

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



REAL LIFE CENTER  
Real help. Real hope.

# A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## Dear Supporters:

As we started 2022, we were thankful for the resources that God provided the Real Life Center including a strong staff, an abundance of food ready for distribution, and all of our ongoing programs and services we have available to reach deep into the lives of our clients. We prayed and wondered about what God might have in store for us as we entered the year ready to serve.

As the year progressed, inflation came on strong, and we saw a rapid increase in clients coming through our doors for food and services. What was hidden had now come to light. He was preparing us to serve those struggling in our church family and community at large, share the gospel, and provide hope.



God equips each of us to be his hands and feet in the space where we live, work, and play. He expects us to minister and serve within our circle of relationships. For our staff, volunteers, church partners, businesses, and individuals who support the Real Life Center, we are equipped to serve, and that's what we will continue to do with God's blessing on our work.

Thank you for praying, giving, and serving with us!

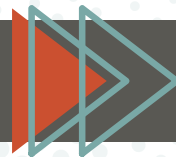
*2 Corinthians 9:8 (GNT): And God is able to give you more than you need, so that you will always have all you need for yourselves and more than enough for every good cause.*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg".

Greg Georgianni - Executive Director



# TESTIMONIES



"There's so much going on in this world, but with all of us pulling together and praying together, we can make it, because we have God and Jesus on our side. I'm thankful for this program and for the food that they give out. They don't have to do that, but evidently God put it on their hearts to do so, and that's where we all get our blessings."

-Priscilla, Real Life Center Client

"One of the highlights of my week is volunteering at the Real Life Center. Meeting with clients, hearing their stories, and being a small part of their journey is always a blessing. It's rewarding to see real change take place in lives as a result of hearing the gospel and getting their physical needs met."

-Jackie, Real Life Center Volunteer Counselor



"As a volunteer I appreciate the intentional way the Real Life Center creates a relationship with clients. From the moment they make a call for an appointment to their final follow-up call, they are not numbers but persons to be valued and lifted up. As I make follow-up calls, it is my privilege to hear how the Real Life Center has come alongside families with encouragement and practical help. There really is a spirit of partnership here."

-Lois Ann, Real Life Center Volunteer

"I've enjoyed it (the Bible studies) immensely, and it's made a big difference. I recommend that others join too. It won't hurt, it can only help. This is one way of changing your life for the better. It's all positive. You can't lose."

-Robert, Real Life Center Client



# REAL LIFE CENTER PROGRAMS

## Market & Pantry

Being able to provide food to feed yourself and your family is a basic human need. Finding yourself in a place where you are food insecure is a scary thing.

One of the main ways the Real Life Center assists our clients is by providing the fresh food and nonperishable items that they need to help feed those in their household. In both the market and pantry, we strive to make the shopping experience an enjoyable and dignifying one.

## Mobile Food Pantry

Through our partnerships with Atlanta Community Food Bank and Grace Church, we are able to offer a mobile food pantry once a month. Clients come from all over Georgia to receive fresh food.



1,923

Households served through the mobile food pantry

629,385

Pounds of food distributed to Real Life Center clients



## Harvest for Real Life Orchard and Garden

The sole purpose of the fruit orchard and vegetable garden is to provide fresh produce to the families of the Real Life Center, which is distributed weekly through our market.

Since nutrition is hard to come by on a limited budget, the orchard and garden have been huge blessings!

11,520

Pounds of produce harvested from the orchard and garden



# REAL LIFE CENTER PROGRAMS

## Financial Assistance

Our financial assistance program continued to play an essential role in giving individuals and families the boost they needed to get back on their feet in 2022.

With inflation continuing to rise, along with other difficult life circumstances, we saw the need for assistance grow. The top reasons new clients came to the Real Life Center throughout the year included health issues, job loss, and divorce.

## Job Assistance

With job loss or lack of a job being one of the top hindrances our clients faced in 2022, our job coaching and referral services proved to be vital in addressing their immediate needs. These services are designed to assist in the development of job search strategies, tools and marketing plans, and referrals to reduce the transition time it takes to find employment.

We are thankful to have business partners in our community who have interviewed and/or hired Real Life Center clients after our referral.

325

Clients received financial  
assistance

97

Clients assisted  
through job coaching  
and referrals

5

Businesses started  
through the Helping  
Hand Grant

## Helping Hand Grant

Another way the Real Life Center can help individuals become more economically stable is to assist them with starting their own business. This is a great option for clients who want to make extra income on the side or have a passion they want to pursue and eventually turn into a career.

Starting a business can be a financial burden, so the Helping Hand Grant was created to help offset some of the costs. Approved applicants can receive financial assistance to aid in the start-up process, and have access to our volunteer business mentors who meet with them one-on-one to offer guidance along the way.



# REAL LIFE CENTER PROGRAMS

## Clothing Closet

Clothes can be expensive - especially when you have multiple people living in your household. Our clothing closet consists of new or very gently used clothing items along with shoes, linens, and towels.

