

REACH THE FORGOTTEN
ANNUAL REPORT & FALL NEWSLETTER
2022



PROTECTING AND BUILDING A LEGACY



As a Christian non-profit, Reach the Forgotten strives to be faithful and fruitful with our mission in county jails. Since 1966, supporters have joined with us to provide biblically-based chaplain and volunteer ministry. Of the 40,000 or so charitable non-profits in Michigan, RTF has the honor of being the oldest and largest distinctively Christian organization that has continuously preached the gospel of Jesus Christ in jails for over 55 years.

With a legacy like this, it might be tempting to focus on protecting what has already been accomplished. We remember, however, that donors don't give because of who we were and they don't give to create bigger budgets.

Our donors give to make an impact – both now and in the future!

Our Christ-centered legacy guides us as we make investments in the sustainability of the ministry going forward. Here are just a few examples of the impact you've made through us:

Partnerships - This past year, we trained all of our chaplains on how to build relationships and create partnerships with local churches and Christians. We are passionate about telling the story of what God is doing in jails!

Programming - Dozens of chaplains and volunteers have received training on how trauma impacts inmates. Through *Healing the Wounded Heart*, inmates experience freedom and forgiveness through Christ by taking their pain to the cross.

Planning - Our board of directors is committed to annual strategic plans that our staff work on and the board monitors. These are indicators of a strong and healthy organization.

Because of you, tens of thousands of inmates experience the transforming love of Christ. **Your gifts** make sure that chaplains (like missionaries) can support their families. **Your prayers, encouragement, and volunteering** are a lifeline of support to us as we minister. **THANK YOU!**

We will continue to build a legacy for the glory of God!
-Nathan DeWard, Executive Director

THE PENCILIST

Chaplain Cal, Lead Chaplain of Ottawa County, has kept in contact with an inmate. To the right is a drawing done by this inmate, "the pencilist."

Materials are provided by RTF.



PROGRAMS

Re-Entry Alliances

Connecting inmates with community re-entry organizations and community agencies to facilitate inmate connections to employment, housing, food, clothing, mental health, a local church, and other needs.

Bible Mentoring

Partnering with Crossroads Prison Ministries to provide mentoring opportunities.

GRO Pods

GRO Pods are dedicated housing units in jails where inmates voluntarily engage in programs that teach biblically-based life principles.

Healing the Wounded Heart

Healing the Wounded Heart helps people with pain and/or trauma find healing, engage with Scripture, and become more resilient, leading to better relationships with family, friends, and the community.

Authentic Remote Ministry

Volunteers connect to inmates from outside of the jails by writing letters of hope and encouragement.

Addiction Recovery Classes

Providing biblically-based substance abuse treatment classes. Partnering with local churches and community services to provide seamless transitions to addiction recovery upon release from jail.



PARTNERSHIPS

We are so thankful for all of our partnerships!



