

Annual Impact Report-January to December 2023

## Transformation through Christ

Dignity through Stability

Connectedness through  
Community

Growth through Relationship

While the year brought many unique challenges, Life Journey Foundation was busier than ever, bringing projects our community needed to life.

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25:40  
- NIV

41

Youth and Adults participated in Community Art classes in 2023

81%

Percent of at-risk individuals who secured permanent or transitional housing (17 individuals total)\*

82%

Percent of those who have maintained personal or transitional housing (14 people total)

24

Children who participated in Kids Night Out Programs hosted during 2023

\*Since program adoption in 2022

### Programs

### Details

### Outcome

Come to the Table Meals

Life Journey hosted monthly potlucks in 2023. We averaged 40 people each month and our all-time highest attendance was our Thanksgiving Meal, which included 70 people from all walks of life.

These meals provide an opportunity to build relationships with people of all ages and walks of life in our community.

Kids Night Out Respite Care

Preschool and school-aged children participated in enriching activities, including educational and spiritual instruction.

Caregivers, including foster families, received a much-needed break while their children were in a safe environment.

Art Programs for Adults and Children

Life Journey hosted 4 Paint Nights that averaged 15 people per class. We also hosted a Children's Art class attended by 8 children and ended our art sessions with a Summer Art Camp that included 17 children.

People in our community, including those who have experienced homelessness, were able to participate in an enriching activity that promoted creativity and positive mental health.



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## Programs

Mentorship Program

## Details

Mentoring was provided to 10 people who were either homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless. This included providing guidance with goal setting, offering spiritual encouragement, and assisting with employment and housing resources

## Outcome

100% have secured and maintained temporary or permanent housing  
80% have also identified and achieved at least one personal goal (excluding housing)  
78% are employed (excl. disabled or retired)  
90% are currently attending one or more faith-based groups (church, Celebrate Recovery, Bible Study, Come to the Table)

## Success Story-Mandie

Mandie connected with Life Journey through another lady who receives services from us and recommended contacting us. When we first met, Mandie was trying to find an apartment so that she could begin the process of reintegrating her 8-year-old daughter back into her custody. The challenge was that Mandie had some criminal justice involvement that could make it very difficult to find housing. Because Life Journey had already established a relationship with a local landlord, she got approved and her daughter was able to move back with her full-time, by the beginning of the school year. When we received the news that she had been approved for housing, Mandie said that she promised to be the best tenant the landlord has ever had. She is diligent about making sure her rent is paid on time and that she doesn't violate the terms of her lease. Mandie's journey is truly extraordinary, given the significant trauma she has experienced in her life and the length of time she was apart from her daughter. Though the road to this new life has not been easy, she and her daughter have chosen to remain very connected with Life Journey and Faith Journey and rarely miss a service or activity. Mandie participates in our mentorship program that includes guidance with life skills and parenting challenges. When a new opportunity came up for her and her daughter to give back by being "bus captains" for a new ministry that provides transportation to many people connected with Life Journey, Mandie jumped at the chance. Mandie remains very committed to turning her life around and allowing new chapters of her story to be written.



## Programs

Additional Life Enrichment Classes

## Details

Volunteers hosted several additional enrichment classes over the course of the year, offered at no cost to the community

## Classes

1. Afternoon of Beauty
2. Personal Boundaries
3. Budgeting
4. Creative Classes (jewelry making, tie dye, decorative pumpkins, Christmas ornaments)

## Success Story-Kaitie

Kaitie became aware of Life Journey through her mother, who also receives services from us. It has truly been a privilege to witness the positive changes in her life since we first met and to watch the testimonies being written in both her life and her mother's. When we met Kaitie, she was homeless, unemployed, and dealing with a great deal of discouragement due to a separation from her children and husband. Though the road has been difficult and the change process very challenging, it is truly amazing to see the way God has been working in her life and all that has been accomplished in the past year. Kaitie reconciled with her husband, and they were reunited with their two youngest children. The children are regular participants in our monthly Kid's Night Out and one of her older children also occasionally participates. Kaitie has commented that it makes her feel so good when they come to the Ministry Center; everyone greets them and knows their names. She has recently begun attending church and a Wednesday Night Bible Study. She and her husband hope to begin attending church together soon. It was so wonderful to share the excitement with Kaitie when she landed a job at a local program for youth, which she received services from as a teen, and heard about her dream of someday becoming a nurse. Kaitie has also expressed a strong desire to begin giving back and she is eager to begin helping with clerical tasks and is open to providing peer support to others who may have a similar story. Though life is far from perfect and there continue to be struggles, Kaitie has a much lighter spirit and sees great hope for the future!