For many of the clients we serve, the clothes in the clothing closet not only provide them with a new wardrobe, but also allow them to allocate the funds that would have gone toward purchasing clothes to other needs.

## Chaplaincy Services

At the Real Life Center, our mission is to provide those in need with holistic care, which means we care for each person physically, emotionally, relationally, financially, mentally, and spiritually.

Caring for the spiritual needs of our clients is the cornerstone of our chaplaincy services. We focus on caring for these spiritual needs through three main avenues: pastoral care, classes, and chapel services.

"I was on the verge of giving up - then the Bible classes at the Real Life Center answered a lot of my questions and showed me why I'm here."

-Melvin, Real Life Center Client



364

Visits to the clothing closet



100

Individuals received support through our chaplaincy program

## Educational Classes

Part of our mission is to equip people for life, and our educational classes are an effective way we are able to do that. We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to further their education because learning new information and skills helps us grow and work toward our goals.

We offer a variety of classes in the areas of money management, health and wellness, spiritual growth, and more.



545

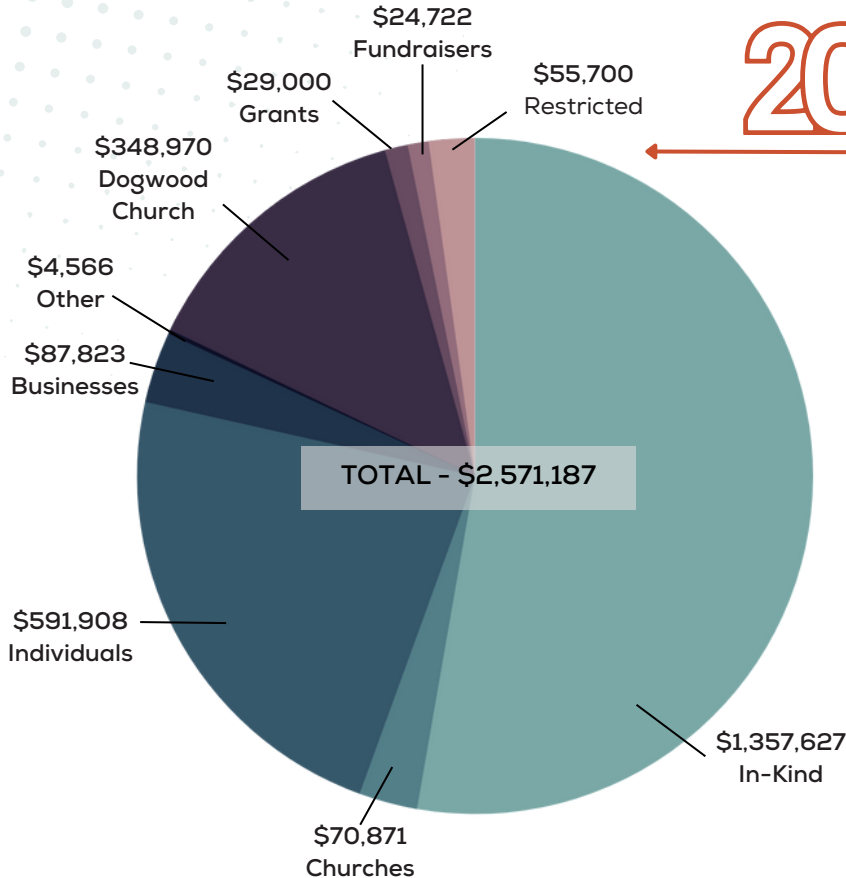
Individuals attended an educational class

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

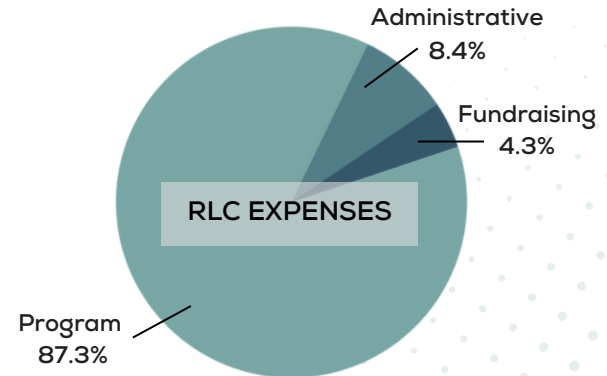


## 2022

### Sources of Revenue for the Real Life Center



The Real Life Center would not be able to offer the programs and services we do without our generous donors. When local businesses, churches, and individuals come together to support the community, major change can happen. Thank you for entrusting us with your financial donations that bring real help and hope to our clients in Coweta and Fayette County year after year.



# Interested in Getting Involved?

Visit Website:



Donate Here:



Volunteer Here:



"Providing Necessities for Living While Equipping People for Life"

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Real Life Center is a mission of Dogwood Church