

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Email: info@mercygateministries.com
Website: www.mercygateministries.com



2022

LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDERS

Psalm 90:17 "Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us and establish the work of our hands; Yes, establish the work of our hands!"

2022 will forever be etched in our minds as 'A Year of the Radical Favor of God.'

We watched God move mountains no man could move, open doors that no man could close, and heal the deepest of wounds. Lives have been transformed, and His beautiful daughters have been set free and placed in a sisterhood and family that support them.

Mercy Gate, as a ministry and organization, became a well-oiled machine in 2022. Our heart, vision, and mission aligned with the administrative structure, and we are so thankful to everyone that helped make that happen. We may be biased, but we feel we have the best Board of Directors on planet earth. Our Advisory Board is as active as our board, and each sub-committee fully functions.



Catapult is the word that came to mind while reflecting on our programs and partnerships in 2022. When it comes to long-term restorative care, community partnerships are vital. No one organization can do it all. It takes a village, and we must work together by bringing to the table what we are called to do. This year we have partnered with Kerr County and the 5 surrounding counties, multiple law enforcement agencies, mental health facilities, addiction treatment facilities, and many other non-profits. Again, it takes a village.

Our holistic, restorative program, The Journey, took shape this year, and ARC (Advocacy Resource Center) is now fully functioning and helping women that are victim-defendants coming through the court system. Our Director of Training and Outreach has had the privilege of training hundreds of people, from community advocates to law enforcement, and was even invited to assist on several operations that kept our streets safer and helped women have the chance to break free. It's been amazing to watch God use someone who was once trapped in that lifestyle - now help others escape.

In February 2022, Mercy Gate acquired a property in Kerr County that will allow us to triple our current capacity for residential services. It took a year of fundraising and remodeling, but we are happy to report The Haven will open its doors this February. The radical favor of God has been evident in every detail. We thank everyone who sowed into this special home and saw it to fruition. May He bless you abundantly!

And may He continue to bless our ministry as we tackle the human injustice of sexual exploitation. As you read about our impact in 2022, please prayerfully consider supporting our impact efforts in 2023. Together we can be a disrupter to this industry by being the strong and guiding hand who lifts up the precious souls that have fallen victim to it.

Chae Spencer and Lisa Carpenter
Co-Founders

LETTER FROM OUR BOARD

Proverbs 15:22 "Without counsel, plans fail. With many advisors, they succeed."

It is hard to believe that we are fully into 2023. As I reflect on 2022 and all that we, as a board, have accomplished, I am extremely proud!

Early in the year, we met and developed a two-year Strategic Plan. Part of that plan was to expand the board and the advisory board. I am proud to say that we accomplished this goal. With the expansion of the board and advisory board, we were able to establish several strong board committees.

Our Board Governance Committee has been hard at work developing and adopting several policies: Board Commitment, Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Policy, Document Retentions and Destruction Policy, Whistleblower Policy, Gift Acceptance Policy, and a Personal Information Protection Policy.

The growth and implementation of the Development Committee have been exciting to watch. We not only saw the success of events for community awareness and fundraising last year but have a full schedule of events for 2023.

Our Construction Committee oversaw the renovation of our newly purchased property. I am delighted that under their diligent watch, the project went from the closing table to a fully renovated campus ready for move-in in February.

Our Finance Committee revamped our Board reports, established a Board Designated Fund asset account, assured a year-end operating surplus, and developed a 2023 budget that reflects the strong organizational growth and sound financial stewardship of the funds entrusted to us.



Last year was a year of tremendous growth for Mercy Gate Ministries that could only be accomplished through a team effort. I am extremely blessed to be a part of what the Lord is doing with this ministry. The board and advisory board are a huge part of these accomplishments, and I am grateful for each and every member's time and the talent they bring to the table.

Working together with our executive director and assistant executive director, along with the amazing staff, is a privilege for the board. They are the "boots on the ground" that we can rally behind. They are truly amazing.

