

# ANNUAL GRANT REPORT - 2022



**Madison Christian**  
GIVING FUND

# \$956,700 IN GRANTS SINCE 2014

- In 2022 \$136,000 in grants were awarded to these organizations.

Affordable Dental Care

All God's People

Athletes in Action

Care Net

Child Evangelism Fellowship

Collaboration Project

CRU

Door Creek Church – Northside

FCA - Southern Wisconsin

FCA Stoughton

FOSTER of Dane County

Iglesia Restauracion Y Vida

Impact Badger Chapter

Inspiring Hope

Lighthouse Christian School

Madison Area Jail Ministry

Magnum Opus

PEBOGA

Shelter From The Storm Ministry

Shepherd 2 Shepherd

The Evangelical Catholic

Upper|House

WI Inmate Education Association

Yada

Young Life Badger Metro

## PROJECT: Dental Education Workshops for Underserved Communities and People of Color



Using Biblical principles taught and displayed by Jesus to love and care for our neighbors, thanks to the MCGF, we successfully implemented and delivered more than five bilingual dental educational workshops throughout the community. We believe we share and extend the Gospel by intentionally approaching the most vulnerable and historically marginalized communities through love and compassion. The project's main objective was to educate low-income families, refugees, and families of color. Affordable Dental Care does not discriminate based on an individual's race, color, sex, national origin, disability, or religion. We feel beyond blessed to continue making a positive social change, anticipate long term partnerships and collaborate more in ministry with Light House Christian Church and Door Creek Church. Our goal is to share the love of Jesus throughout Dane County and have a larger impact with faith-based organizations including Calvary Gospel Church, Iglesia Restauracion Y Vida and many more.

Based on the data gathered, more than 200 families were reached. We distributed 400 dental kits to children at local schools. We recognize through our local data that 70% - 80% of children who attend Light House Christian Church are families with low income and people of color. Our project aims to create access to those in need who lack dental coverage.

Through the financial support received from the MCGF, we were able to provide dental education workshops at the following organizations: New Bridge, Lighthouse Christian School, Door Creek Church, One City Schools, Latino Academy of Workforce Development, and Planned Parenthood. We created more awareness of our programs and services. These were significant successes in the sense that we were able to create more awareness about delivering quality and compassionate care to underserved communities. We successfully distributed more than 400 FREE dental kits to the children at local schools in partnership with the Madison Firefighters Department.

Because of the minimal administrative support ADC has, the planning, administrative time, and organizing all the logistics behind the scenes were a challenge. We distributed bilingual surveys to parents with the objective of assessing the dental needs of families. This process will be enhanced with the support of an executive assistant who was recently hired to provide administrative support.

This was our first year partnering with more than a few local organizations and distributing free dental kits. While we serve people without access to dental care, we charge a minimal fee for our services. These fees help us sustain some of the general operating costs of sustaining our clinic. Our patients are our biggest supporters! The more outreach and awareness we create in the community, the more people learn about our services giving them access to dental care. A small portion of our fees for services will be allocated to cover expenses associated with this project moving forward. We also receive individual donations and have an annual fundraiser for unrestricted funds.

## PROJECT: Website Redesign & Rebranding



The challenge was having the technical skills to put together a functional and attractive website. The Webstix team offered that and we had our new site online by the end of the summer. That is a significant success. The next challenge is to keep the website up-to-date with all of the news, events, listings, etc., that will make it an attractive resource for the Madison area Christian community and support it through social media, Madison Christian Giving Fund, etc.

As Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts tell the story of how Jesus brought the Good News of the Gospel, and how the early church spread the message of God's Kingdom, the goal and purpose of allgodspeople.com, and now of MadisonChristians.com is to tell the stories of how the Gospel message is making an impact in Madison. Through the stories we report and the stories we link to, we are trying to shine a light on all that God is doing so that God's people will be motivated, encouraged, and inspired. We hope they will be motivated, encouraged, and inspired to be an active part of what God is doing. Exciting things are happening, as the past 16-year archive of allgodspeople.com can attest, and if MadisonChristians.com and MCGF aren't telling the story, many times it's not getting told.

Our 16-year track record has given us a good perspective on the challenges of keeping the website going. We are thankful that we can keep doing it. What we have learned is that there's a lot going on in the Kingdom of God in Madison. Churches and Christian organizations are having a huge impact on our community and we want to keep telling those stories.

Like the Madison Christian Giving Fund, MadisonChristians.com is totally volunteer. However, there is a potential for funding through online advertising which we may explore in the future.

