

Rebuilding Lives, Transforming Our Community

One Body Collaboratives

2022 Annual Impact Report

We strive to create a Flourishing Community through our work in the following areas:



Reducing Poverty

Helping our under resourced neighbors build life stability, and helping our community to break down the barriers that hinder this through creating systems change.



Uniting Christian Churches to Create a Flourishing Community

Providing opportunities for faith leaders across denominational lines to come together and learn from one another, fostering fellowship and ultimately unity as One Body, while also working together to meet community needs to create Kingdom impact.

Community Flourishing

In 2022 we launched an effort to provide opportunities for faith leaders across denominational lines to come together and learn from one another, fostering fellowship and ultimately unity as One Body, while also working together to meet community needs.

Since the launch of this initiative we have engaged over **130 faith leaders representing over 70 churches** in our community in this work.



Launch Event

One Body Collaboratives along with our Pastor Advisory Network launched our Community Flourishing Initiative on April 27th. The purpose of the Community Flourishing initiative is three-fold. First it demonstrates the Kingdom impact that can be made by our entire faith community working together on some of the most difficult challenges in our community. Second, it provides an opportunity for faith leaders across denominational lines to come together and learn from one another, fostering fellowship and ultimately unity as One Body. And third, it creates a flourishing community as our faith community greatly influences every one of the flourishing outcomes of people in our city as well as the other pathways to that flourishing.



Focus Area Topic: Mental Health

Panel Discussion & Expo

Over 40 faith leaders and mental health professionals attended the panel discussion and expo of mental health services on May 18th. The Church has the opportunity and responsibility to care holistically for the well-being of Christians. Church's conversations surrounding mental health have changed and will continue to change for the foreseeable future. This means going a step further than the usual church interactions to encourage safe dialogue around mental and emotional health issues such as

anxiety, depression and loneliness. Our panel discussion featured local faith leaders who shared their insights on mental health, as well as how churches are partnering with community organizations to provide mental healthcare for their congregation members. Panelists Included: Pastor Dan Hinz, Bethesda Covenant; Pastor Ed Copeland, New Zion; Moderator, Pastor Norma Borrero, Life Church.

Empower Mental Health Training

Mental Health Gateway provides education for faith leaders and communities about common mental health and substance use challenges, as well as an action plan to help faith populations. Over 20 individuals from our local churches participated in a two-hour in-depth training session. These trainings are provided on an ongoing basis free of charge at: MentalHealthGateway.org.

Church Security Training

A Church Security Training was hosted in partnership with the City of Rockford Police Department and the Crisis Co-Response Team. Over 45 participants, primarily individuals serving on church security teams learned how to keep their congregations and staff members safe during worship services and church office hours, how to de-escalate potentially harmful situations, and how to identify and approach individuals exhibiting signs of mental illness.

Focus Area Topic: Racial Reconciliation

Panel Discussion

More than 30 Faith Leaders and church staff attended our Panel Discussion on Racial Justice at Gethsemane Christian Church, on June 15th. The panel discussion featured local faith leaders who shared their insights on racial justice. Insights from Pastors included how they discuss racial justice and racial reconciliation from the pulpit as well as with their congregants in informal conversations. They also discussed the programs within their churches focused on building bridges to racial reconciliation and ways congregations can grow in this area.



Panelists included: Pastors Alvin & LaToya White, Empowering Word Christian Center; Pastor Eric Parks, Forest City Church; Major Angela Wandling, Salvation Army; Moderator, Pastor Peter Dibley, First Evangelical Covenant.

Be The Bridge Book Club

The purpose of this city-wide book club is for the Church in Rockford to gain a shared and biblically-grounded understanding of the process of restorative reconciliation - including lament, confession, forgiveness, righting wrongs, and restoring relationships. By committing to do this together, we create a pathway for the Church in Rockford to meaningfully address the sin of racism in its various forms as it has existed in history and as it exists today.

Discussion with Eliminate Racism 815

We hosted a discussion with Eliminate Racism 815 for our faith community. The event will allow us to better understand the work being accomplished by Eliminate Racism 815 and how churches can become engaged in their work.

