.” For Veronica, a Latina client ATC has been working with for eight years, being out on the streets did not make her identify as homeless, and she would do whatever she had to in order to avoid sleeping on the streets. “I was not homeless like other people, but I was a drug addict. A homeless person is somebody who sleeps in the streets, who doesn’t shower, who doesn’t take care of themselves, don’t really do nothing for themselves.” This is how many of our clients feel, that if they are not could meet their needs. Many of the black and Latino youth that we encounter have never had any kind of significant relationship with a service provider, despite the length of time that they have not had homes.

For white youth, it is often easier to accept the label homeless; there is less of a stigma in their peer community. Travis, a white male client ATC has been working with for three years, has no problem with the term homeless. “I definitely considered myself homeless when I didn’t have a stable place to stay. Just having a bed in a hotel doesn’t mean you’re not homeless. Having a few places to crash out doesn’t mean you’re not homeless. You’re homeless unless you have a home.”

Travis now has a permanent place to live, but he remembers when he was living on the streets, panhandling, and he would have a sign that read, “Stranded from home.” At first, he says, “because of my general appearance people would be compassionate towards me until I started to speak. Then they would see I was missing teeth and generally think I was some type of drug addict. So you don’t have to be pushing a cart to get lumped in to some kind of category.”

The weight of judgment
Many of the youth we work with have struggled with how others perceive them, especially law enforcement. When Mar Mar was asked how he feels the police view him, he says he’s seen “as a drug dealer, and that I am up to no good.” About whether he considers himself homeless, Mar Mar says “I didn’t consider myself homeless. I don’t sleep on a corner. I don’t smoke dope.”

People’s judgments can significantly affect our clients’ self-esteem. “It isn’t easy being homeless,” says Luis, a young Latino male who has worked with ATC for two years. “People didn’t like me or something. There’s this girl that I really liked and when she found out I was homeless, she just looked at me differently. That crushed me.” Making it harder is that Luis does not identify this way. “I’m not homeless, I’m houseless.”

Lani, a mixed race female who has been an ATC client for four years, has been on and off the streets. She has squatted in abandoned buildings and slept under bridges in order to find shelter. She feels other people rejected her when she was homeless. “They looked down on me, even though I tried to keep my clothes clean and keep my appearance cleaner than other homeless people, which made me miserable.”

John, a white male client working with ATC for two years, worries about how people perceive him. “I don’t want to be perceived the wrong way, cause I mean, I feel too.” Earlier in his life on the streets, he struggled to keep clean. “I remember wearing the same outfit for at least a week and my beard was growing, and I was starting to end up living in the streets because my whole day was spent wandering and trying to find a place that I could use a restroom. I was starting to look pretty disheveled and I remember people treating me way different. And that’s the biggest fear is that people will perceive me as sketchy, desperate and needy.”
Young, female, and on the streets

“When you say homeless person to me, I think of a man on the street. I don’t think of a woman...I don’t see a woman as homeless.”

These words came from Julia, a 24-year old Latina client who has been working with ATC for five years, who identifies as homeless. Why is it that for most people, male or female, the image that pops in their mind when they think of a homeless person is a man?

One of the reasons may be that women on the streets tend to be more invisible. Quite literally, there aren’t as many of them out there, in ATC’s experience. About 65% of the youth we see on outreach are male. A part of this is that the streets, while unsafe for all, pose an even greater risk for young women. “I feel like prey out there sometimes,” Julia says. “There’s not one woman that you can run into that’s homeless on the streets that hasn’t been attacked. All of us have been attacked.”

In part because of the dangers of the streets, young women on the streets will often end up trading sex for a place to stay. Many of them do not view it as sex work; it is simply a way to avoid sleeping on the streets.

Jenecia, a young black woman who has been working with ATC since “Rob had black hair,” recalls one night when she was kicked out of the place she had been crashing, and was desperate for a place to stay. “I spent the night with a dude I didn’t want to spend the night with.” This is a common experience for our female clients. Because Jenecia was able to avoid spending nights sleeping on the streets (save once or twice), people didn’t see her as homeless. In her friends’ minds, “I was just outside, like they were. Nobody ever knew.”