## PROJECT: Gospel Resource Kits

Our project succeeded in teaching and extending the Gospel in numerous ways. The Gospel is woven throughout all the resources in the Gospel Resource Kit. The athletes are reading, hearing, and seeing the Gospel as they interact with each resource. The kit includes a booklet that has two mental health Bible studies, another booklet that explains how you can know God, a worship music playlist, links to sermons and podcasts, athlete devotionals, and much more. Student athletes are reading, hearing, and seeing the Good News of Jesus Christ as they interact with the resources.

With the funds given to us by the Madison Christian Giving Fund, we were able to pack and fill 300 Gospel Resource Kits. We have just begun to distribute the 300 Gospel Resource Kits to athletes in the athletic departments at UW and Edgewood College. One football player at UW said this: *"I am seeing a lot of interest for the boxes from players. I'll follow up with administration and see if we can go that route OR we can do a more organic way of distribution. I'll let you know ... this could be big!"* We are really excited to have students advocating for us in the athletic department as we desire to get this kit into the hands of every athlete at UW and Edgewood. Our goal is to have the 300 boxes distributed by November 15th. As more boxes are distributed, we will follow up with those who desire to be followed up with.

One thing we have learned is that there is an increased need and desire from the UW Athletic Department for more mental health resources. With the funds given, we were able to provide resources to creatively fit into the mental health space where there is a need. We can meet the need by providing mental health Bible studies and resources, while also loving, caring, and serving athletes and helping them make connections that will help point them to Jesus. Another thing we have learned is how important ministry of presence is. This outreach has forced our team to be on campus more. We now walk on to campus, with a Gospel Resource Kit in our backpacks, trusting God and praying expectantly that He would give us opportunities to meet athletes. It has pushed our team to get out on campus more and trust God for relationships.



Resource Kit

## PROJECT: Mobile Clinic



Care Net  
Pregnancy Center  
of Dane County

Thank you for supporting our mobile clinic this past year! We have reached many people who need our services, help in difficult situations, and a nonjudgmental, safe place to talk through their options.

Our mobile clinic travels to three different Dane County locations: Sun Prairie (Sunshine Place), Fitchburg, and the Meadowood neighborhood in West Madison (recently relocated to Verona Road.) In the last year, our total budget spending for our mobile clinic was approximately \$90,000. We provided 145 appointments on our mobile clinic in the last year, and 56 ultrasounds – an opportunity to see life in the womb. Thanks to the support from the Madison Christian Giving Fund, twelve women who were determined to have abortions when they entered our mobile clinic chose life! Those are twelve babies who, by God’s grace, one day will grow up to live out God’s purpose for their lives!

Thanks to MCGF’s support, we were able to have 38 Gospel and/or spiritual discussions with patients. Each one of those discussions allowed seeds of truth to be planted in the hearts of our clients. When led by the Holy Spirit, our staff will ask to pray with patients, and they often have opportunities for deeper discussions of faith. Through simple health services and the hearts of those who work in our ministry, we can point people to truth and a life filled with purpose and hope.

Here are a few of the comments we received from patients seen on the mobile clinic:

*“Very comfortable – much better than I thought when I saw a mobile bus! Very sweet and non-judgmental.” - Sun Prairie*

*“Great professionalism, wonderful hospitality and amazing caregiving.” - Fitchburg*

*“I am happy to have been treated with positivity and that my questions were answered in a way that made me feel confident to come back” - West Madison*

MCGF’s partnership is changing communities now, and it also helps us save the preborn lives that will change the communities of tomorrow. Thank you again for your support. Together we are changing the lives of men, women, children, and generations more to come so that people now and in the future will know abundant life and unconditional love.

## PROJECT: For Dane '22

**For Dane** was a weekend of united service and celebration between 15 Dane County Churches with a focus on serving local schools. This form of tangible service and level of unity within the greater Church was a powerful witness of the love of Christ and resulted in numerous conversations about church, Christ and why God's people serve others. We are already aware of several stories of non-Christians asking about why this work was taking place and hearing about the love of Christ and the churches desire to serve like Jesus. It has also opened the door to numerous ongoing partnerships between local schools and the communities they serve.

This was our second year of hosting **For Dane** and it was our goal to increase from the 6 participating churches in year one to over 12. We ended up having over 170 volunteers serve from 15 churches at 6 local schools and 2 community sites. The event ended with a united time of celebration, storytelling and worship at Lighthouse Church. Over the course of the week, volunteers served nearly 600 hours which translates to over \$17,000 worth of volunteer support. This does not include the hundreds of hours of upcoming service that will happen in the context of these church partnerships on behalf of some of the most vulnerable in our community.

Another goal of the weekend was that this time of service would support ongoing partnerships in the community to God's glory and the betterment of our community. So far 100% of the participating churches have expressed the intent to continue these partnerships and in many cases do it together.

