



FaithBridge

2022
IMPACT REPORT



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DEAR MINISTRY PARTNERS,

I am humbled to tell you that in 2022 we **have served the highest number of children we have ever served in one year!**

Through God’s provision and guidance, we have expanded our programs to serve children in foster care in new ways. Because of this, **last year we served 967**

children. That is nearly as many children as we served in our first ten years combined!

With this growth, I am proud to say that FaithBridge Foster Care attained a placement stability score that is more than five times better than state and national averages. **This means that nearly 100% of FaithBridge children are not being moved from foster home to foster home before they are back with their families,** minimizing the trauma they experience and helping them build stronger connections.

Through our online training system, FaithBridgeU, we enabled 5,500 hours of training for foster parents, giving them the guidance and knowledge to help children who have experienced trauma on their journey to healing.

We celebrated 15 years of service in June and in November we hosted our first fundraising gala since the pandemic. I am deeply grateful for all that you have done in 2022 to help vulnerable children and families. We have had yet another record year of financial support.

We are poised to serve even more children in the year to come. We officially launched the FaithBridge adoption program and have laid the groundwork for a Youth Opportunities program which will serve youth as they prepare for adulthood. Young people aging out of foster care face tremendous uncertainty and daunting odds. Our goal is to help them find hope to pursue their dreams - to prepare them for bright and successful futures.

As we forge ahead to what is next, we always have our eyes on where God is leading us – because He continues to prove that what He has in store is beyond anything we can imagine if we only trust in Him.

It is a privilege to lead this organization and I am so thankful for the support you provide.

May God bless you,

Bob Bruder-Mattson
President and CEO

.....
“Since you have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, live in union with him. Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him, and become stronger in your faith, as you were taught. And be filled with thanksgiving.”

Colossians 2:6-7



Together we bring hope, healing, and love to foster children.

From the moment they need care to their journey into adulthood and independence, FaithBridge is there.

When children are brought into foster care, they need families to help them heal from the trauma of neglect and abuse. FaithBridge is the largest Georgia-based, and Christ-centered, child-placing agency in the state. **We recruit, train, and support foster and adoptive families in local churches and license them to provide community-based, short- and long-term traditional, medically fragile and therapeutic care and for foster children in Georgia.**

We work with the state of Georgia to **provide Child Life Histories for children who are eligible for adoption, ensuring they have all of their required documents to be adopted.** We provide on-demand and live training to foster families that address the unique needs they encounter through our online learning management tool, FaithBridgeU.

We are contracted with the State of Georgia to license adoptive families for foster children who are 13 years or older, in sibling groups of three or more, or have special needs who are waiting for adoptive homes.

Our vision is for every foster child to experience the hope, healing, and unconditional love of Jesus Christ and our mission is to mobilize, organize, and equip local churches to solve their community's foster care crisis.

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF SERVING

In June, we celebrated 15 years of serving foster children and their families in Georgia.

We started as Cornerstone Family Services with a vision to develop a ministry that could enable local churches to recruit, train, and sustain parents who take on the challenging role of fostering.

The goal was for children to have a better experience while in foster care – fewer moves between foster homes, stronger connections with their caretakers, and more hope for their futures. **Most importantly, the vision was for these children to experience the hope, healing, and unconditional love of Jesus Christ.**



Greg and Robin Freeman were among our first four licensed foster families.

“I was reading the paper and there was an article on foster care and I immediately felt it on my heart,” says Robin. She prayed – a lot – and she kept feeling God nudging her. When the Freemans learned that their church, Mt. Bethel, was starting a foster care ministry, they knew they had to do this. “It’s had the biggest impact on my family and spiritual life, too.” The Freemans cared for 10 different children while they fostered, and they adopted one.

OUR FIRST 15 YEARS

June 2007 – June 2022

1,915

Children were served in foster homes

1,029

Reunifications

358

Adoptions

643,702

nights in safe, Christian homes

302

Child Life Histories were completed

118

Churches and church partners were served

13,871

People were introduced to foster care

1,719

Individuals were trained to become foster parents

1,090

Licensed Foster Parents

Foster care is a delicate balance of temporarily caring for children who have experienced hard things, while supporting and encouraging birth parents to get the help they need so they can be a family again.