Michelle Faust
Board President



Mercy Gate Ministries 2022 Impact

11 Board Members
Fulltime, Parttime and Contract Staff

9 Advisory Board Members

10 **36** Volunteer teachers, mentors, advocates

51 Collaborations with Nonprofits and Governmental Agencies

11 Women rescued through Joint Sting Operations

99 Men arrested

67 Outreach Events

50 Hours of Training

2447 Professionals Trained

5217 Total Reached

36 Referrals to the Journey Program

20 Women in Residential Program since inception

27 Women in Non-Residential Program since inception

6 Journey Program Graduates

The Journey

55% Increase in Survivor Applicants

55 Texas Counties

33 Average Age of our Survivors

55 Crisis Calls

19 States

47 Inmate Correspondence

91 Applicant Referrals

Hispanic, Caucasian, American Indian, and mixed races

Board Approved Strategic Directions 2022

Maximizing impact by transforming lives, renewing hope, and restoring dignity

Facilitating restoration through dynamic programming and intentional relationships

Engaging community into active partnerships to bring awareness and prevention of sexual exploitation

Ensuring sustainability through transparency, accountability, and commitment to excellence

Leveraging impact through replicable resources, programs, and advocacy

THE JOURNEY

2022 was amazing! We had a year full of precious moments with God, where deep healing took place, sweet fellowship, and outpourings of kindness from our community and volunteers. Here are a few highlights:

- The Journey Program Survivors in our residential and nonresidential programs were busy attending classes, working with our Licensed Professional Counselor, and going to art and equine therapy. They even went on outings that created beautiful lifelong memories.
- Journey Program Director, Lesley Lehrmann, had the honor of baptizing two survivors last year, and two survivors attended and graduated from Christian Women's Job Corp.



- We had our first Journey Program Graduation in 2022, where 2 residential and 4 nonresidential Survivors were honored for completing the Journey Program. We ended the year with a special holiday season and attended the Nutcracker Ballet at the Tobin Center, painting a manger scene with Callie Stelter, and celebrating Christmas as a family with special gifts from our community of support.
- The Journey Program staff grew in 2022 with the addition of a second Direct Care staff member, Ashlea Jones. Ashlea was one of the first residents of the Magdalene House. She came back and joined the Mercy Gate Team in May of 2022. She is doing an amazing job and is able to advocate on behalf of Survivors, having been where they are. Sylvia Garcia also came onto the team in 2022 as the Care Coordinator. Sylvia and her husband, Ike, have quickly become family to the women we serve. They go above and beyond to make them feel loved and cared for.

We would not be able to accomplish all that we do without our amazing volunteers. We have been so blessed to have a group of faithful volunteer class instructors who teach the Journey Program curriculum weekly. Each one of these volunteers brings a different style and perspective to aid in making this a very well-rounded program. Many other supporters bring meals, gifts, and clothing donations to the women we serve.

ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER

As a ministry, we value our collaborative relationships within Kerr County and twelve surrounding counties. We are honored to have a seat at the table of the STOP Task Force, Kerr County Sexual Assault Response Team, Kerr Care Coordination Team, and multiple county interagency groups that share a Mission to serve the vulnerable and victimized in our communities. When agencies work together in healthy collaboration, their communities have a greater impact on serving individuals, building bridges between gaps of services, sharing, and strengthening available resources. Here are a few highlights:



- In October of 2022, Kerr County was awarded the Office of the Governor's grant for County Innovations to address Commercial Sexual Exploitation. Mercy Gate Ministries is excited to be partnering with Kerr County in efforts to fulfill this grant by supporting victims/defendants through courtroom advocacy and specialized training opportunities for court officials and judicial stakeholders. In November of 2022, Mercy Gate was awarded additional funding from the Texas Bar Foundation for the ARC Court Training and Advocacy Program for Victims/Defendants of Sexual Exploitation.
- Our Outreach Director was invited to share with multiple agencies and organizations, including the US Secretary for Homeland Security, training for Schreiner University and UTSA Nursing Programs, airports in the Caribbean Islands, US Air Marshals, Customs and Border Patrol, Homeland Security Investigations and Department of Public Safety School for Undercover Agents. We worked with local and federal law enforcement agencies providing specialized training and assistance and speaking regularly at local colleges, schools, and community awareness events.

- Our Outreach Team assisted with Undercover Sting Operations with law enforcement, which resulted in the successful arrests of almost 100 buyers, and connections were made with roughly a dozen victims.
- We have developed a training curriculum specific for human trafficking and sexual exploitation that can be individually structured for schools, churches, direct service providers, airport task forces, health care staff, first responders, and more. Our customized training includes trauma informed care, rescue and recovery strategies, victim identification, and regulations and legislation designed to support survivors. In 2022, we became a community education partner with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to provide their approved training to youth in the community.