The participating churches represented a broad expression of the greater church including Catholic, non-denominational, Lutheran, Baptist, charismatic and more. This kind of unity within the greater church was an encouragement to participants and community members who interacted with the service sites over the week.

This event took months to plan and came in right around budget and was possible thanks to the generosity of the MCGF. Thank you!



Collaboration Project  
#soallmayflourish

# PROJECT: Why Easter Matters Campaign



We wanted people on campus to slow down and consider Easter and the message of the Gospel. We also wanted to bring awareness that there are active Christ-followers on campus. We succeeded in that. As we imagined, thousands of people were exposed multiple times to the various aspects of our activities on campus with many pausing to engage in some manner. Some of those things are easier to measure than others. We also had individual Gospel conversations with people who were interested and saw some new people, including non-believers and atheists attend our evangelistic program.

We mobilized a good portion of our Cru students to participate in the outreach during Easter week. We assembled and then passed out ~5000 plastic eggs with candy, an Easter message, an invite to our evangelistic event, and info about a \$500 hidden egg on campus. It took less effort and time to pass these out than we guessed, and it was a positive experience for our students passing them out and the people receiving them.

On three good weather days we erected four 8ft high sheets of drywall on Library Mall and East Campus Mall and created “free speech boards” with questions about Faith and Easter. People couldn’t miss them and it elicited some good written reactions, including some strong negative statements. We were also able to have good conversations about the meaning and significance of Easter to passersby.

With the passing out of Easter Eggs and hiding a \$500 egg on campus with daily clues, the Daily Cardinal newspaper featured our events, including our hidden egg on campus. Together, there was a buzz on campus and we would see people looking for the egg during the day and with flashlights at night. There were lots of accounts of people in doors discussing the daily poems of clues and trying to figure out where the egg was. The degree that it got people thinking about Easter and the Gospel is impossible to know. We hope the buzz moved people a little bit in their perception of Christianity, but in the immediate, it didn’t seem to result in a surge of people coming to our meetings.

At our Thursday evangelistic event, UW Biology Professor Jeff Hardin gave a good presentation with Q&A on why he believes in Easter. He shared the Gospel well. Nonbelievers came, heard a good message and enjoyed the meeting. Our students thought it was a good success and it was for those who came. We hoped for many more attendees, but there were only a few dozen more new people at that meeting. Each year, it seems increasingly more difficult to draw in curious new people, but it seems the personal invite and broad sowing both work to some degree.



# PROJECT: Homeless and Refugee Outreach Ministry



At each of our gatherings we have one of our members share his or her testimony. A short sermon is given followed by an invitation to follow Christ. We end our time with a song. The refugees are in service each week and hear the Gospel message. We've had several men accept Christ into their lives.

This has been a very successful and encouraging year for our ministry. As we are seeing an average of 12 men come to our breakfast. The refugee project has increased with several families that have joined the congregation. They are serviced by our church volunteers, and we support them to meet their financial and spiritual needs.

People are hungry to hear the Gospel, and we are able to feed them spiritually and physically. Our challenge is that folks are transient and don't always stick around for a long period of time.

Volunteers are pertinent for the success of our ministry. We tap into other ministries in the church to help support the gaps we may stumble upon.

The project is ongoing. We are still combined with the Sprecher Campus but will have our Northside ministry in our own facility by early 2022. We have a lead volunteer since we lost our only staff person (in June 2021).



# PROJECT: Southern WI FCA Camp Scholarship and Huddle Grant Fund



During the FCA 2022 Fiscal Year (9/1/21-8/31/22) the funds received from the Madison Christian Giving Fund allowed us to send fourteen student-athletes to our annual Sports Camp in June and four of them to attend the Leadership Camp in July. At both camps student-athletes engaged in daily Bible study and the presentation of the Gospel in both small and large group settings. Another tool that we used to present the Gospel with our local huddles, was the purchase and distribution of FCA Bibles and The Core, which is an 8-week discipleship study for students and coaches to not only strengthen their faith but also to be equipped to disciple others.

A post-camp debriefing revealed that all the students grew in their faith commitment to Jesus Christ, with a few accepting the invitation of Jesus to enter a relationship with Him for the first time. At Leadership Camp, the presentation of the Gospel was used to engage, equip, and empower those that attended to be servant leaders in their schools and on their teams. Over the last few months their spiritual growth and leadership development has been very noticeable.

The greatest success that was experienced this year came from the impact that camp attendance had on the student-athletes and the adult huddle leaders who attended camp for the first time. The last time students from the Madison Area went to camp was in 2019 and only four attended. This year fourteen attended sports camp, with four of those individuals, as mentioned above, were moved to grow stronger in their faith and in their servant leadership skills.