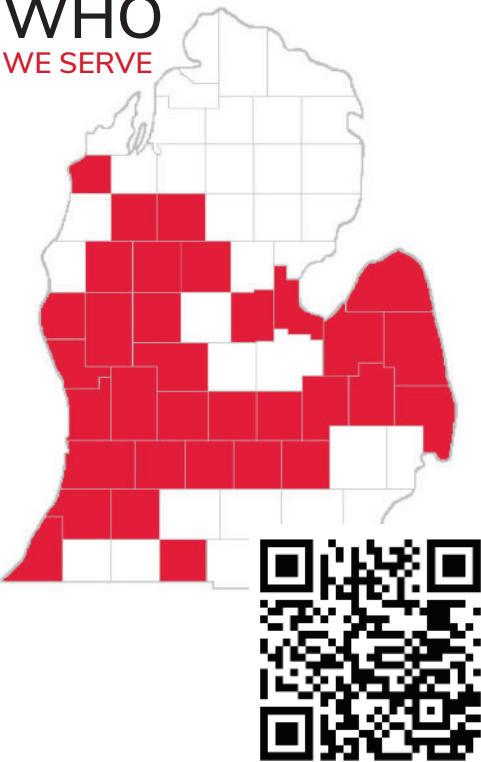
ABOUT US

WHO WE ARE

Reach the Forgotten Jail Ministry (RTF) has been serving Michigan county jails for over 55 years. We currently serve in 33 county jails with the mission to provide Christ-centered hope and healing through biblically-based, chaplain-led, volunteer jail ministries. Our vision is for every incarcerated person to experience new life in Christ and to develop healthy family, church, and community relationships. Our chaplains and volunteers walk alongside inmates by providing services and programs that strengthen them through spiritual formation. To help reduce the return to jail rate, we work to establish alliances with churches and organizations that will support individuals when they exit jail. As lives transform behind bars, the effect is that families and communities are impacted. This evidence lies in Amanda's story, "After a lifetime of abusive relationships, depression, and addiction, I didn't want to exist. In jail I joined the GRO Pod and I accepted Jesus into my heart. I have a purpose now. I'm the mom I was supposed to be, and I thank God every day."

WHO

WE SERVE



IMPACT

Scan the QR code above to watch a testimonial video featuring both volunteers and inmates on how RTF has impacted them.

HOW

WE SERVE



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Ellis
Herb Lantinga
Dan Helmholdt
Matthew Antkoviak
Kristen Aidif
Robert Ellis
Larry Stelma
Nathan DeWard
Donna Moore-Brown

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

CONTRIBUTIONS THIS FISCAL YEAR

\$2,003,686

HOW TO DONATE

If you would like to donate to the mission of RTF, you can do so by:

Mail: 1480 Buchanan Ave SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49407

Phone: 616-784-4620

Online: jailministry.org. Choose the option to donate once, or monthly.

We highly appreciate your support and prayer.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Your donations go to impact lives like Eddie's (front cover), and Arica's (right).



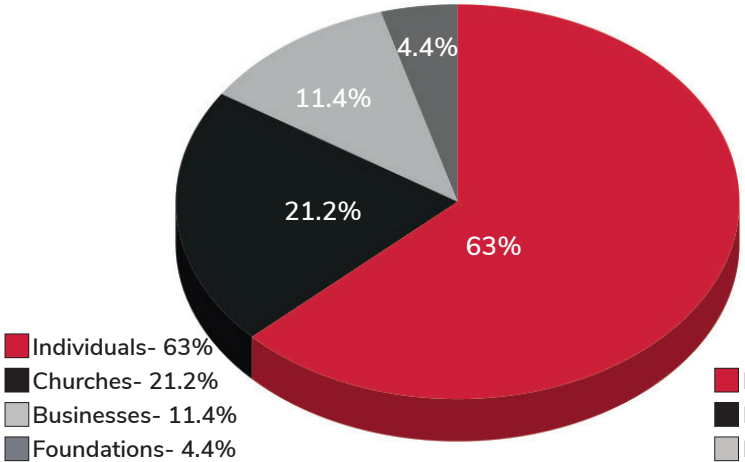
FINANCIAL RESULTS

Year ending June 30, 2022

Total Income:	\$2,579,292
<i>Programs:</i>	<i>\$1,582,510</i>
<i>Management:</i>	<i>\$377,212</i>
<i>Fundraising:</i>	<i>\$279,718</i>
Net Asset Balance:	\$339,852