THE HAVEN

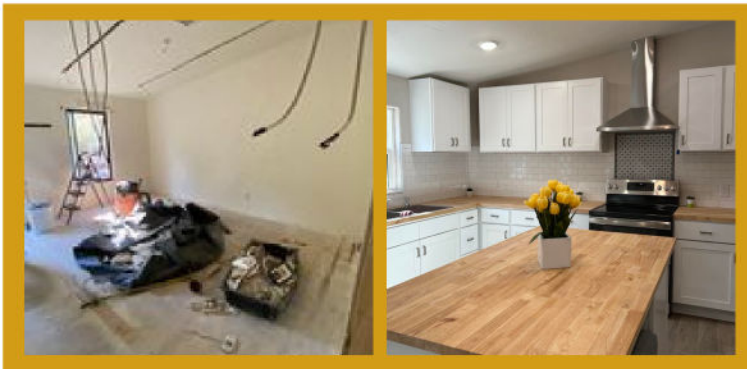
2022 was a year of constructing the home that will be the place God uses to rebuild the hearts and minds of the women He will bring!



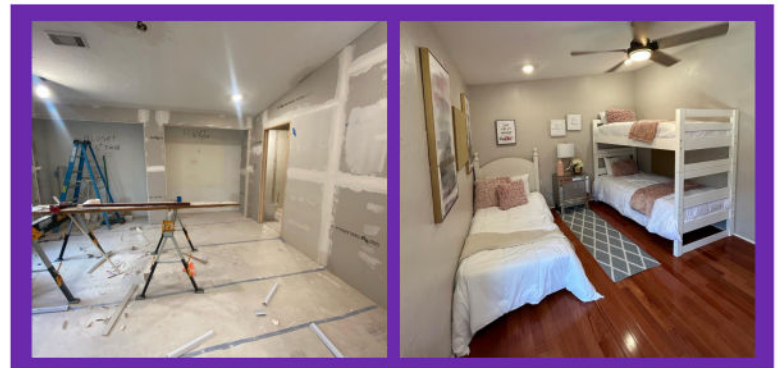
Bathroom Transformation



Living Room Transformation



Kitchen Transformation

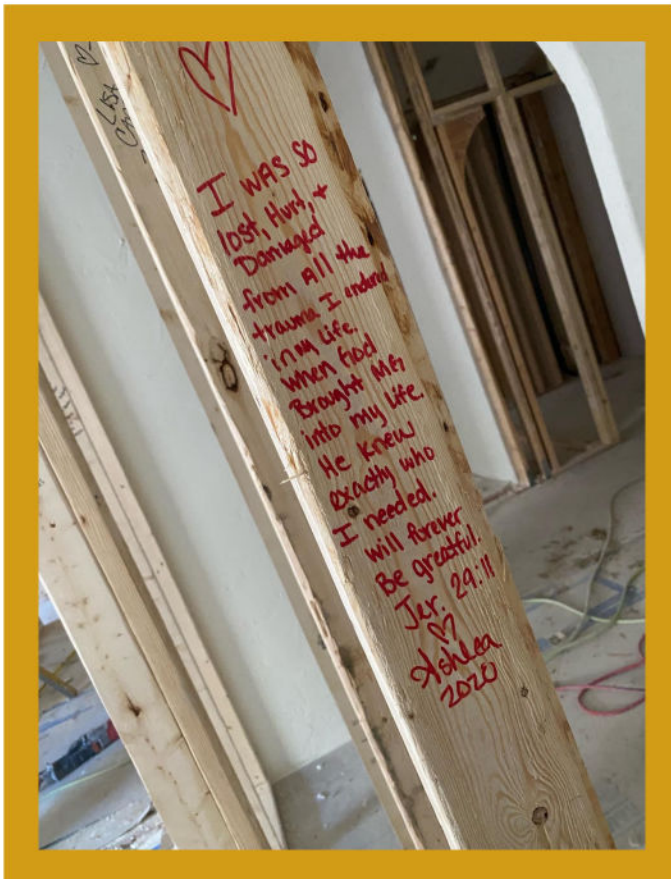
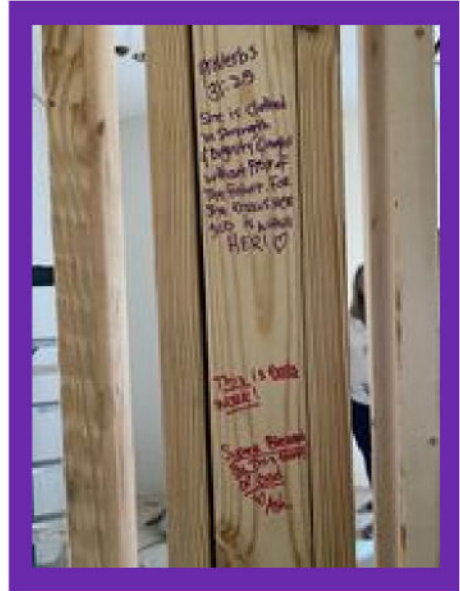