The main lesson learned from the successful results is that the growth of FCA in the Madison Area is going to occur through the personal testimonies of those who attended camp and from the observations made by parents, coaches, and teachers on the impact that FCA has made on the student-athletes. We are making a concerted effort to engage, equip, and empower mobilized volunteers to engage in advancing God's Kingdom through multiplication of disciples in peer led studies of the Gospel.

# PROJECT: Stoughton Fellowship of Christian Athletes



At our quarterly FCA events we have UW Athletes in Action students share their stories with the middle and high schoolers. Many of the athletes teach/extend the Gospel of Christ. We also have FCA Bibles and materials on hand that every student is welcome to freely take. We plan service events where we strive to be LIGHTS in the Stoughton community, and beyond, spreading the good news through our actions in addition to our words.

The generosity of the Madison Christian Giving Fund allowed us to continue to provide FREE events that include good food, a key ingredient to success for any middle and high school event. The grant also allowed us to include a FREE hot breakfast to the teenagers who came to our weekly Bible study. We also provide all Bible study materials to them free of charge.

Our greatest success is to see students smiling, having fun, and inviting friends/teammates to come to future FCA events. We have faithful families who bring their child/children every month and a dedicated group of high school students on the leadership team. Our numbers are steadily growing, and we continue to pray for this and also for the students' spiritual growth.

Another strength is that we have made a good connection with the UW AIA staff and they have been providing speakers for us. These college athletes are mentored and trained by AIA to share the Gospel. It is evident they love God wholeheartedly, genuinely enjoy speaking at the FCA events and pouring into the students.

The project consists of seeking in the original way the presence of God. Legendarios is a ministry that through the power of legendary #1 Jesus, transforms the lives of men, to help them find the better version of their calling in life as husband, father, and in society. Legendarios's ministry provides the tools for men to reach their full potential as leaders in their families from a Biblical standpoint. Men are invited to go through a challenge of 72 hours or better known as REC, which stands for extreme challenge of character, or Reto Extremo de Caracter. Men are put in a situation out of their comfort zone, disconnected from the outside world into the forest. The challenge consists of hiking and doing activities with no previous guides or expectations of the activity. The process helps men to figure out the areas they need to work on in their lives, and the struggles they are facing within their marriages, families, and society. They learn that praying is the way to fight their battles, they also learn to serve at new levels in their local church, community and at their jobs. To always give the extra mile effort in everything they do, just like Jesus did for us at the cross. In the 72 hours we reconnect men with the Holy Spirit, and they learn to never give up. They learn from their mistakes and get up to continue and conquer. They learn to always help at home and be part of the team/family with their wife and children. This lesson also teaches young adults how to be prepare for their future. It teaches them what God is expecting from them, it teaches them to respect authority, and most important on how to always depend on God. This experience prepares them to be a better servant, husband, father, and men. . The objective is always to see where there is a need, and a Legendary Man needs to be there and help.

The project has and will continue to be supported by our local Church IRYV/Casa de Fe and all the members of Legendary who participated as well as the fee that participants pay to go through the experience. But as you know not everyone is able to afford the fee. We thank the Madison Christian Giving Fund for the years of financial support and are hopeful that we will continue to get support for this project as we continue advancing the Kingdom.

# PROJECT: Journeys of Faith and Hope



In this project we are working on creating videos to encourage people with disabilities and their caretakers to trust God even when the challenges and the world say it can't be done. We were able to interview Sam Miller and Mary Beth Haunty. For Sam, we needed to support his coming to Madison for the interview, and we had a two-day connection, pre interview and then interview. We filmed over a 5 hour-time period with a lunch break. We made 3-4 individual video podcasts on different challenges and then walked people listening through faith choices and decisions to pray for faith in Jesus. Sam is a person with cerebral palsy and talks about his falls. His physical falling but then how that also relates to all falling and how we have to decide to get up and keep going. He talked about his faith in Jesus and how his faith has helped him on his journey.

I, Mary Beth, am the mother of Alex Haunty an individual with intellectual disabilities. Melissa Shackelford interviewed me. We talked through how I was told not to have so much hope for Alex by one of his doctors and how this spurred me on to agree with God for everything He had in mind for Alex and how we walked through Alex's not being able to speak when he was younger to now being an artist and releasing his art and speaking about his journey. I shared about the dream of starting Inspiring Hope to help others on this journey of faith to have hope and continue pressing on in God for all that He has for us.

We plan to interview Alex Haunty next and then go on to others in our ministry as well. We desire to release many video and podcast stories of faith to encourage others.

We are very pleased with our outcome. We are going the long haul and it is very much our goal to do this very well. We have some planned interviews going forward and will pace ourselves to do this. It is a time-consuming process, getting to know the family or individual, supporting the individual to come or planning to visit the individual in their setting.

