



2023

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



REACH THE
JAIL MINISTRY

PROTECTING & BUILDING A LEGACY

Dear Friends,

Facts and figures tell part of the story. What really matters to the families we serve is the fruit of lives reborn. We are privileged to participate in the work of Christ in jails. We have been tasked to visit people in jail and urge Christians to “remember those in jail as if you were together with them in jail,” as it says in the book of Hebrews. It’s our privilege to serve you, our supporters, and serve men and women in jail as they awaken to the life-giving power of the Spirit.

This next year, we plan to expand our training for chaplains. Sheriffs count on us to have a well-trained and accountable chaplain workforce. We will strategically partner with other organizations and jail ministries because we believe Christians should collaborate when doing Kingdom work. We will clarify how we plan to use tablets for ministry in jails, engage in reentry and recovery ministries, implement Healing the Wounded Heart curriculum, and plan for new GRO pods.

We cannot do this work without your support! Thank you for helping us improve and grow as an organization serving Michigan County Jails. On behalf of inmates and chaplains, thank you for making jail ministry a priority. Your community is better because of it.

-Nathan DeWard, Executive Director

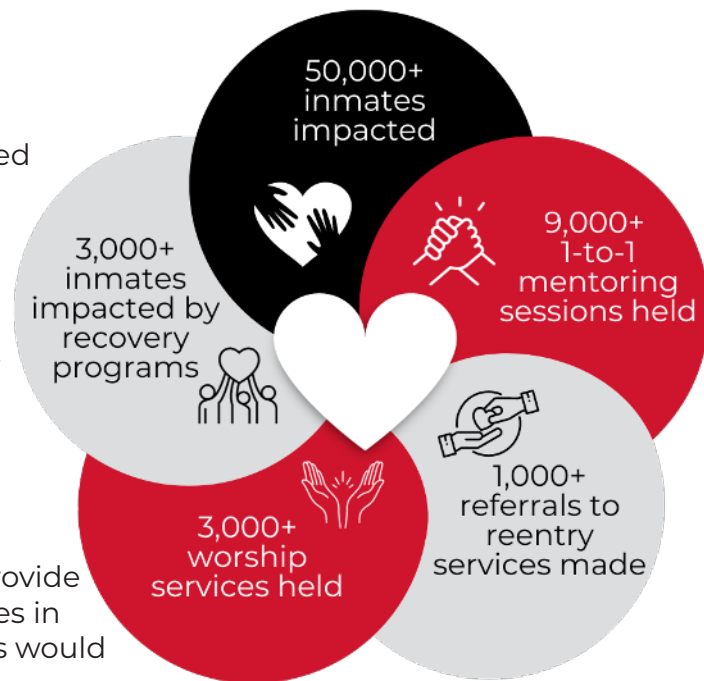
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- **Mission:** Our mission is to provide Christ-centered hope and healing through biblically-based, chaplain led, volunteer jail ministries.
- **Vision:** Our vision is for every incarcerated person to experience new life in Christ and develop healthy family, church, and community relationships.
- **Michigan Jails Served:** 33
- **How:** Chaplains build a partnership with jail administration and community volunteers to provide spiritual services, mentoring, and life skills classes in county jails. Without our ministry, these services would not be offered.



Scan the QR code above to watch a video featuring who Reach the Forgotten is across the state of Michigan.

MINISTRY OF PRESENCE GENESEE COUNTY

Some of our greatest impact comes through providing a presence in the jail. Through our programs and one-to-one mentoring, we are able to meet people in their darkest hours. As a result, the culture of the jail is impacted. Even when we are not present, inmates find ways to pray together and encourage one another.



HEALING THE WOUNDED HEART OCEANA COUNTY

HWH is a program that trains volunteers and community members to lead healing groups, both inside and outside of the jail. Through healing groups, people learn to address trauma, lament, and put their hope in God's healing power.



GRO POD ALLEGAN COUNTY

GRO (God Restoring Offenders) Pods are offered in some county jails for inmates to voluntarily participate in various weeks of classes and Bible studies. Housed together, these individuals create a tight-knit bond as they walk alongside one another in learning biblical principles and life skills. This work naturally carries over as they exit jail.



PROG

R
RAMS

REENTRY ALLIANCES INGHAM COUNTY

Some of our most important work is being able to partner with the community to provide a continuum of care for individuals as they are released from jail. Our hope is to deepen and increase the number of partnerships that we have with reentry alliances. Pictured here is Chaplain Robert from Ingham County with Joey after he moved into a transitional home when he was released.



ADDICTION RECOVERY HURON COUNTY

In partnership with RTF, recovery programs are provided in our county jails. Some of the programs include: Life Recovery Bible classes, AA, NA, and Celebrate Recovery. These partnerships allow for inmates to start their recovery journey inside the jail and then find community programs to continue when released.