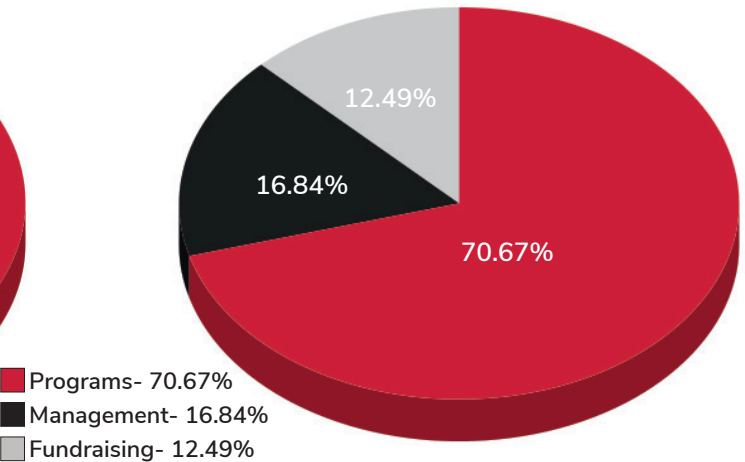
WHERE

THE MONEY COMES FROM



WHERE

THE MONEY GOES



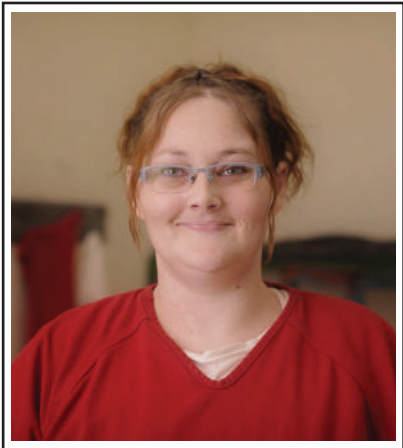
YOUR SUPPORT CHANGED THEIR STORIES

The world said:
PRISONER



But God said:
CHAPLAIN

The world said:
SUICIDAL



But God said:
RESCUED



IMPACT

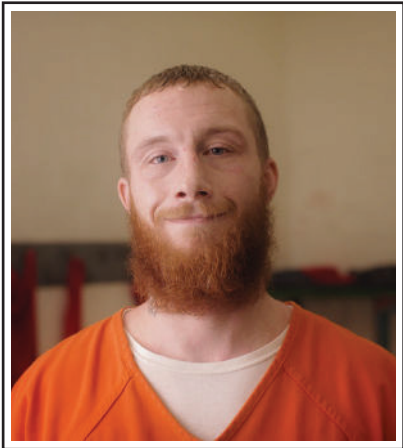
Scan the QR code to
hear their stories.