Bedroom Transformation

*We intentionally left out pictures of the exterior remodel for privacy purposes. If you are a partner and would like pictures of the exterior please contact info@mercygateministries.com

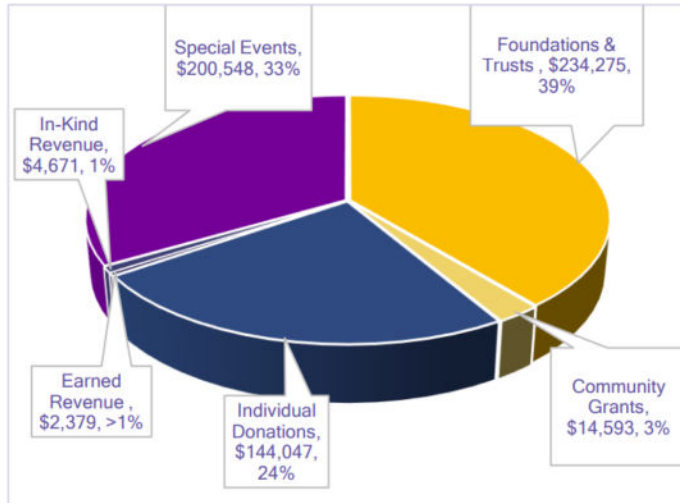
THE HAVEN

Jeremiah 31:3-4 "The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness. I will build you up again, and you will be rebuilt. Again you will take up your timbrels and go out to dance with the joyful."