For both Julia and Jenecia, their experiences on the streets have helped make them the strong women they are. Julia, who is now clean and living in permanent housing, looks forward to “being seen as an individual. And says, “I’m going to have a voice.” Jenecia feels that “being homeless made me a believer that if I stand for nothing, I’ll fall for anything. It taught me to really stand up for myself and appreciate myself.” They may have been somewhat invisible, but clearly are not anymore.

No one knew

Even though many of her peers were also homeless at the time she was living on the streets, LeaJay, a young black mother of two who met ATC on the streets eight years ago, feels that some people who know her today would be surprised to know that she used to be homeless. “I don’t tell everybody that I was homeless. I don’t tell everybody that I used to be addicted to drugs, especially crack and heroin. And only people who know me really good know I used to prostitute.” Even when LeaJay was on the streets, few people were aware she was homeless. When we first met her, she looked like a fairly typical 19-year-old, and did not have most of the expected external signs of homelessness. It was a secret that was easy for her to keep.

Sometimes our clients are extremely good at fitting in, with no one knowing that they are homeless, because they don’t fit the typical profile. Jasmine, a mixed race female client we met a little over a year ago on the corner of Market and 5th, has spent the past four years being homeless and yet, by her estimation, many folks do not know her situation at first glance. “If I was to tell people I was homeless, lots of people wouldn’t believe me, because I don’t fit. Because they expect me to look really ratty, really covered in dirt. I guess because I just paid attention to detail and I always had a comb with me and cut my hair all the time when I couldn’t shower everyday.”

“Some people try to argue against me if I don’t look homeless. They think that if you’re homeless, you’re on drugs or totally insane.”

—Jasmine

Generally she prefers that people not know she’s homeless, as she doesn’t like the stereotype: “I’m not some panhandler. Some people try to argue against me if I don’t look homeless. They think that if you’re homeless you’re on drugs or totally insane. I have problems but I’m not on drugs, I’ve never had a drug habit, I’m not an alcoholic, and you know just because I have anxiety or depression doesn’t mean that I am not going to try to take care of myself.” She adds, “I smile all the time, and that’s another reason people wouldn’t think that I was homeless, because I’m very much present. I’m aware. I’m sober.”

Not fitting the stereotype has made it challenging for Jasmine to access services. “I would always wash my hands and my face whenever I could. And when I was waiting in line for some program, I would have some people say to me ‘This is for the needy,’ and ‘What are you doing here?’ and I was like ‘I’m homeless, trust me, I’m in need.’”

How can we help?

Generally the youth we work with are not connecting with other service organizations. Either because they are not being targeted, or they don’t consider themselves homeless and do not seek out the available help. This is where ATC comes in. We are out on the
This is rarely the case with white clients, who after 10 years, Freddy, a Latino male, still remembers meeting Rob and ATC on outreach. He was in the Mission selling drugs in order to get a place to stay and get his next fix. He saw Rob standing looking at him and mistook him for a cop. “Rob lifted his shirt up telling me he’s not wired and he’s not a cop. He showed me what he had in his backpack - candy, condoms, bandages, water, cotton, stuff like that.” The next time he saw Rob, he apologized, talked for about half an hour, and ATC has been working with him ever since. Offering a consistent, non-judgmental presence has helped Freddy and his wife Julia in their efforts to get clean and off of the streets.

Luis remembers when he first met ATC counselors two years ago. Like many of the youth of color we work with, he had no idea that there could be help for him. He also considers himself rather shy and it took him a while to feel comfortable meeting us during the day outside of outreach. Having people who were relaxed and welcoming was important for him to make the connection necessary to get the support he needed. “You guys were the coolest people that I’ve ever met in my life. I was homeless, and I was really hungry and you guys really helped me out.” At the end of the day, for most of our clients, they just want someone safe to talk to.

“I didn’t consider myself as homeless. I don’t sleep on a corner, I don’t smoke dope.”

— Mar Mar

Making connections

How youth perceive their connections to family and community is another important factor to understand in order to help them move forward in life. For black youth, says Coco, “they primarily see themselves as part of their community, and a lot of the couch surfing that they are doing is within networks of kin and non-kin people that they are staying with.”