In planning we have the individual discuss three challenges and three times of overcoming and how each person is able to overcome with God's help. They then also release a prayer of faith for those listening who are going through similar challenges. We feel access to faith for those with disabilities is an important way of having a meaningful life. The investment in media equipment and the payment for support for the individual coming to be interviewed and the cost of filming is significant. We are committed to releasing high quality programming that will reach many through the YouTube and Vimeo websites.

# PROJECT: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mission Trip



LIGHTHOUSE  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Prior to traveling to Orlando, students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade received one week of teaching on how to evangelize to others. The training involved students learning and memorizing key scripture, role playing, and learning practical ways to engage someone in a conversation about Jesus. Students were required to pray and reflect on how Jesus spoke of salvation and the Kingdom of God and then share their reflections in writing. While on the trip, students continued to engage with scripture through daily devotionals to gain a deeper appreciation for sharing the Gospel and to learn to be confident in their faith. Our strategy was to have devotional time prior to visiting the service sites in hopes of allowing students to look for opportunities to put the different skills and scripture into practice. Upon return from the various sites, students were asked to share testimonies of their experiences with sharing the Gospel and serving others throughout the day. One testimony that stands out is of a student who said he saw an elderly woman arrive for food, and he felt like he should pray for her. He approached the woman, asked if he could pray, and she accepted. The student reflected how this took him out of his comfort zone, but he was glad he listened to the Holy Spirit's prompt to pray a blessing over this person and share the love of the Gospel.

This trip challenged students to reflect on who they believe in, what they believe in, and why. Each of them knew the goal was to understand the importance of evangelizing and how to do so while serving in the different organizations (i.e. food banks, sorting clothing, homeless shelters etc.). Their goal was to be like Jesus to the people they met at these sites. We emphasized to the students the importance of leaning not on their own understanding but leaning on the Holy Spirit to be a light and good witness of Jesus to whoever they encountered at these service sites. Each day, we witnessed students pushing themselves to be kind to strangers in need, go the extra mile to share the love of Jesus, and lead people to salvation. While it is difficult to measure the impact of the trip, we saw firsthand how students had many special encounters with others in need and took on the opportunity to evangelize. One such example is of a student who had received salvation earlier in the school year (as this was her first year in attendance at the school). She was overwhelmed by how hungry the children were for attention at the shelter's daycare. There was one little boy who stood out to her because of how aggressive he was with the other kids. She made it a point to sit next to him at snack time, feed him his snack, and tell him about Jesus and how Jesus can help him to be a good friend. It was a beautiful moment to witness because as she was feeding his physical body, his heart was being fed with the truth of Jesus. The students were stretched as they performed tiring activities. However, based on their own feedback, parental feedback, and what we witnessed at these sites, these are experiences that can change the course of their lives.

One of the major successes of this trip was that it gave students a hands-on experience on what it truly means to be the church and share the Gospel. Students truly understood that being like Jesus is going the extra mile, trusting the process, and believing there's a bigger purpose. Most importantly, students got many opportunities to lead people to salvation and/or pray a blessing over someone.

## PROJECT: Expand Our Reach



MAJM provides pastoral care to the men and women in the jail through the work of our chaplains and ministry volunteers. This project was created to expand our reach by hiring a part-time staff chaplain. The chaplain's duties included pastoral care, discipleship, leading worship services and Bible studies.

At the start of the year, we had only one paid staff member to minister to the 650 people held in the jail each day. As the jail is a 24-hour a day, seven-day a week operation, we saw the need to add an additional part-time chaplain to provide spiritual care on weekends. In March we hired a part-time chaplain to lead worship at our Sunday evening men's and women's chapel services, and to do chaplaincy rounds on Mondays. In June we brought on another chaplain to work Saturdays. The addition of paid chaplaincy staff along with our volunteers has enabled us to have a consistent presence in the jail resulting in more time that we were able to spend with jail residents and staff.

Because our new hires started later in the year and because we found an additional partner to help us fund this particular project, we believe we have the funding in place for this project to continue into the future.

Now that this area of ministry is funded, we are looking to expand our ministry efforts to help returning citizens to be successful in their reentry into the community so that they don't end up back in the jail.

We continue to be amazed at the providence of God. Nothing is too big or too small for Him. We also learned that bringing people into a correctional setting is a huge undertaking. Aside from the criminal background checks, the logistics of finding one's way around, learning the computer programs, the unique rhythm of the jail schedule, and the written and unwritten rules is challenging. We have updated on-boarding training procedures, but still so much of what we do in correctional chaplaincy is more caught than taught. Our takeaway from this year is that moving volunteers up to the position of staff chaplain is not as steep of a learning curve.

