



GROW

2023-24
MINISTRY
UPDATE

 **YOUTH FOR CHRIST**[®]
GREATER IOWA | GIVE LIFE TO YOUR STORY

WELCOME



Every year, Greater Iowa Youth for Christ chooses a theme to focus its annual efforts. This year's theme is simple: Grow

For GIYFC, Grow has several applications. Yes, we ultimately want to expand our reach so more 11-19 year olds in our state can have the opportunity to know and follow Jesus. To do this, we will work to increase volunteer engagement, expand to new sites, and strengthen our organizational resources and operations. But, when scripture talks about growth, it always starts inside us. Internal pruning precedes external fruit. Our prayer is for God to do his deep work in us so he can propel his good news through us.

Our simplified focus for 2023-24 is this:

EVERYONE KNOWS, EXPERIENCES, AND SHARES GOD'S STORY.

That's it. Our identity, belonging, and purpose are found in this pursuit. In these uncertain times of change, anxiety, and isolation, the quest to know, experience, and share the love of Jesus brings both refreshment to our soul and hope to our world. It invites us to Grow.

This booklet tells our story and invites you into the next season of impact. Thank you for joining us as we continue to grow and share the timeless message of the gospel with today's teens.

DEREK JACOBSEN
Executive Director

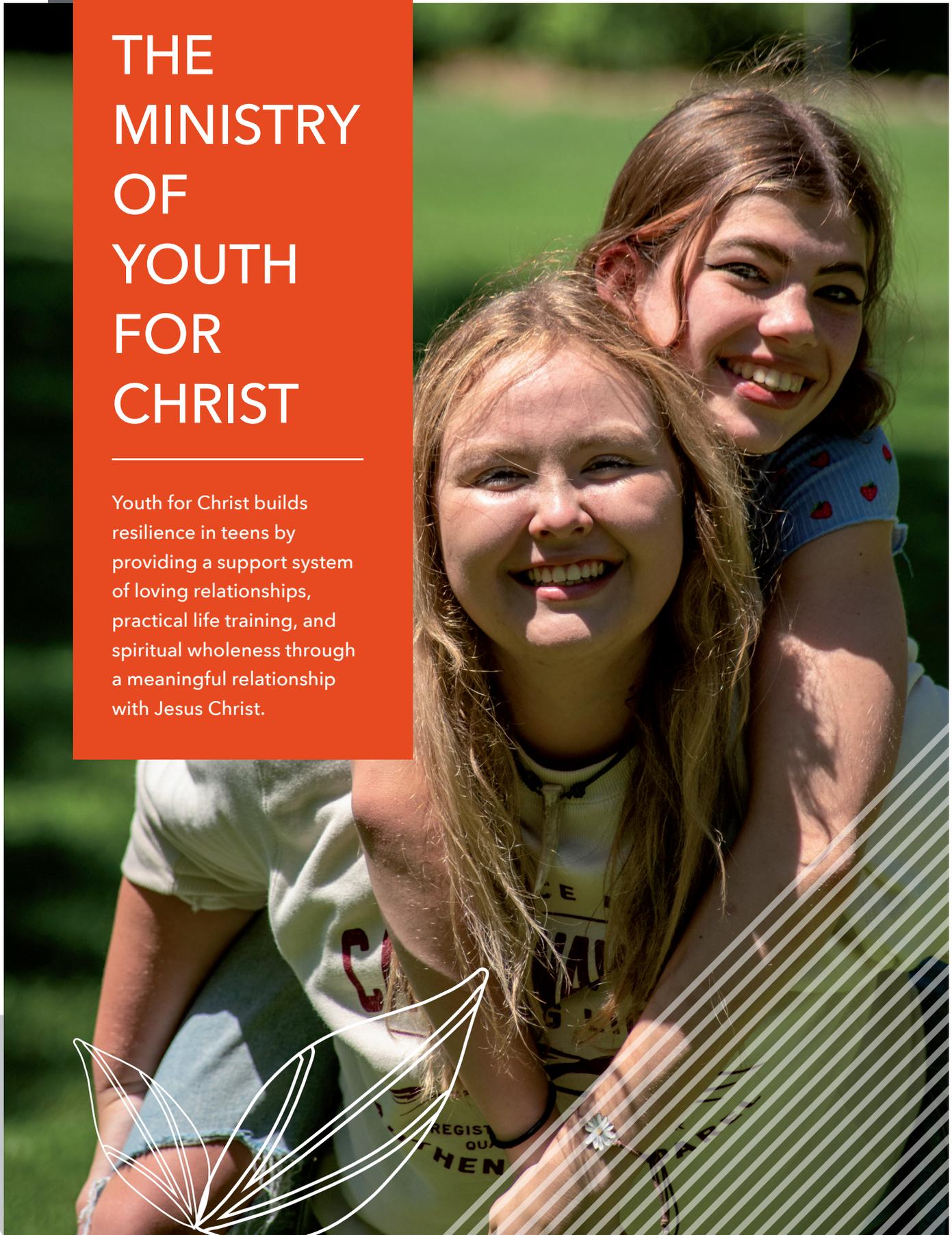


|| EVERYONE KNOWS,
EXPERIENCES, AND
SHARES GOD'S STORY.



THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH FOR CHRIST

Youth for Christ builds resilience in teens by providing a support system of loving relationships, practical life training, and spiritual wholeness through a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ.



OUR MISSION

YFC reaches young people everywhere, working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their godliness in lifestyle, devotion to the word of God and prayer, passion for sharing the love of Christ, and commitment to social involvement.



OUR MINISTRIES

CAMPUS LIFE High School and Middle School combines relational ministry with creative programs to reach students and positively impact their schools.

CITY LIFE is a holistic, community-based ministry that fosters deep change in an urban neighborhood.

JUVENILE JUSTICE MINISTRY seeks to engage justice involved youth as they are met in a variety of institutions.

PARENT LIFE reaches expectant and parenting teens and their children.

YFC CAMP provides an unforgettable experience that invites Jesus to forever alter the life of every participant.



3STORY

3Story is a way of life that guides followers of Christ to live out their story authentically while seeking to discover the stories of the young people they serve. Over time, these relational connections provide opportunities to introduce kids to God's story and His desire to be in relationship with them.

AUTHENTIC CHRIST SHARING RELATIONSHIPS

Through Relational Ministry Actions and 3Story, YFC leaders develop authentic, Christ sharing relationships with lost teens. These relationships happen intentionally and provide natural opportunities for life transformation.



THE YFC STORY

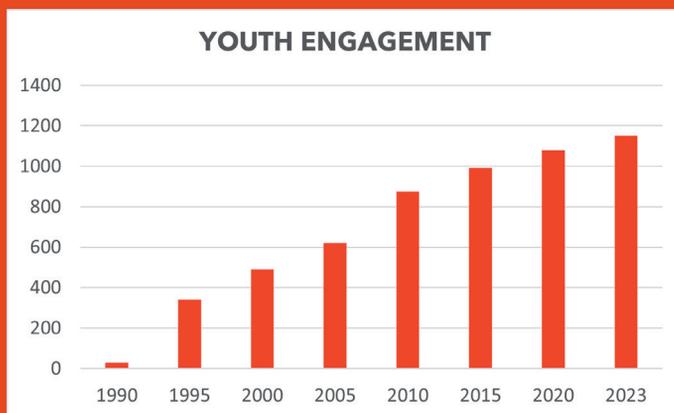
Since 1944, Youth for Christ has been a prominent leader in reaching unchurched youth. Led initially by Billy Graham, YFC has grown world-wide and currently has 35,000 staff and volunteers bringing hope to teens in over 100 different countries.

Youth for Christ was established in Central Iowa in 1953, and North Iowa 1987, by a group of local parents and church leaders. After many years of faithfully reaching teens through relational ministry, the two chapters merged in 2019, to become Greater Iowa Youth for Christ.

Our vision is to see every 11-19 year old in our service area have the opportunity to be engaged in an authentic, Christ-sharing relationship with a caring adult and ultimately become a life-long follower of Jesus.

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Few organizations have experienced long-term steady growth like Greater Iowa Youth for Christ. For the past thirty three years, GIYFC has been blessed with faithful ministry leadership and a growing base of volunteers and ministry partners that has resulted in extraordinary ministry with thousands of teens.





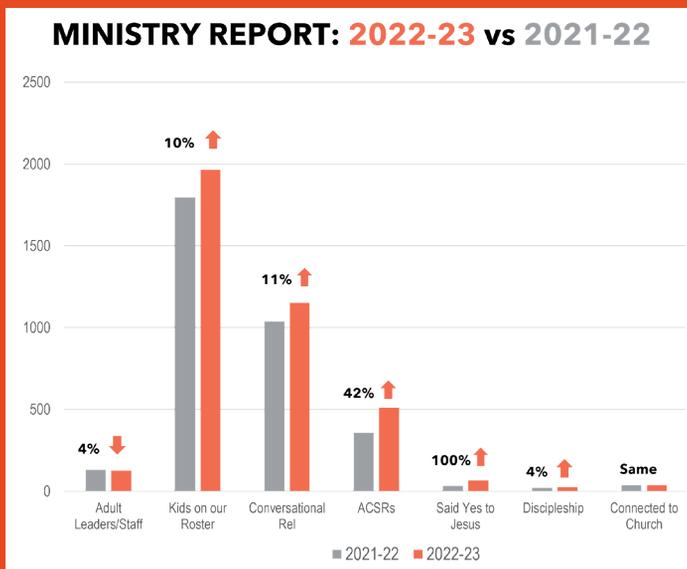
CHAPTER MINISTRY REPORT

Last year we saw a record increase in relational ministry that surpassed pre-pandemic levels. The percentage of spiritually lost 11-19 year olds in authentic Christ sharing relationships (ACSRs) with adults grew by 42%, resulting in an increase of young people saying Yes to Jesus by 100%.

In addition, income increased through the generosity of our giving partners due to new expansion efforts and an elevated urgency to see this generation of kids reached.