ATC has seen, time and time again, the crucial role that extended family has played in helping black clients stabilize their lives. This is rarely the case with white clients, who are often geographically and emotionally disconnected from their extended families.

For white youth in the study, who have been living with little contact with any blood relatives, and identify more strongly with their street families, services are often their only option for getting support. “I think supporting these kids in their independence, giving them tools that are really appropriate to wherever they are, but even just being sure that everyone can get an ID, so what services they do need, they can access.”

The general response

At a recent panel hosted by TAYSF (Transition Aged Youth San Francisco), Coco presented the findings of her work to a room full of homeless youth providers, clients and city department officials from the Department of Children, Youth and Families. Coco is excited to disseminate the information she has, but is frank about the challenges. For her, the issue of youth not having an organized voice is critical to understanding who is advocating for them. And then there is the issue of translating academic work to a wider audience.

“I know a lot about writing academic papers,” says Coco, “but knowing exactly how to crystallize this for the community has been more challenging. You know kids aren’t all the same. You have to understand where people are in their trajectory, then you can help them, and providers know this.”

The reception to her work has generally been very positive, as service providers (ATC included) have lauded the fact that there is finally research that speaks to the experience of what they have been seeing for years.

“This is an article that actually took us four to five years to write,” explained Coco. “Just the feeling that someone was finally talking about this was, it was amazing, and people were like, ‘Ah yes!’ And especially people who were providers of color or working with youth of color.”

ATC and other similar organizations have been gathering anecdotal data for years about working on the streets with youth of different racial backgrounds. Using research, such as Coco’s, to back up these experiences will go a long way toward creating services better geared to meet the differing needs of black and white youth. For Coco, the possibility that her research leads to systemic changes that improve cultural competency and accessibility is what it is all about.

Next steps

Coco, the consummate researcher, is already looking forward. She sees her next project focusing on developing accurate counts of homeless youth, in order to help inform funding priorities and policy decisions regarding this population. Her recent research provides the perfect foundation for understanding how to count these youth, because in her mind, “I see that the issue of identity relates to invisibility, then invisibility leads to not being counted and not being counted leads to not being included and not having services.”
Additional raffle prize donors
JetBlue Airways
Bi-Rite Creamery

I Think I Can thank many awesome businesses...

The outstanding raffle prizes from our Campaign Launch Party:

JetBlue

Generous donors from the Ferry Plaza Farmer’s Market
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Frog Hollow Farm
Hog Island Oyster Co.
Hamada Farms

Additional raffle prize donors
JetBlue Airways
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The amazing thank you gifts that we gave to our I Think I Can Campaign participants; that’s some serious generosity!

Benefit Cosmetics
Boulette’s Larder
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Jelly Belly
K & J Orchards
Peninsula Beauty
Rickshaw Bagworks
Social Imprints
Suhki’s Gourmet Indian Foods

Janine Spaulding
Sam Test
Veronica Vaskin-Lew

Our fabulous Launch Party host

A special thank you to Orson, which hosted our Launch Party and gave us a significant discount, making it possible for us to have a much cooler party than we could have ever hoped for otherwise. Their outstanding staff, delicious food, and beautiful space made for a memorable night!
Our favorite siblings

Siroskey Sisters. Sounds like a duo you wouldn’t want to mess with. Well, you’d be right. But ATC is lucky to have Daniella and Irene on our side. Actually, they are two of the nicer people you will ever meet. And boy, do they come through for us. There is no volunteer activity that they don’t offer to help with. They are especially adept at cleaning used bike-messenger bags, a talent they didn’t even know they had. And when we run out of ideas for them, they just come up with new ones. What do you call two people who notice how dirty our floors are, and then come in and scrub them, out of the goodness of their own hearts? The Siroskey sisters. There are no others like them. And we are so grateful to have them as part of our organization.

And our favorite little volunteer

Donations come in all different sizes. So why is it that a recent $11.08 donation seemed like one of the biggest ones we’ve ever gotten? Because it came from someone under four feet tall, and it comprised the majority of her net worth. Abigail Paisley Heuga has two wonderful parents, Julie and Michael, who are donors, campaign participants, and in Julie’s case, a weekly volunteer. Abigail occasionally comes along and joins mom in stocking our food cabinets to keep our clients happy. Well, after carefully weighing her options of where to invest her leftover allowance (T-Bills, Hedge Funds, Bank of Piggy), Abigail decided to put her faith and money into homeless youth; she’s one sharp investor! We hope our little Warren Buffett inspires people a little bit older than her to follow suit.