Additional Community Flourishing Event

How to Make the Biggest Impact With Your Missions Giving

In partnership with the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, we hosted a presentation on how to make the biggest impact with your Mission giving. The Community Foundation has been supporting community needs since 1953, serves four counties and invests over \$4 million every year into the communities of Northern Illinois through grants and scholarships. Faith leaders and those who serve on church missions teams and endowment committees attended this informative presentation.



No one church can bring city transformation on its own, but together we can. Imagine the impact we could have if we knew each other and worked together.

What would our community look like if the kingdom of God really took shape here?



23% of Working Families in Winnebago County Cannot Afford Bare-Bones Household Budgets

23% of our Residents Under the Age of 18 Are in Poverty...

These are unacceptable realities in our community that One Body Collaboratives works to change.

Our Bridges Out of Poverty initiative addresses the need for a comprehensive, community-wide approach to reducing poverty by implementing a program that will help our residents in poverty move to self-sufficiency. Poverty is a common denominator for many sectors and local service providers; absorbing essential community resources. Its impact is felt by and impeding outcomes across a wide range of entities, including schools, healthcare, social services, faith communities, workforce development, employers and government. Poverty is a complex problem that demands a comprehensive approach. Poverty is not resolved by a single sector or with a single program or even set of programs, because there are so many variables. Bridges Out of Poverty is an evidence-based approach to reducing poverty, it is not a program, rather a set of constructs that adaptively applied positively improves outcomes.

Poverty Reduction Community of Practice Participation by 210 Individuals Representing 98 Community Organizations in our Quarterly Meetings Discussing our Comprehensive Approach to Reducing Poverty

We launched our Bridges Out of Poverty Community of Practice in January 2021 and continue to host quarterly sessions which are focused on how to implement the Bridges Constructs and Strategies within each organization while also discussing the barriers or policies that could be changed at the organizational and community level to better serve those in poverty.



Community Trainings

300+ Individuals at 150 Unique Organizations Have Participated in our Free Community Trainings

Community trainings provide community leaders and interested community members with the understanding of the *Complexities of Poverty*, as well as how they can play a key role in the project by learning how to implement the Bridges constructs within their organizations, and how we are implementing bridges as a community collaborative. Trainings have been provided to our Faith Community, Nonprofit Groups and local Agencies. These trainings are available to be scheduled at any time.

National Recognition

Our Program Manager, Mary Cacioppi was named as a National Consultant. In this role Mary provides consulting to communities across the nation on poverty reduction strategies.



Graduates Report the Following: 34% Had an Increase in Income, 32% Reported a Decrease in Debt, 43% Increased their Education, and 13% Report a Decrease on the need for State or Federal Benefits

One Body Collaboratives supports Getting Ahead classes financially through the funding we have received. Our community partners include: Life Church, NiReach, Rockford Housing Authority and Saint John's United Church of Christ, and YSN/Rockford MELD. We continue to seek additional partner organizations to implement the Getting Ahead curriculum, and ongoing funding to support the program. In conjunction with our partners, we have graduated a total of 96 participants.

Getting Ahead in the Workplace

Graduates Reported the Following: 100% Reported an Increase in Integrity and Motivation, 100% indicated Progress on the Goal Areas Set at the Beginning of the Classes

Getting Ahead in the Workplace classes are facilitated at a workplace location or as part of a workforce training program. The curriculum helps under resourced workers to build their resources and life stability, this in turn helps the employer by having more stable employees which equates to higher productivity and a decrease in employee turnover. Our community partners in this area include Bergstrom. Comprehensive Community Solutions, and Rockford Career College. We continue to seek employers to offer this program to their employees who could benefit from the program.



Staying Ahead Network



Research Shows it Takes 2-5 Years for an Individual to Transition from Poverty to Self-Sufficiency Our Community Must Provide Ongoing Support Throughout this Journey

We created our Staying Ahead Network to provide ongoing support to our Getting Ahead graduates. Our Staying Ahead Facebook page updates Getting Ahead graduates with ongoing programs and assistance provided throughout our community.