Below is a summary of our ministry report for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

2022-23 MINISTRY REPORT



- Kids who shared their name with a YFC leader: 1,965
- Kids in a conversational relationship with a YFC leader: 1,151
- Lost kids in an authentic Christ sharing relationship with a YFC leader: 510
- Kids who said yes to following Jesus: 66
- Kids who said yes to Jesus that are in a discipleship relationship with a YFC leader: 24
- Kids who became involved in a church: 37

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

1

MINISTRY

- We saw a record number of 11-19 year olds involved in ministry sites and engaged in authentic Christ sharing relationships with adults.
- We engaged over 280 students in camp and other summer ministries.

2

LEADERSHIP & TRAINING

- Eight new staff members were added to the GIYFC team.
- Three existing staff members were promoted to elevated roles of leadership.
- Staff training was heightened that focused on soul care, leadership, and sharing the gospel.
- Quarterly goal-setting was instituted for all ministry sites and departments.

3

EXPANSION

- We established new ministry sites in the following areas:
 - West Fork Campus Life: Rockwell/Sheffield
 - Mason City Campus Life 56
 - Juvenile Justice: Waterloo
 - Garner Campus Life
 - Des Moines Meredith/Hoover Campus Life

4

DEVELOPMENT

- We saw an 11% increase in giving, which allowed us to expand new ministry and strengthen our financial reserves.

Our priorities last year centered on a growth plan that focused on ministry re-engagement, leader health, new expansion, and sustainable support.



CHAPTER

PRIORITIES

This year's priorities are based on our theme: Grow. As we journey together to know, experience, and share God's story, we are focusing on the following areas.

MINISTRY

- To engage at least 1,300, 11-19 year olds in relational ministry and at least 600 spiritually lost kids in authentic Christ sharing relationships with 125 adults (15% increase across 15 ministry sites)

LEADERSHIP & TRAINING

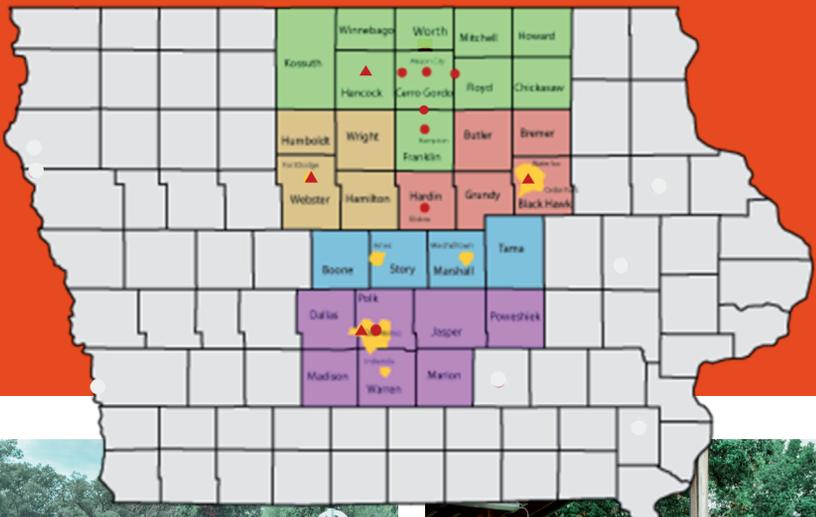
- Appoint a director to develop and grow our Leader Formation department
- Secure a new Regional Director for the Central Iowa region
- Equip, empower, and support the expected 8 new staff leaders for effective ministry
- Focus on defining and aligning healthy staff culture

EXPANSION

- Ensure that this year's new ministry sites are supported and launched well
 - Garner
 - Des Moines Meredith/Hoover
- Expand Juvenile Justice Ministry in Waterloo and lay the ground work for future expansion
- Explore the potential of starting a new ministry center in Fort Dodge

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Add office/work space to the Mason City youth center
- Explore the opportunity for securing office/meeting space in Des Moines
- Secure additional transportation for ministry sites (12 passenger vans, cars, etc.)



HOW YOU CAN HELP



As we move forward, we are inviting partners to help us advance this mission and share the prevailing hope of Jesus with more kids. You can join us in the following ways:

PRAY

[HTTP://PRAYER.GIYFC.ORG](http://PRAYER.GIYFC.ORG)

- Sign up for our weekly prayer email

VOLUNTEER

[HTTP://HELP.GIYFC.ORG](http://HELP.GIYFC.ORG)

- Ministry with middle or high school students
- Development and expansion help
- Office support or facility projects

ADVOCATE

[EMAIL US AT: INFO@GIYFC.ORG](mailto:INFO@GIYFC.ORG)

- Coordinate a presentation with a friend or group (Churches, Small Groups, Service Clubs, Businesses, etc.)
- Bring friends to a "See the Story" tour, "Be the Story" event, or Comedy Café

GIVE

[HTTP://GIVE.GIYFC.ORG](http://GIVE.GIYFC.ORG)

- Help support a kid for a year: \$600 or \$50/month
- Consider a special gift commitment above your current support over the next three years to help us achieve our ministry goals





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