## PROJECT: Flipside



Flipside was a ballet that depicted in detail the darkness we live in without Christ, and the deep joy we find when our life is in Christ. The actress clearly articulated the true meaning behind Christmas being the birth of our Savior, and the musical selections described the overwhelming peace we find when we come out of darkness.

We had a goal of three performances at the Bartell Theatre. That was fulfilled and the Gospel was shared in the heart of downtown Madison. We focused on showing the two oppositions we face in life, Jesus' calling on our lives and the attack of the enemy. From audience reaction and statements, we believe that goal was met. While we met the goal of having three performances, not all three performances were a packed house, so sadly we didn't see the attendance we anticipated.

It was a success hearing, seeing, and feeling the audience's reaction. Both while on stage and off stage the audience was moved by the ballet. Audience member Angie Konicek writes, *"The show was awesome! Me, my mom, and grandma couldn't stop talking about it. Thank you for getting us in the Christmas spirit and of hope. Praise God!"* Another attendee writes, *"Thank you for the stunning and inspiring performance of Flipside. God sings so beautifully through Magnum Opus, and you all are gloriously moving, leaping, and spinning, a shining channel of His hope and grace. What a Christmas blessing you've given to the world."* - Anne Holmes.

This ballet was done once before four years ago and was revised for Christmas in 2021. Both times we found that there were many strong feelings about how descriptive we made the darkness when we live without Christ. It is challenging to show the true despair that people can feel without stepping on some toes, even while we know it is the truth. It also was a challenge to continue to do live art in Madison with COVID restrictions. If we do this ballet again in the future, we will do the performances in multiple different venues instead of one.

We did face some challenges with the COVID-19 restrictions in the theatre that we rented. There is not a plan to do this exact ballet again, however there is an on-going plan to create relatable ballets that show the love of God. We hope will be around Madison for years to come.



# PROJECT: Tabitha Project



Our organization is a Christian ministry with the purpose of helping homeless single women and children. These families are our modern “widows and orphans” according to James 1:27; “Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress”. In order to care for these families; we seek to minister to the entire person: spirit, soul and body (1 Thessalonians 5:23). Just as Jesus addressed the physical and emotional needs of people as He taught the gospel, our ministry seeks to meet these basic needs of shelter, food, spiritual and emotional healing as we teach them to achieve goals in education, employment and stable housing. The Tabitha project is a key aspect of ministering to the souls of our clients by providing professional and focused trauma counseling so that they are able to hear the Gospel, sense the hope and set goals toward a better life. This counseling is provided within the environment of a home with encouraging scriptures on the walls, regular prayer, Bible-based teaching and activities provided by area churches who partner with us.

The grant funds allowed us to hire contract services of a female Psychotherapist. She holds a degree in Psychology and Human Services and a Master’s degree in Social work with a focus on Mental Health. She has more than 8 years of experience in counseling, case management and working with the homeless. She is also African-American which can help in making a connection with our moms since many are also African-American. During the grant period we had several mothers that actively sought out help from her. She also provided guidance to our staff in helping some of our children and being sensitive to trauma issues within the family unit. Some of the mothers used her services for a period of weeks or months helping them to move through a healing process. For these moms we saw them better able to focus, feel confident, apply coping skills, improve interpersonal skills and begin to make progress on reaching their goals of education, employment and stable housing after leaving our program.

Trauma counseling as part of our overall ministry of a safe home, Biblically based care and teaching, case management, life skills training, job skills and employment has resulted in continued success for our families. Shortly before the grant reporting period we celebrated 5 years of ministry, 59 families (180 moms and children) lifted out of homelessness and over 90% success in moms leaving our program with better paying jobs and stable housing. Specific to trauma counseling, we saw that the moms reacted differently to be involved in counseling. Some were uncomfortable receiving counseling on-site while others were encouraged by knowing other moms are also seeking counseling. We adapted during the grant period and moved the counseling sessions off-site providing more privacy and some opportunity for moms to continue counseling after leaving our home. Moving forward, we will provide individual counseling sessions at the off-site office and group therapy sessions on-site for moms that want the support of a group as they move through their journey of healing.

Thank you Madison Christian Giving Fund for the wonderful work you are all doing in support of His mission!

# PROJECT: Operation Strengthen Pastors



Each couple that comes to our retreats at Shepherd 2 Shepherd, experiences the Gospel firsthand. Our goal has always been to strengthen the pastor of the local church and stress the importance of soul care. Once this is achieved then we encourage each pastor to go back to their churches and fulfill the great commission which stresses the importance of reaching the lost. The "Gospel" (which is good news) is shared in a way that helps the pastor and his spouse experience it firsthand for themselves and then they can extend that to others.