In 2022, **FaithBridge served 327 children** who **experienced 77,051 nights in loving Christian foster homes.**

We facilitated the **reunifications of 57 children** with birth families who found hope and healing. When reunification wasn't possible, we saw **36 children adopted into FaithBridge families.**

Getting a babysitter isn't a simple task for foster parents. We **helped provide FaithBridge foster families with 2,128 nights of respite**, giving them time to refresh so they can continue to serve their families well.

100% of the children in FaithBridge homes were protected from additional abuse or neglect.



MEET BRANDI



Brandi's life hit rock bottom when her daughter was removed from her home. The devastation she felt was beyond anything she had experienced and she wondered if she would ever get her baby girl back.

When her daughter's foster mother, Stephanie, told her she was there to help – Brandi wasn't sure she could trust her. **Over the next year, through daily photos and a lot of love, Stephanie and Brandi built a bond so strong it remains today.**

Learn More!
[Click here to watch Brandi's story.](#)

77,051 The number of nights that 327 children experienced in loving Christian homes

57 The number of children that were reunified with their families

MEET THE BOUDREAUX FAMILY

In 2022, 1,642 children in Georgia's foster care system had a goal of adoption. Each of those children is required to have an official "Child Life History" created in order for an adoption to take place.

In our first full year of providing this service, we hired new team members as we kept up with the high demand for children and teens in care who were waiting for adoption. In 2022, FaithBridge completed 640 narratives (many more than a thousand pages long), paving the way for children to be adopted into forever families - including a sibling group of eight children!



Empty nesters, Troy and Dee Boudreaux knew they wanted to care for teens when they chose to foster and envisioned their home a safe haven for many teens over the years. When it was clear the first three siblings they welcomed into their home would be available for adoption, they didn't hesitate to say yes. They were told the Child Life Histories typically take a very long time so the adoption could be delayed for up to a year because of this.

Then they got a call from their FaithBridge consultant letting them know that FaithBridge was assigned to compile their histories. They were quickly completed and the Boudreaux family is now a party of seven!

Learn More!
[Click here to watch the Boudreaux's story.](#)

640 The number of Child Life History narratives completed by FaithBridge in 2022.



Parenting is difficult. **Parenting children who have experienced abuse, neglect, and the trauma of being removed from their homes comes with a unique set of challenges.**

We have collaborated with other agencies, churches, and industry experts to continue to provide training resources created specifically to meet the needs of foster and adoptive parents on FaithBridgeU.

In 2022, we enabled 5,500 hours of advanced training to be completed by FaithBridge families, giving them the tools and knowledge to help the children in their care.

Families who are better equipped will foster longer and, more importantly, will be able to help children better process their experiences and heal from their trauma.

Our national rollout has begun with a pilot partnership and we have built the infrastructure to make FaithBridgeU available to the public in 2023.

Learn More!
Go to faithbridgeu.com

In 2022 there were 10,715 children in Georgia's foster care system. 1,642 of those children had an adoption goal and 386 had no one to adopt them.

FaithBridge has been building an adoption ministry to help find families for the children who are languishing in foster care, waiting to be adopted or to age out of the system, leaving them homeless and with no family connection. **FaithBridge is contracted with the state of Georgia to license families to adopt these children, specifically teenagers, sibling groups of three or more, and children with special needs.**

Our goal is to help these children and teens, who have already experienced so much trauma and rejection, to find loving Christian homes where they will thrive.

At the end of 2022 we already had two families approved and licensed to adopt.

Learn More!
Go to faithbridgeadoption.org

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the FaithBridge Founders Scholarship supports FaithBridge foster families and foster youth as an investment in their future. Recipients were awarded \$2,000 to be applied to their education.

We are pleased to announce our 2022 recipients!

