

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2023-JUNE 2024



SHELTER | DEVELOPMENT | PURPOSE



"I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise will always be on my lips."

Psalm 34:1

2024 was an amazing year with many challenges and triumphs. Our Women's and Children's facility that was built a few years ago has been full for much of the last year, and our numbers continue to increase among every population. Seeing so many people joining our long-term programs and seeking real-life change is encouraging. At the same time, just by the number of people on the corners around town, you would think that no one wants real change; that is just not true. The reality is that more and more people are enquiring about and joining our long-term programs. **Praise The Lord!** Now, because of the increase in program members, the need for mentors is of vital importance. The value of a mentor to aid in the development of our members cannot be overstated. If you would like to serve as a mentor, please get in touch with **Matt Furrow** at (269) 345-2974, ext. 203

In 2024, we were blessed to have several partners contact us about funding matching gifts. Thank you to everyone who funded a matching gift in 2024 and everyone who gave to maximize the impact of those funds.

Going into 2025, we will be undertaking a few necessary projects to keep the ministry moving forward and relevant to the needs of the people we serve. Some of those projects will address the lack of available housing for people leaving our programs and the upkeep of our vehicles that transport guests to appointments. KDC also needs facility updates to meet the increasing needs in the Northside community.

It would be an honor to give you a tour of our ministry and show you how your donations are changing lives significantly. On behalf of myself, the Board of Directors, and the Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries Team,

Thank You!

Pastor Michael L. Brown
President & CEO

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269.345.2974

MAIN CAMPUS

448 N Burdick St.
Kalamazoo MI, 49007

NORTH CAMPUS KDC

1010 N Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo MI, 49007



MEET JONATHAN

Coming into the mission while struggling with bronchitis and a double ear and eye infection, Jonathan was still determined to change his life. Jonathan wasn't sure if he had the strength to do it, **but with the shelter given by Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries, he was able to heal in more ways than one.**

Jonathan grew up in Delton, Michigan, and had some family struggles while living in poverty. Jonathan's childhood was not easy and led to him making poor decisions as a teen and young adult. He struggled with substance abuse, alcohol, and acting out in anger in unhealthy ways. Jonathan moved out when he was 17 and experienced homelessness and imprisonment. He stayed at a mental health institution for several days and felt like he had hit rock bottom; he had lost lots of weight from starvation and struggled to have the energy to work due to a lack of food. His parents dropped him off in Oshtemo and said he needed to seek help, so he did; **he made the walk downtown to Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries.**

Jonathan immediately felt valued, supported, and grateful when he entered KGM's doors. He was thankful to finally have shelter and food after living in a tent and a car. Jonathan couldn't express his appreciation enough for an environment where he could change and get back on his feet. Through the support of staff members and volunteers, Jonathan started to learn about the love of God. Growing up, Jonathan had not had exposure to the Gospel, and his encounter with Christ truly transformed him. While he was in the New Life | New Hope program, Jonathan started leading a Bible study for the kids staying at the mission. **"I wanted to give them the opportunity that I didn't have as a kid,"** he said.

Jonathan has since graduated from the program, has been baptized, and is now a Life Servant at KGM. (A Life Servant is a paid ministry training role to help program graduates explore ministry as a potential career.) His goals for the future are to live independently and continue to work hard at KGM to help those who are in the same place he was. **"I hope people support the mission because they are doing a lot,"** Jonathan says. He was impacted by his time here at KGM and wants others to be changed like he was, and Jonathan desires to be a part of that change for the guests at Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries.

OUR MISSION:

A **collaborative** community **Serving** as the hands and feet of Jesus, **Respecting** the value of every human being, **Empowering** those who desire Gospel powered life transformation, **Equipping** people with the resources for success; and **Shepherding** them into a life of purpose and compassion.

OUR VISION:

Guided by the **Holy Spirit**, we will build the infrastructure of programs, services, funding, and capabilities which support eternal transformation in the lives of those who desire lasting life change. Over the **next three years**, our team will become even more efficient and have even greater impact. We will be known for quality services that build competence, confidence, and an expanded sense of **self-worth** while continuing to provide basic shelter services and programming.