The world said:
ABANDONED



But God said:
FOUND

The world said:
ALONE



But God said:
WELCOME

YOUR NAME IN GOD'S BOOK IS BELOVED

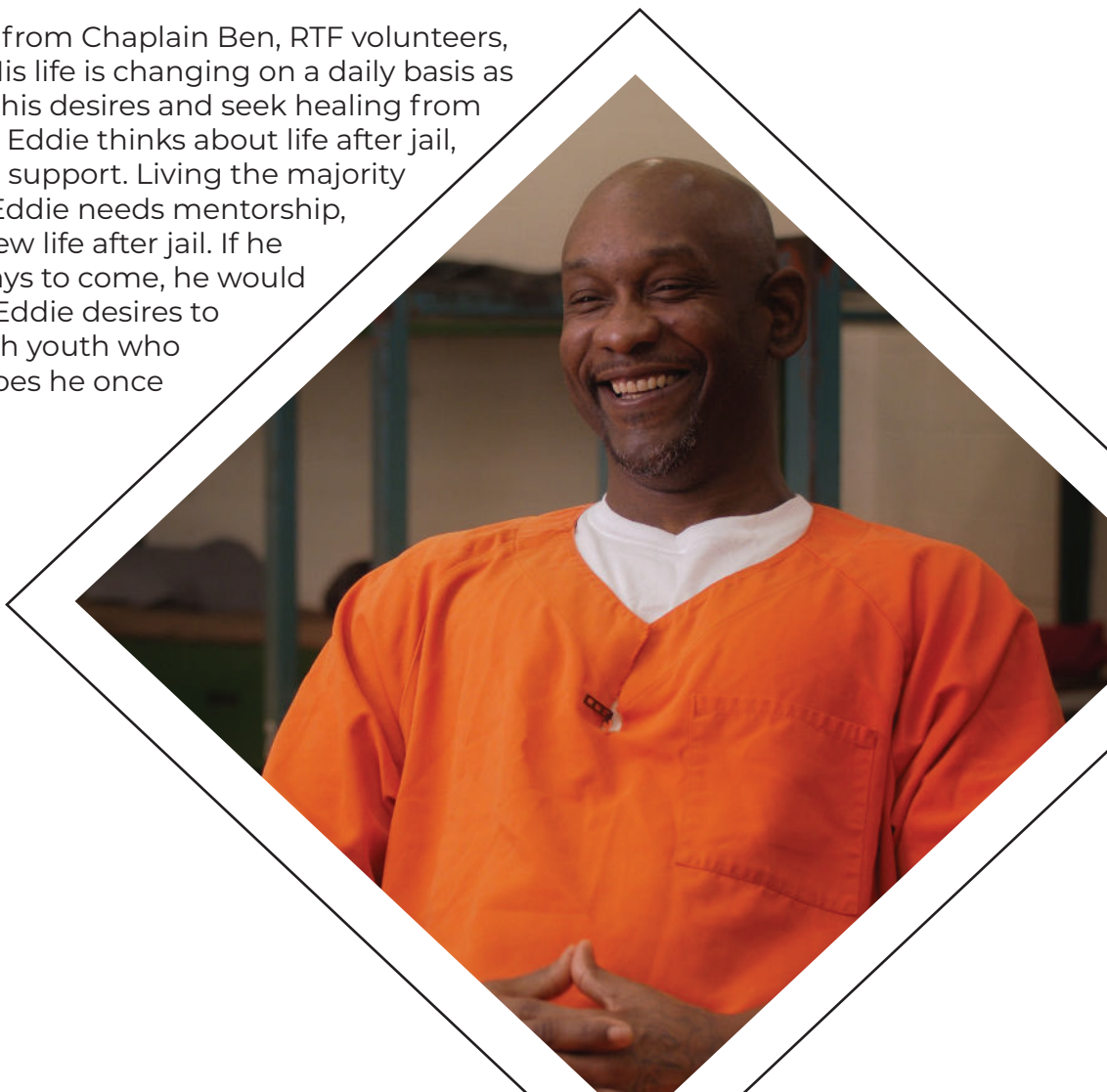
Like many young boys, Eddie found joy in being outdoors and playing sports. As a talented basketball player, he was being scouted by many colleges. However, Eddie recalls growing up in the foster care system, institutionalized in various group homes. He loved being with family, but mourns the lack of consistency, guidance, and nurturing he needed in his younger years. Hanging with the wrong crowd, he was shot in the leg. This ruined the dream of being able to play basketball in the same capacity he once enjoyed. He was eventually arrested for armed robbery. Sentenced to 20 years in prison, he again faced life institutionalized. Eddie was released in 2018 and was on the right track for many years. He had housing, employment, and support.

During the pandemic, Eddie lost his job which led to him not being able to pay rent and consequentially, he lost his house. Depressed, he re-engaged drugs and alcohol. After some bad decisions, Eddie found himself in the Tuscola County Jail.

In jail, Eddie found support from Chaplain Ben, RTF volunteers, and the correctional staff. His life is changing on a daily basis as he learns how to surrender his desires and seek healing from the one and only Healer. As Eddie thinks about life after jail, he begs the community for support. Living the majority of his life institutionalized, Eddie needs mentorship, guidance, and hope for a new life after jail. If he could be anything in the days to come, he would be a motivational speaker. Eddie desires to share what he's learned with youth who are walking in the same shoes he once walked in.

The world said:
ABUSED

But God said:
BELOVED





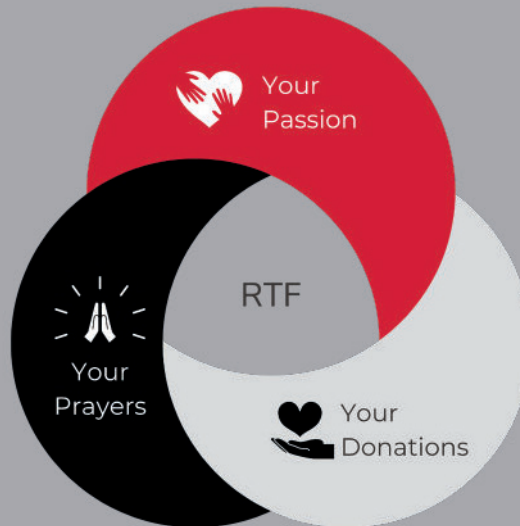
REACH THE **FORGOTTEN**

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WE COULDN'T DO THIS
WITHOUT YOU!



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616.784.4620
jailministry.org

Reach the Forgotten
is a 501C(3) non-profit organization

