

Boxes of Love® 2018

20,000 lbs of meat, **42,000** lbs of potatoes, **160,000** lbs of canned vegetables, fruit, and other Thanksgiving goodies. **4,500** gospel bracelets and gospel booklets. **1,040** volunteers, **119** Cru partner churches, **15** packing parties, **3** evangelism workshops, **4** distribution hubs. **One** message – God loves you!

That message of love and hope resulted in **1,072** people putting their faith in Jesus, **576** people rededicated themselves to Christ, and **816** attended church for the first time!

Boxes of Love reaches those hidden behind closed doors! When Pastor Robin knocked on the door, Gordon cautiously peeked out. When he saw the Box of Love, the door opened. Pastor Robin asked, “Gordon, what’s on your mind? You look so worried.” Gordon had lost his wife and was in danger of losing even his home. When Pastor Robin assured him that *God had not forgotten him*, Gordon said, “I’m so glad you came.” They *continue to talk* every two weeks as Gordon tries to find hope again.

Boxes of Love is more than just an annual event! With Cru's support and training, a partner church in Queens is putting together their own “boxes of love” all year round to help immigrant families. This year they have knocked on the doors of 2,200 households using materials from Cru to offer food and the message of Jesus’ love.

Boxes of Love is transforming lives! Lonny came from his homeless shelter to the Boxes of Love outreach at a Queens church with his head down and a hopeless attitude. After church members repeatedly invited him to the food pantry and church activities, one day Lonny came! Now he attends the weekly prayer meetings and is looking for a job. With the church’s help, he has been able to reconnect with his mother and his children. The Boxes of Love event began a *huge transformation* in Lonny’s life as he moves toward independence.

Boxes of Love is reaching whole families for Christ! Celebrating holidays meant little to Peter, a boy struggling with the loss of his mother. But God used Lucia, a young classmate, to bring hope to his entire family. When Lucia’s church learned there were ten hungry people in Peter’s home, when they brought *two* Boxes of Love. They were able to share Christ with the whole group, and *everyone* responded in faith! A meal lasts for an hour, but Christ and His Word remain forever.



Many of you participated in Boxes of Love 2018!

You packed food and the gospel message into the boxes with us. You prayed; you created gospel bracelets; you gave financially to the Boxes of Love outreach. *Your partnership made this all possible!*

Thank you, thank you—on behalf of 27,000 struggling New Yorkers who were recipients of your kindness.

Gratefully,



Dan Minell, NYC Director