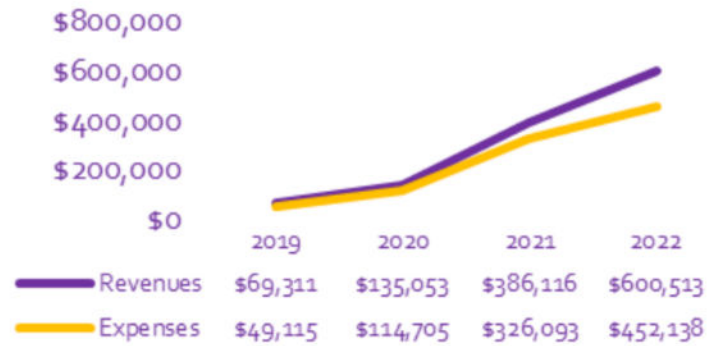


2022 FINANCIALS

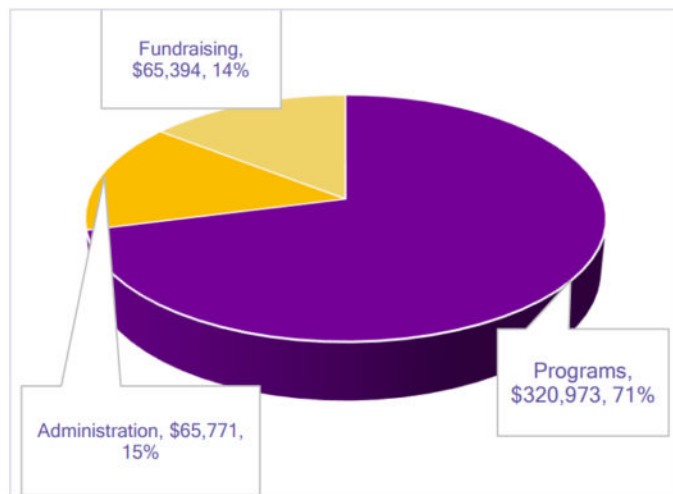
2022 Revenues - \$600,513



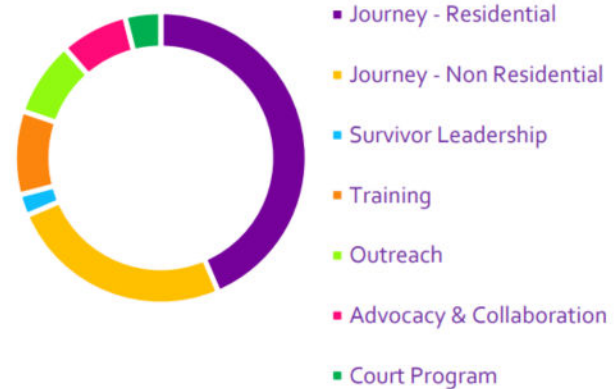
4 Years of Growth



2022 Expenses - \$452,138



Program Expenses Breakdown

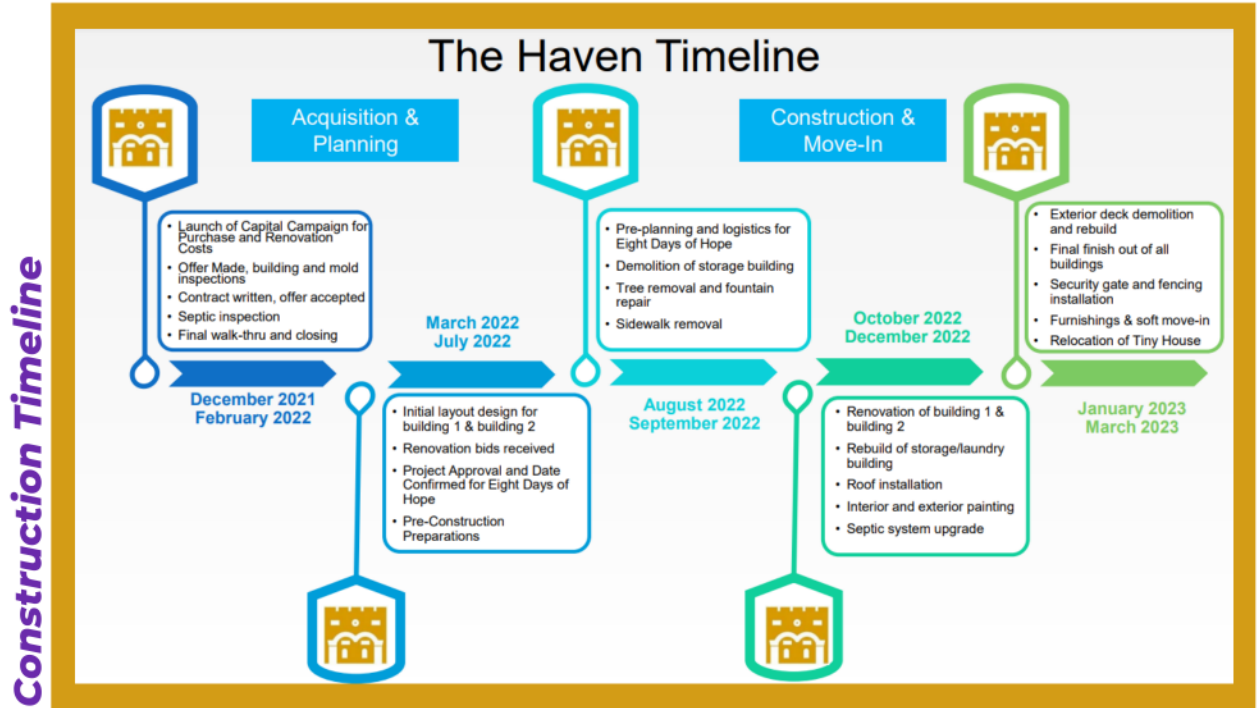


REFLECTIONS OF A SURVIVOR

I can't help but reflect on the past few years, and wow, I am amazed at what the Lord has done. Mercy Gate has experienced tremendous growth and favor this past year. I look around our conference table that was once too big for our team (now we must make room for everyone) and I see the individuals the Lord has called to serve in this space. I personally am proud to say that I work for Mercy Gate. We, as a team, as a family, have created something I so desperately needed as a survivor. And it brings tears to my eyes when I reflect on this journey and realize how the Lord has brought us all together to do His work here on earth for His Kingdom. I see individuals pouring out all of themselves each and every day to ultimately help other women that walk in similar shoes as mine. I think back to the first time I shared my testimony, I never in a million years thought this would be the path the Lord has set before me. I never thought that a small step of faith would result in what Mercy Gate is today. I am honored and privileged to have a seat at the table - a special place where my opinion matters, my voice is heard, and my experience and expertise are utilized, valued, and appreciated.

