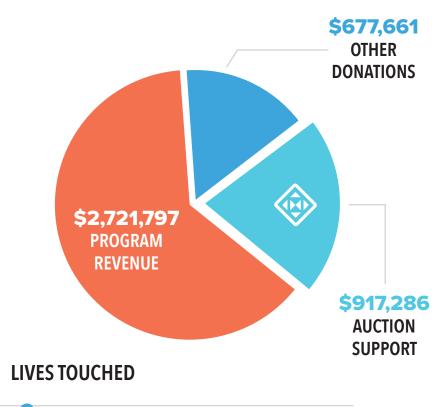
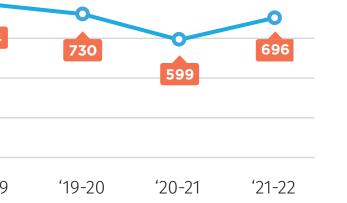


"...Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35 What a remarkable year 2022 has been! You have been so faithful in providing all the resources needed to reap an abundant harvest, and for that we praise God. "...The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few:

#### **ED GRAF** (Executive Director)





Last 6 Fiscal Years

These numbers include family members impacted by all programs.







2022



#### GATEWAYWOODS.ORG



#### **41 TEENS LATER**

#### Chad Kaeb, Development Director

Thirteen years ago, God disrupted our lives by snatching our family from the comforts of our central Illinois home and moving us to the campus of Gateway Woods to become houseparents. **This began** *a journey that changed everything.* It changed me, my wife, our marriage, and our kids. It changed my perspective by challenging me to see the world through a different lens. God used the next 4 ½ years to tear down, rebuild, reshape, stretch, and grow me in ways that I didn't know I needed. It was during this time of refining that God helped me see my own sin of prejudice, pride, and complacency. While at times it was painful, God did a beautiful thing in helping me see myself and others more like Jesus saw them

We finally answered the call to come out to be houseparents (after much wrestling with the Spirit), and **we thought that God was** calling us out to invest in troubled teenagers' lives and help show them God's love. While that was clearly one of the reasons God brought us out to Leo, Indiana, it also became clear during our time here that God had work he wanted to do in our lives. He wanted to pull us out of a comfortable place near family and friends and open our eyes to the hurting world that is all around us. He wanted to show us His great love for all people no matter how different they were from us. It was not always easy, in fact, loving teenagers who don't reciprocate is rather tough. But even during the difficult moments, God's grace and His Spirit were enough to help us through. We had to learn to let go and let God take over.

#### Our time at Gateway could be **described as terrifying, exhilarating,** challenging, purposeful, hard, rewarding, exhausting, and joyful. What a list of adjectives to describe our houseparenting experience! I am incredibly thankful for the new relationships that we got to build with fellow houseparents and staff. We have developed

special friendships here that will last a lifetime. I am thankful for the relationships we have with the 41 teens that God brought into our lives during our time as houseparents. Each one is made unique and special in God's eyes.

#### I am thankful for the Holy Spirit and God's unending grace to guide us through this time.

I'm so thankful I can now look back and see God's hand at work. I have gotten to witness God working in a number of residents' lives - sometimes years after the seeds were planted. I praise God for the opportunity to see the fruit of transformed lives. *I am constantly* reminded that God's love doesn't discriminate and knows no **bounds.** We serve an amazing God!

As I look forward to this upcoming year at Gateway Woods, I would like to share a prayer request. *The interest in coming out and* serving as houseparents has dwindled drastically over the last couple of years. We currently have houseparents who are planning to transition out later this year and we will need at least four couples willing to fill this role by the summer to continue impacting the lives of the youth around us. *Will you please pray for the Holy* Spirit to call, and for couples to answer that call to come out and serve? Thank you for advocating for the youth we are here to serve! •

### I am constantly reminded that God's love doesn't discriminate and knows no bounds.

**CHAD KAEB** (Development Director)

## **GATEWAY WOODS** 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

# **FOSTER CARE**



50

Mentors



**OUR** : MISSION

To honor and obey God by providing help and healing to troubled children and families who then may bless others.



Being a mentor is not one-sided. In our brief time together, we both gave and received.

LIVES TOUCHED: These numbers reflect all of the lives touched including family members involved in counseling and direct care.