And our favorite party people

Over the past year, ATC has been lucky enough to be selected as the beneficiary of a few local events that were created to make the Bay Area a better place for us all. Last summer, Reason To Party turned out about 400 people who drank and danced to support ATC. Late last year, Mission Street Food, a roving restaurant that always donates its profits to San Francisco non-profits, decided to help out ATC on one of its most delicious nights. And this Spring, Yuppie Friday threw a happy hour to raise money for our cause. It is an amazing feeling for our work to be recognized by people who have dedicated their time and energy to raising money for their community. We love the support that these grassroots groups provide us, and feel honored that they value our work and our clients.

And our favorite Campaign volunteers

Like the look of our Campaign website and brochure this year? We sure did. A big shout out to Seidel Advertising and Marketing, which created our lovely Campaign logo and brochure, and came up with the memorable slogan “The Little Engine for Good.” And special thanks to Josh Howe, Kiley Hertel, Michael Short, Vic Su, and Jim Miller, otherwise known as the Fab Five, the individuals responsible for our fantastic website. All of the people mentioned worked under great time pressure and still managed to do an outstanding job!
The 2010
I Think I Can
Campaign:
Bigger and Better Than Ever!

This year, ATC’s community showed its incredible creativity, passion and commitment through its participation in our **LITTLE ENGINE FOR GOOD**. Here are some stats on what has been accomplished (so far):

95 participants
1484 Donors
$90,749 raised

This pays for all of our outreach in 2010, enabling ATC to reach 1,000 young people, and to give them the support they need to build outstanding lives. In addition, these 95 people improved their own lives, accomplishing both long-held and brand new goals, and inspiring those around them, including everyone involved with ATC! And if you look very closely at this page, you will see all of them. We are so grateful.

Some of the Coolest Kids on the Campaign Block: five campaigns that rocked our world

**Bonnie Puckett** - Making her birthday a gift to others

Bonnie celebrated her 30th birthday by getting 37 of her friends to volunteer at the SF Food Bank, and raised $1,830 from 51 people.

**Mateo Burtch** - Eat your heart out, New Yorker

Mateo used his sharp wit and sharper pencil tip to create 35 cartoons in 30 days, and raised $2,953 from 52 people.

**Mark Dwight** - Apparently, no one told him about airplanes

Mark Dwight decided to take a quick bike ride down the coast, a mere 525 miles, and raised $10,681 from 87 people.

**Dave Stassen** - Channeling the magic of Prefontaine

Dave, showing a heretofore unseen will and drive, ran 150 miles in 30 days, and raised $5,145 from 70 people.

**Dawn Pavli** - Discovering the joy of broccoli

Dawn gave up sugar for 30 days (a fairly masochistic and heroic act), and raised $1,085 from 37 people.

There is still plenty of time to Hop on Board the 2010 Campaign!
To learn more and join on visit campaign.atthecrossroads.org
SF Giants “Step Up to the Plate” and recognize the work of At The Crossroads

A home run for ATC! On **Tuesday, August 24**, the San Francisco Giants will be hosting Step Up to the Plate night, honoring five local nonprofits at the game, and ATC is thrilled to be one of them!

The best part is that **Kristina Chance, an ATC Outreach Counselor, will be singing the National Anthem**, fulfilling her I Think I Can Campaign Goal! Support her in this amazing effort by going to: www.atthecrossroads.org/campaign/kristinachance1

Come join us for this great night! Enjoy the best pitching staff in baseball, root root root for the home team and ATC, and listen to the greatest National Anthem rendition ever!

**Don’t just buy a regular ticket! Purchase it through the special events site, and $8 will be donated to ATC:**

**Step 1** - Go to www.sfgiants.com/specialevents

**Step 2** - Click on “Step Up To The Plate” night on special events calendar

**Step 3** - Follow the instructions to purchase tickets to benefit ATC

The ticket option should be up by mid-June, end of June at the latest.