ONE-TO-ONE MENTORING MUSKEGON COUNTY

Chaplains and volunteers provide inmates with one-to-one mentoring whenever they request it. The options are limitless on what an inmate can work through during this time. They can talk through personal struggles, familial issues, or spend time praying and digging into the Word together.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

CONTRIBUTIONS THIS FISCAL YEAR

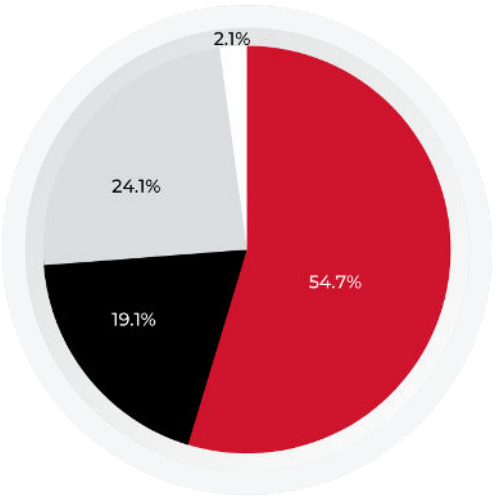
\$2,244,193

Year ending June 30, 2023

Other Income:	\$67,307
Total Income:	\$2,311,500
<i>Programs:</i>	<i>\$1,896,164</i>
<i>Management:</i>	<i>\$384,793</i>
<i>Fundraising:</i>	<i>\$288,679</i>

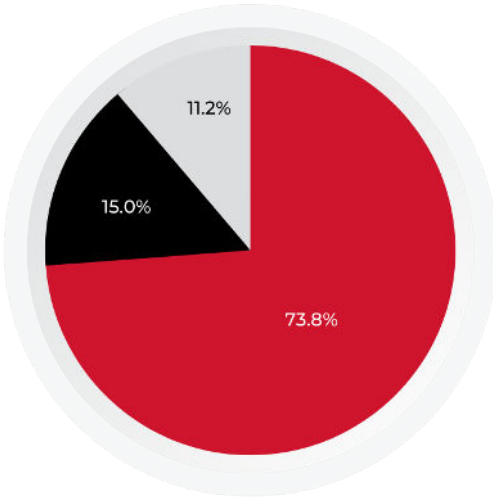
WHERE

- Individuals
- Churches
- Businesses
- Foundations



WHERE

- Programs
- Management
- Fundraising



HOW



PERSONS OF PEACE

CLARE COUNTY

Chaplain Bill Dyke serves the Clare County Jail (CCJ), which can house up to 176 men and women on any given day. In partnership with a local church, Bill hosts Celebrate Recovery in CCJ. This program is provided weekly for inmates to engage in worship and recovery work. This partnership builds a bridge for inmates as they return to their community.

Amanda, Brett, and Ron are 3 individuals who have returned to their community. Each described their childhood as dysfunctional, and as a result they spent years with the wrong crowds and trapped in a cycle of addiction. Each with a different journey that led them to CCJ, it was there that they met Bill, were connected to Celebrate Recovery, and found a life of recovery and transformation.

Amanda and Brett have now both been sober for 2 years. Amanda works in the Clare County Recovery Court and Brett is in college seeking a degree in automotive diesel services, with a 3.4 GPA! Ron has been sober for 4 years, has regained custody of 7 of his 8 children and helps lead Celebrate Recovery in the community, and hopefully in the jail in the future.



*Pictured left-right:
Amanda, Chaplain
Bill, Brett, Ron*

SHERIFF BAPTISM

MECOSTA COUNTY

Chaplain Randy leads the chaplaincy in the Mecosta County Jail (MCJ), which can house up to 100 men and women on any given day. Sheriff Brian Miller is a strong supporter of RTF, and he believes strongly in the work that is happening in the jail that he leads.

In September, Sheriff Miller participated in a retreat called "Heroes Return," which is for first responders to come together and encourage one another in their work.

Shane, a former inmate of MCJ, also participated in the retreat. Sober for one year, Shane was approached by Sheriff Miller. Many baptisms were taking place and Sheriff Miller desired for Shane to be the one to baptize him. Shane's response was, "How can I baptize you? I've only been clean for one year!"

Sheriff Miller was resolute in his decision. As a former inmate, Shane had the opportunity to baptize the sheriff of Mecosta county. He says this, "The way God shows up in my life doesn't even surprise me anymore." Outside of God's Kingdom, these stories are unimaginable.

To view their full
stories & others
like them, scan
the QR code



*Pictured left-right:
Jeremy, Chaplain
Randy, Sheriff Miller,
Shane, Andrew*



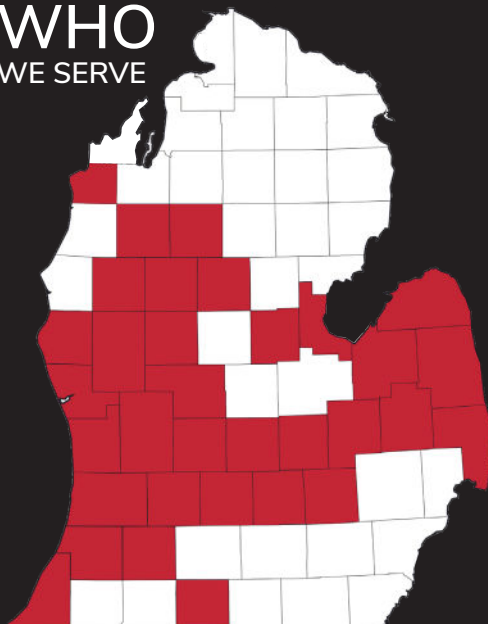
REACH THE FORGOTTEN

JAIL MINISTRY

1480 Buchanan Ave SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49507



WHO WE SERVE



Allegan
Barry
Bay
Benzie
Berrien
Branch
Clare
Clinton
Eaton
Genesee
Huron
Ingham
Ionia
Kalamazoo
Kent
Lake
Lapeer

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Mecosta
Midland
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