Churches Providing Financial Support

We would like to Sincerely Thank the churches that contribute to One Body Collaboratives for their Generosity and continued partnership

\$2,500+ Annually

First Evangelical Covenant
Northeast Christian

\$1,500 - \$2,499 Annually

City First
First Free Rockford
Our Saviors Lutheran
Rock Valley Bible

\$1,000 - \$1,499 Annually

Christ Lutheran
Church of the Holy Spirit
Crosspoint Church
Life Church Assembly of God
Riverside Community
St. Luke's Missionary Baptist
Saint Mark Lutheran
Trinity Lutheran

\$999 - \$500 Annually

Central Christian
First Baptist of Machesney Park
Maywood Evangelical Free
Pilgrim Baptist
Rock Church
SecondFirst

\$499 - \$250 Annually

Beth Eden United Methodist
Broadway Covenant
Community Bible Church
Journey Church
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran
Unitarian Universalist

\$249 Annually or less

Cherry Valley United Methodist
Christ United Methodist
Firstborn Ministries
New Life Tabernacle
Prince of Peace Lutheran

*For information on supporting our work by
becoming a Partner Church
please contact us at
Info@OneBodyCollaboratives.org.*



Individual Donors

*Thank you for supporting the work of One Body Collaboratives
Your Generous Donations Make A Difference*

Allan & Cathy Barsema
Father David Beauvais
John & Lynn Boreen
David Brown
Sonji Collins
Mark Couper
Brice Evans
Barry Ewing
Gregory Franchini
Ron & Debbie Gustafson
Sandra Hanson
Jeffery & Susan Ippolito
Judith Johnson
Ralph Krissler
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Memorials in Honor of Roger Newell
Raylin & Cheryl Olson
Christopher Pauli
Gerald Peterson
Jim & Lucy Pirages
Brent Scott
Keith & Pamela Shaver
Dorothy Stephanson
Dustin Vock
Nancy Vogel
Shawn Way
Coledeane White
Kelly Wolf



One Body Collaboratives was one of 12 nonprofits to be honored at the Woodward Foundation Grants Luncheon.

Grants and Sponsorships

*We are also grateful for the Grant support and Sponsorships
provided by the following organizations.*

A New Look By Nisha
Alpine Kiwanis
Christ Lutheran, Belvidere
Comcast
Community Foundation of Northern Illinois
Covenant Children's Ministries
Crusader Clinic
Evangelical Lutheran Church

Gorman & Company
Grand Victoria Foundation
St. Mark Lutheran
Thrivent
Wintrust
WipFli
Woodward Foundation
YWCA

Board Members

Allan Barsema, Co-Founder, Director Emeritus

Anisha Grimmert, Member at Large

Steve Kennedy, Insight Formation, Secretary

Brent Scott, Wintrust, Vice President/Treasurer

Lou Setter, Co-Founder, Director Emeritus

Trisha Tousant, YMCA Rock River Valley, Member at Large

Pastor Alvin White, Empowering Word Christian Center

Brian Wynn, Thrivent Financial, Board President

Pastor Advisory Network

Pastor Norma Borrero, Life Church

Pastor Steve Bowie, Third Presbyterian

Pastor Sonji Collins, House of God Church

Pastor Peter Dibley, First Covenant

Pastor Rob James, Our Saviors Lutheran

Pastor Chad McKenna, St. Mark Lutheran

Pastor Alvin White, Empowering Word Christian Center

Pastor LaToya White, Empowering Word Christian Center

Staff

Mary Cacioppi, Executive Director

Sue Klock, Office Coordinator

Administrative Offices

1280 S Alpine Rd, Rockford, IL 61108; Office Line: 815.979.4377

Mission

One Body Collaboratives is a faith-based nonprofit with a mission to Mobilize, Further Develop, and Coordinate Church and Community Resources To Rebuild Lives and Transform Our Community.

Community Flourishing Prayer

God, today I pray for my city. I believe you have planted me in this community on purpose. I pray your Holy Spirit would continually remind me to speak life and blessing over my city. May we walk in unity and love for one another. Please use me to be a part of solutions to problems. Help me have a selfless heart and generous hands. Show me opportunities to give back because I believe as I bless my city, we will flourish!

To Donate

Donations can be made on our website at www.OneBodyCollaboratives.org, or by calling our office at 815.979.4377. One Body Collaboratives is a 501(c)3 and gifts are tax-deductible.

www.OneBodyCollaboratives.org