Karla Solomon

THE HAVEN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

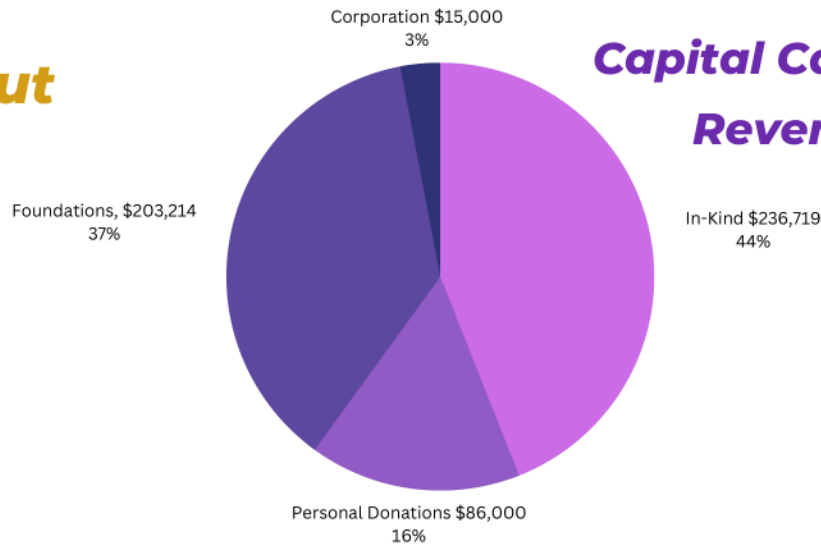


\$540,933 Budget Breakout

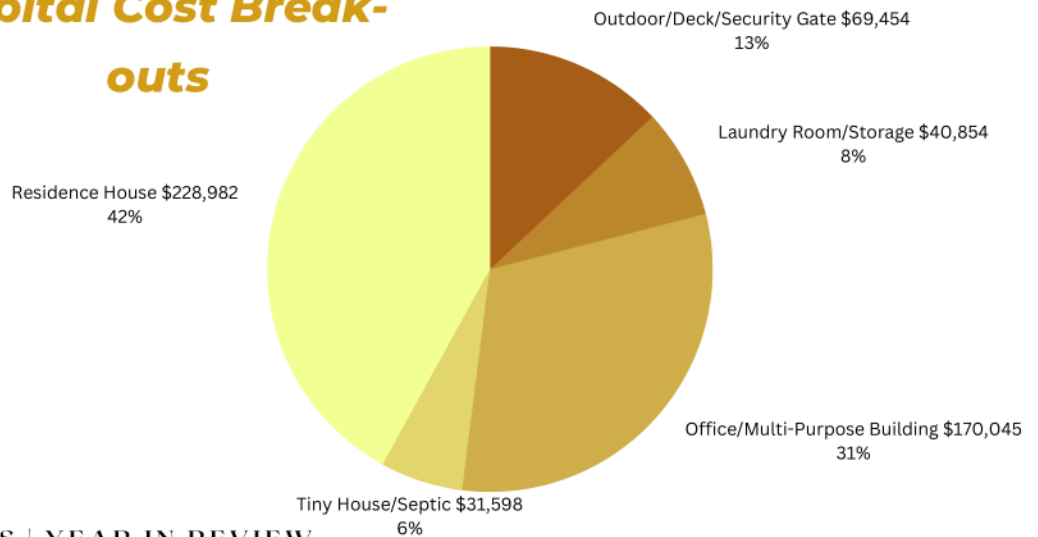
Capital Campaign Donors

- Eight Days of Hope
- J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation
- Hal & Charlie Peterson Foundaion
- Ray C Fish Foundation
- Anonymous
- JTJ Partners
- Geoff & Jill Simpson
- Community Foundation Texas
- Hill Country
- Keri Heflin
- Julie Barnett
- The Staging Company
- Kerrville Rotary Club
- Malouf Foundation
- Key to Key Properties
- Mo-Ranch

Capital Campaign Revenues



Capital Cost Breakouts



OUR LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michelle Faust, President
Stockton Williams, Vice President
Fred Gamble, Treasurer
Julie Chapa, Secretary
Tammy Brown
Denise Cartwright
Troy Faust
Amanda McDonald
Freddie Morrill

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Holly Secrest - Chair
Jim and Jane Adams
Kimberly Dunbar
Shanna and Rusty Holley
Mickey Horany
Bill Morrill
Carrie Schmerbeck
Jacob and Victoria Trevino

STAFF

Chae Spencer- Executive Director
Lisa Carpenter - Assistant Executive Director
Lesley Lehrmann- Journey Program Director
Aubri Reed - ARC Program Director
Karla Soloman - Director of Outreach & Training
Annette O'Bryant - Clinical Director
Sylvia Garcia- Care Coordinator
Michelle Black- Direct Care
Ashlea Jones- Direct Care

KEYS TO FREEDOM

About the Campaign

Keys to Freedom is Mercy Gate Ministries' monthly giving program.