The funds received from the Madison Christian Giving Fund allowed us to make a significant impact in the lives of pastors and their spouses. We watched them experience a great amount of encouragement and recalibration, which of course helps them go back to their churches and fulfill the call of God on their lives. Our goal last year was to strengthen pastors of color in the Madison area. We used the funds given by MCGF to host, serve and strengthen an African and Hispanic pastor (and their spouses) from Madison. As a result, I believe it will impact their heart for the lost and make a renewed commitment to reach their city.

The successes that we observed were to watch each couple work through some of the challenges that all pastors face. As pastors often we suffer in silence with 50 to 70 hours a week shepherding our flocks. So, as we spend hours throughout the week with them both couples that we hosted made significant progress in marital unity and commitment to make the adjustments necessary to live a healthier life as a couple and family.

The challenges are getting people who are extremely busy to take time off of their schedules and commit to a weeklong retreat/debrief. But since our inception, every pastor who has carved out the necessary time has not only benefited personally from our ministry but has gone back and told 3 to 4 of their closest friends about what we do and how much it helped them.

# PROJECT: Hispanic Outreach Extension



The Evangelical Catholic's work with Catholic parishes provides training and formation for leaders to be confident evangelists or disciple-makers in their communities. Through the training, they receive a vision for their circle of influence - the people they have regular contact with. This could be their family, co-workers, neighbors, and friends. These people are the "mission field" where God invites us to extend the good news of Jesus. Through the 2021 Madison Christian Giving Fund grant, the EC has been able to provide a strategic vision and planning for the Diocese of Madison Office of Hispanic Ministry. This office is doubling its staff to provide more outreach to Spanish speaking Catholics. The Hispanic Ministry Office has partnered with the EC to provide more training and formation opportunities throughout Dane County and the Diocese of Madison. Through these efforts, Hispanic leaders are being equipped to share the Gospel of Jesus with those in their day to day lives.

Over the past year, we have continued to form and train disciple-makers at Saint Raphael Cathedral Parish, Good Shepherd, and Saint Thomas Aquinas. These churches host bilingual communities and are finding the Reach More Mission Training to be effective with both English and Spanish speakers. Our native Spanish speaking consultant, Mari Pablo, has been able to offer on-site mission nights in both languages to engage a more diverse population. About a year ago, the Diocese of Madison hired Lorianne Aubut as the Diocesan Coordinator of Hispanic Ministry. With this new contact at the Diocesan level, we have been able to participate in planning for greater outreach to the Hispanic community.

Both Mari Pablo and Cody LeClaire, an EC Mission Advancement Officer, participated in a gathering with Lorianne and all of the Hispanic ministry pastors and leaders from the Diocese. In this gathering, Mari and Cody were able to provide a vision for formation and training Hispanic leaders for personal apostolate. Mari has also filmed a video for an upcoming Hispanic Ministry event in Dane County. The video extends an invitation to Spanish speaking Catholics to engage in sharing Jesus within their personal circle of influence. Both our work with bilingual parishes and with the Office of Hispanic Ministry has opened doors to further formation and training opportunities for Hispanic Catholics in Dane County. We have developed a significant level of trust and confidence within the Hispanic Ministry community that will lead to many more Spanish speaking disciple-makers in Dane County.

## PROJECT: Operation Transformation

Through our rigorous program of academics, prayer, counseling and collaboration, each of our students has accepted the Gospel of Christ and dedicated themselves to becoming disciple makers. They have been equipped with the tools and accepted the challenge to walk alongside all with whom they come into contact to spread the Word of God. This is occurring both within the prisons in which they are serving and outside the prison walls. Anecdotal reports are full of inspiration and reconciliation fostered through the belief in Christ among our students and their parents, their children and people they have 'wronged' in their past.

June 29, 2022, was our second graduation. Ten men received their Bachelor's Degree in Biblical Studies and a minor in Psychology. This was a primary goal. Another goal was to place our graduates in prisons across the state as Field Mentors. Nineteen of our 2021 graduates have been assigned mostly in pairs, to eleven prisons across Wisconsin. One graduate was released due to a change in the law. He is continuing his studies and finding informal ways to serve the Lord and spread the Gospel. Our 2022 graduates are currently being reassigned as well. Another goal was to provide ongoing support to our graduates. Pastor Robin Knoll, Dean of Students, has received permission from the WI Department of Corrections to do this and has completed his first round of visits to graduates in eleven different correctional institutions. Pastor Knoll has shared his impressions on these visits. Each graduate has found multiple ways to positively impact the individuals and general culture in their current placements.