Brooke* – is in her freshman year at University of North Georgia with a major in Early Childhood Education and plans to pursue a career in social work. **"I want to spend my life helping children and shaping the upcoming generations. I even plan on fostering kids in the future – I want children who are in my situation to know there will be better days."**

Karline – is a junior at the Gwinnett College of Business where she is studying to become a Certified Accountant. **Last year Karline was awarded the title of Torch Team Ambassador for the Gwinnett College of Business.**

Julie* – is a freshman at Georgia State University. Her desire is to become a Physical Therapist. **"I plan to volunteer with youth who are in foster care with a similar situation like mine... I definitely want to give back."**

Morgan – is a FaithBridge Founders Scholarship recipient for the fourth year. She graduates in May 2023 from Mercer University with a double major in Criminal Justice and Psychology and she will be pursuing teaching in her post-graduate education. **"I am so grateful for FaithBridge and how much you have helped me succeed. God continues to answer my prayers."**





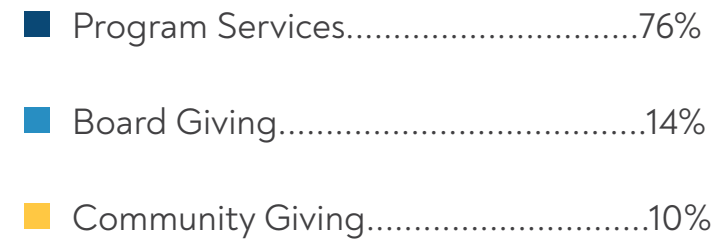
In November, FaithBridge hosted “A Million Dreams,” a gala intended to inspire others to join us in helping children in foster care recapture their dreams.

Keynote speaker, Lt. Governor Geoff Duncan, shared the “God moments” that ignited his passion to make a difference for children in foster care. Geoff has been able to give a voice to these children and teens and has helped pass significant legislation about foster care in Georgia, making a better future for young people as they progress into adulthood. This was not something that would garner votes, but he knew those “God moments” were giving him guidance to drive meaningful change in ways he is uniquely positioned to do.

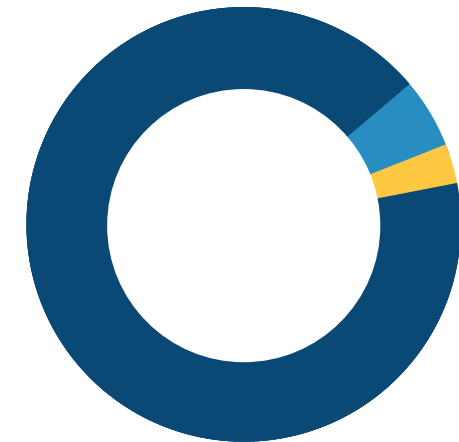
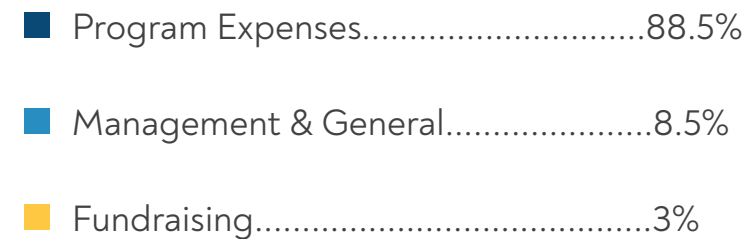
The evening inspired attendees to consider how each one can invest in the lives of children in foster care – to make a difference where each person can, and help children find their dreams.

2022 FINANCIALS

Revenue



Expenses



Board of Directors and Executive Leadership

Richard L. Jackson, Board Chair

Laurence Powell

Leslie Kurtz, Treasurer

Charles Evans

Wayne Stolz, Secretary

Bob Bruder-Mattson, President and CEO

FaithBridge is building a new program, called Youth Opportunities, to serve young people in foster care as they prepare for, and enter, adulthood.

In 2022, we were able to do the following to start building this important new program:




- Secured a DFCS Independent Living Program Contract to serve eligible youth ages 18 to 21 who want to remain in care.
- Received a HUD Rapid Rehousing grant to provide housing and services to homeless youth ages 18 to 24.
- Achieved certification from DFCS as an eligible youth serving organization to receive Fostering Success Act tax credit funds.

We are excited to continue to build this program in 2023.

FaithBridge

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