Monthly giving, in a powerful manner, provides a baseline that helps us in strategic budgeting and growth efforts. It levels the rollercoaster a bit and promotes steadiness for all involved, both staff and those we care for and work with. Studies show that donors give money because they feel empowered by seeing their impact, and a recurring donation is a great way to maximize their impact on Mercy Gate Ministries.



About Our Approach

It is a simple fact: People Give to People.

There are many reasons why people give. Some give because they want to help others. Some give because they want to make their community a better place. Some give simple because someone asked them.

Whatever the reason, giving is a personal choice. Providing an intimate setting for potential donors to learn more about Mercy Gate Ministries' mission, the survivors we lift up, and the impact we make in our community gives them the opportunity to make a personal commitment to join the fight against sexual exploitation.

For more information or to schedule a Keys to Freedom event, please contact Lisa Carpenter.

Lisa@mercygateministries.com

(830) 377-2203

OUR 2022 DONORS

\$50,000 & Above

Anonymous
Hal & Charlie Peterson Foundation
MABEE Foundation
Perry & Ruby Stevens Charitable
Foundation
Ray C Fish Foundation
Simpson, Geoff & Jill

\$10,000 - \$49,999

Barnett, Julie
Faust, Troy & Michelle
Harper, Linda
Jill Reno Collection, Inc.
JTJ Partners
The Staging Company
Kerrville Guns and Hoses
McMurray, Anita & Randy
Nutt, Becky
Sterling-Turner Foundation
Texas Bar Foundation
Kolm, Leticia & Roger
\$5,000 - \$9,999
Bachman, Cynthia
Crowe, Donald
Harter, Kay
Holcomb, Richard & Glenda
Johnson, Bruce & Kathleen
Lambert, Mary
Log Beds
Lozano, Lora
Morris, Gohlkem Nancy
Sisterhood for Good
Zieve, Robert & Marilyn
\$1,000 - \$4,999
Betenbough, Holly
Big Rock Road Construction, LLC
Boles, Rick & LaVerne
Bolton, Carol
Brasada Minerals
Brooks, Terry & Aaron
Bull Creek Longhorns
Calvary Temple Church
Cartwright, Denise H
Chapa, Carlos and Julie
Chene, Janet
Collins, Neil
Community Foundation Texas Hill Country
Daniel, Christopher
Davenport, Sherry
Dobbs, Sylvia
Dunbar, Andrew and Kimberly
Dundas, Rod & Janet
Frazier, Ryan
French, Jerry
Gamble, BK & Fred
Gohlke, Robert
Hanna, John
Harpold, Jill
Heidi Klaassen
Hight, Stephen
Holley, Rusty & Shanna
Horany, Mickey and Polly

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Huber, Chad
Hunt Baptist Church
Hunt United Methodist Church
Itschner, Anne & Beau
James Avery Craftsman, Inc
Johnson, Craig and Debra
Johnson, Linnea - 805 Ranch
Jones, Ashlea
Judicial Workplace Arbitrations Inc.
Keith, LeAnne
Kelly, Robert & Vicki
KerrPro Painting
Koonce, Kim
Lancaster, Fern
McFarland, Angie
McGinnis, Michelle
Mo Ranch
Network For Good
Pearson, Lucy
Prescott, Rebecca
Ridout, Deborah & Howell
Rommel, Deborah and Ross
Salvation Spirits, LLC
Sanders, Jesse & Courtney
Sanders, Thomas J
Schmerbeck, Carrie
Secrest, Teri
Smith, Jet & PeeJay
Spencer, Chae (D)
Syfert, Dereck
Trade-Mark Brown Inc
Turner, Susan
Vick, Ronald & Kristi
White, Sherri & Curtis
Williams, Stockton
Williamson, Franklin & Katie Bess
\$500 - \$999
Asher, Scott
Barnett, Wendy
Barrett, Melba
Bock, Kari
Bode, Andrea
Broadway Bank
Cade, Candace
Carpenter, Justin & Lisa
Chapman, Sandra
Citizens Against Sex Trafficking
Coffee, Chris
Conley, Kelly & Rick
Cummings, Beverly
DeVerter, Jeff
DeVore, Brenda
Dorsey, Gloria
Fidelity Charitable
Fore, Laura & Micah
Germanis, Gregory and Sandia
Hartsfield, Florence
Hefflin, Keri
Hopkins, Debra
Jam Broadcasting, LLC
Jesus Hall of Fame
John & Rachel Faust
Klaassen, Travis & Heidi