YOUR IMPACT IN 2023-2024

EMERGENCY SHELTER

NIGHTS OF STAY PROVIDED TO GUESTS	91,422
NUTRITIOUS MEALS SERVED	110,980
NIGHTS OF STAY FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18	22,585

PROGRAMMING SERVICES

GUESTS SERVED IN PROGRAMMING	150
INDIVIDUALS MOVED INTO STABLE HOUSING	69
GUESTS WHO GAINED EMPLOYMENT	77

KDC SERVICES

GUESTS SERVED AT KDC	3,826
BIRTH CERTIFICATES RECOVERED	568
GUESTS WHO RECEIVED CLOTHING	4,144

VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERS WHO SERVED THIS YEAR	1,017
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS	17,660

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

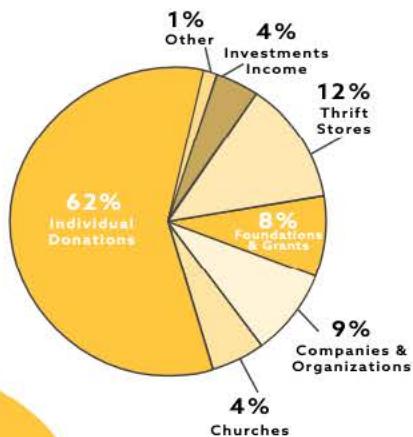
(MOBILE SHOWER TRAILER)	
NUMBER OF SHOWERS	225
LOADS OF LAUNDRY	38

REVENUE & EXPENSES

TOTAL REVENUE

\$4,968,892

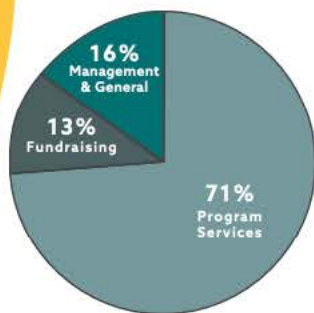
Individual Donations	\$3,066,000
Churches	\$197,694
Companies & Organizations	\$430,441
Foundations & Grants	\$417,538
Thrift Stores	\$618,273
Investments Income	\$188,780
Other	\$50,167



TOTAL EXPENSES

\$5,571,455

Program Services	\$3,951,419
Fundraising	\$727,596
Management & General Expenses	\$892,440



SENIOR LEADERSHIP

- Pastor Michael L. Brown** - President/CEO
- Pastor John Simpson** - Chief Operations Officer
- Rich Niesen** - Chief Financial Officer
- Lynn Russcher** - VP of Advancement
- Kenny Bizzell** - Director of KDC Operations
- Erica Delgado** - Director of Human Resources



SERVICES OFFERED AT KGM/KDC

EMERGENCY SERVICES

We know that each person has a unique journey. In emergency services, we provide low-barrier access to a safe place to sleep, a warm meal, and other essential self-care items. **KGM staff** accepts each guest right where they are, and through relationships, we get to know their **stories and work with them to take their next steps.**

NEXT STEPS PROGRAMMING

As our guests move from emergency services into the **Next Steps Program**, they are connected with a Case Manager who helps them create their own individualized plan. **KGM staff works** with each guest to help them remove barriers and achieve the goals they have set for themselves in a sober, relationally supportive environment. **Next Steps Program guests stay as long as they need to while making progress toward their goals.**

NEW LIFE | NEW HOPE

New Life | New Hope is a one-year residential regeneration program that walks alongside individuals as they pursue a new way of living through the power of Christ. **Colossians 3** calls us to turn away from self-serving ways of living and to put on a new identity in Christ. In our program, we have the pleasure of walking this process out with individuals who are committed to breaking their cycles of brokenness and addiction, walking triumphantly in freedom and hope.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

A vibrant, daily walk with Jesus is foundational to finding lasting freedom. We offer chapel seven days a week, Bible studies, and offer prayer to guests who walk onto our campus. While it is not mandatory, it is life-changing because Jesus is at the core of everything we do.

ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT

As guests move through our programming, they are provided a host of **supportive services to help along the way:** educational support, life skills development, job readiness training, health clinic services, and children's ministry for parents.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Reaching the community through a local neighborhood center, **KDC (formerly Kalamazoo Deacons Conference)** offers clothing, housewares, a food pantry, assistance in securing legal documents, and spiritual support for those who live in the community yet are having a hard time making ends meet.