This is what Operation Transformation is all about. Our faculty walks alongside our students as they become disciples and then become disciple makers. At the conclusion of his speech, Mr. Alexander said *"I want to close this by saying to my brothers, let us not take what we have learned and earned and sit it on the shelf like some trophy to be looked at or admired. Our education means nothing if we don't apply it. While it will be great using it for ourselves, we maximize it by sharing it with someone else. I implore you to be who I have seen you become these last four years. Patient, good listeners, critical thinkers, caregivers, supporters, brothers. We have been given a gift. This is one of those times where regifting won't be frowned upon."*

We are working with our partners to replicate Operation Transformation at the Taycheedah Correctional Institution for Women. Our current plan is to have this in place by September of 2023.



WISCONSIN INMATE  
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

## PROJECT: Fair Trade & Resale Store



The Gospel is displayed daily with the love of Jesus being extended to each person we work with at Yada. Showing love and the hope we find in Jesus is at the root and heart of Yada. By showing we care, we have been able to share the person of Jesus and the relationship He offers to each of the women.

One of the objectives that Yada has is to provide for the physical and tangible needs of women that have been sexually exploited. We have hosted multiple events each month and invited the women affected and have them shop for free. One of the successes is that we have helped with finding job interview outfits, maternity clothes, winter gear etc. We are providing a safe space for them to be able to come to be known and cared for as they shop.

As Yada has grown, we have been able to see more clearly the needs in our community and the support that women that have been sexually exploited need. The success of Yada has exceeded our expectations. The space has become far more than a resale shop and really is a place that the women can gather and have community. We have seen the need for expansion to be able to provide for more women in our community as well as the children affected.

The challenges have been that the needs are greater than what Yada can provide. We are intentional in building community, providing for the tangible needs and showing the women the love of Jesus. We also realize that the physical needs of housing, the mental/emotional needs of deep trauma, and the spiritual needs cannot be fixed through offering a free sweater.

As stated above, we are learning more what the needs are. We plan to implement and build a broader network of people and organizations that can serve the women at a deeper level spiritually, physically and emotionally.

Yada has become a first stop point for women that are referred. By building a larger network of connections, we can start to refer women to other resources in our community.

The project has barely just begun! Yada Fair Trade and Resale is a business as mission/mission as business model. Our goal is to be open to the community and raise awareness of the injustice of human trafficking. Through that, we hope to sell products and resale items to the community to fund the project. As we enter our second year, we see momentum in this but not yet enough to fund Yada.

A huge thank you to the Madison Christian Giving Fund for providing funds to launch this project. To God be the glory!

# PROJECT: Young Life Summer Camp



Thank you for continuing to help others see the value of Young Life in our community. The continual funding provided by the Madison Christian Giving Fund has helped us get numerous kids to a summer camping experience to be exposed to the full story of Jesus and process faith in their life. The supplemental funding has been instrumental in us confidently saying "yes" to any kid who needs financial assistance to make the adventure a possibility for them. Below are some thank you notes from this year's attendees"

Dear Madison Christian Giving Fund:

- *"I would like to start off by saying THANK YOU!!! For helping me experience such an amazing opportunity. My favorite experience from the trip was laying my eyes on the Grand Canyon for the first time. I was simply flabbergasted & felt so grateful to be sitting in one of God's many beautiful creations. The views were unbelievable! Also, the Lord definitely stirred up my heart that week, From connecting deeper with my faith to building meaningful relationships! It was really refreshing spiritually & I couldn't have done it without you."*
- *"Thank you so much for your donation, I truly appreciate the support. This trip has definitely been a great experience. I was blessed that I got to create new relationships, as well as strengthening my relationship with God. I will make sure to pay this forward. This trip has inspired me to do summer staff this June at Young Life Malibu Camp; it will be a great new experience for me and I cannot wait!"*
- *"Thank you for giving me an unforgettable experience. This trip made me get closer to my faith. Having our phones taken away was great. In the morning I read the Bible and reflected. It was great because I was looking for God and not my phone like I did before this trip."*
- *"I appreciate you for helping us in receiving an indescribable experience. The country of Costa Rica is so beautiful and the whole experience was amazing. One statement that stuck out to me was when the pastor said that, 'Costa Rica doesn't need less criminals. It needs more people to bring them into church.' Thank you for all your help and support."*
- *"Thank you so much for contributing to our trip. It was really eye opening, and helped me grow in my relationship with God. It was amazing to see His beautiful creations, and how our same God affected different cultures, and helps them thrive."*
- *"Thank you for letting me experience God's presence, and dig deeper into my faith in such a beautiful country of Costa Rica."*
- *"Thank you so much for giving me the chance to experience such a beautiful trip. Thanks to your kindness I was able to grown my faith with God and for that I will always be grateful."*
- *"Thank you for helping me experience the time of my life! This trip has opened my eyes on a lot of things and to grow as a person and in my faith."*