\$500 - \$999

Knight, Craig & Lisa
KOONCE
Long, Kimberly
McCain, Scott
McEnrue, Michael
Medina United Methodist Church
O'Neal, Andrea
PEO - Kerrville Chapter
Pressley, Marie
Rudasill, Mary F.
Sams, Richard & Bonita
Secrest, Holly
Security State Bank & Trust
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Staub, John M.D.
Stegemueller, William & Anna
Taco Casa
Thomas, Laynetta
Tucker, Casey
Unity Christian School
\$499 & Below
A-1 Transmissions
Baetz, Sarah
Bailey, Lee & Nancy
Bailey, Vint
Baker, Matthew & Tessa
Barrow, Jennifer
Barry, Kay & Michael
Bartels, Sharon
Bell, Frank
Bindock, Brenda
Bock, Tara & Todd
Boglev, Matt
Bolton, Jessie B
Bond, Bruce & Elizabeth
Booker, Brooks III
Bowen, Kaitlyn
Bowers, Eva & Kent
Brannan, Brian
Bridwell, Lavon E.
Bueche, Cristina
Burton, Lucy
Buttner, Lana
Calicchio, Kelly
Capers, Elaine
Cardwell, Dana
Casburn, Cynthia
Coers, Sally
Coffee, Linda
Collins, Barbara & William
Collis, Layne & John
Cooper, Ellen
Cordora, Barbara
Cornett, Jean & Jon
Cross Kingdom Church
Croy, Kasey
Curle, Johnna
Danaher Foundation
Davenport, Brandon
Davenport, Lisa
Davenport, Tanya
David & Kathy Turner

\$499 & Below

Davis, Billie
Dean, Jamie
Driskell, Charles
Duggar, Allen & Carol
Duggar, Jamie
Edmondson, Danielle
Elizabeth & Craig Althaus
Elizabeth & Harry Johns
Eubank, Elizabeth
Ferguson, Thomas Brad
Flores Land Services
Flores, Alaina
Flores, Jose & Dana
Franklin, Mindi
Garcia, Ike & Sylvia
Garrison, Dan
Gavin, Lauren
Gledeman, Bridgit
Gold, Mary Barbara
Graham, James
Grayson, BJ
Green, Jeremy
Grenwelge, Angela
Harmon, Karrie
Hawkins, Diane
Hawkins, Justin
Haynie, Jim & Karen
Herrera, Angela
Hickey, Bill & Evelyn
Hill, Donna
Holliman, Amy
Hood, Nancy
Huchton, Iris & Paul
Huffman, Kristin
Hupp, Suzanna
Imel, Jennifer
Jansen, Barbara
Jared, Richard or Jones, Amy
Johnson, Wayne & Susan
Jones, Jim and Donna
Judy's Liquor, Inc.
Karl, Paula T
Keese, Dana
Kendrick, Sara
Kindle, Matthew
Kniffen, Kirk & Tiffany
Koch, David & Dorothy
Lalumia, Nancy
Lannom, R.W. & G.G.
Larson, Bernadell
Latreille, Robert & Jay
Lea A Bitner
Lehrmann, Haley
Leslie, Craig & Lynda
Loveett Management Trust
Luna, Andrea
Malm, Rick and Jana
Marra, Pete & Heather
McCoy, Shellie
McGee, Elizabeth
McGehee, Lisa

\$499 & Below

McKerracher, Logan
McMahon, Patricia
Milchanowski, Amy
Mills, Heidi
Molina, Joy
Mooney, Karen
Morris, Sandy
Morris, Victoria
Morrison, Mark & Christine
Motlong, Sarah and Josh
Nasis, Olga
Oakes, Debbie & Howard
O'Bryant, Steve & Annette
Olson, Eric
Ottaway, Julie
Painter, Mark & Carol
Parsons, Douglass & Eileen
Patricia A Webb
Patterson, Anna Beth
Robinett, Samantha
Stegemueller, Cody
Stelter, Callie
Sullivan, Barbara
Sutton, Stephanie & Kerry
TisBest Philanthropy
Tomlin, Ann
Trevino, Jacob
VanderWal, Heidi
Vandiver, Edna
Vaughn, Ann
Villanueva, Stephanie
Waldrip, Jennifer
Walters, Warren & Cheyenne
Warner, Chad & Haley
Wayne A. Youngs & Associates
White, Bonnie & Keith
Williams, Linda
Winn, Rosilee
Wood, Diana