

# We believe hope never runs out.

lives impacted in 2024































# The statistics are shocking

- 15,000 people are living in poverty within 30 minutes of the True to Life office
- 36% of households in Brazoria County cannot afford the basics
- At least 5,500 youth and young adults (ages 16-24)
   in Brazoria County are considered disconnected

Right now, thousands of our neighbors are stuck and struggling. We are working to strengthen our community, build our workforce, and help create economic stability for our future.

Our methods are not just good ideas, they are backed by research and are proven strategies for success.



True To Life Ministries is one of the only organizations in Brazoria County addressing the root causes of generational poverty in order to create lasting change that leaves a legacy.

Our programs help those feeling stuck get connected with the skills, resources, and community of support necessary for life change, including:

- Employment
- Education
- Vision for a Future Story
- Significant Relationships

Life change isn't fast, and overcoming obstacles is complex. We believe that together we can overcome all odds.

### 2024 Highlights

# Youth and Young Adult Services



#### Welcome to Next Level

In 2024, TTLM launched our brand new "Next Level" program. Next Level is a community experience for 18 to 24-year-olds that provides job training, soft skills, and a community of support necessary for life change. These young adults have monthly meet ups at Brazosport College, tackling important topics such as budgeting, building your brand, and more -- as well as occasional in-person gatherings at TTLM. TTLM also launched an app to provide a virtual community of support to participants.

#### Life Launch

Life Launch works to bridge the gap between high school education and future careers. This year, TTLM worked to revamp the Life Launch curriculum and expanded facilitation to Angleton ISD. Delivered as a one-day experience or five individual workshops, this tailor-made career prep experience is specifically designed to help high school students connect the dots between their education and their future beyond high school. Students learn skills such as the foundations of personal professionalism, making first impressions, and interview techniques.







Students attended Level Up Career Expos



One-on-one appointments

§1262

Students participated in Life Launch on high school campuses



Level Up Students served in one-on-one coaching



Young Adults served in classes and workshops



TOTAL YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS SERVED

# Adult and Family Services

### 2024 Highlights



#### TTLM Connection

More than just a program, Connection is a supportive community where individuals can build lasting relationships with others facing similar challenges, while enjoying a warm meal around the table with family. In 2024, TTLM worked to revise our Connection strategy with hopes to increase intentionality through equipping clients with tools for lasting life change. The team chose select Thursdays throughout the year to discuss critical topics on stability and self-sufficiency, such as healthy families, mental health, substance abuse, and addictive behaviors.

#### On the Road

Transportation can be a roadblock for many of those feeling stuck. In order to increase our effort to meet people where they are, TTLM emphasized holding classes on-location and sending our services on the road by providing employment education and case management to individuals at 3 of our local community partners' locations.











466
Adults served in classes



1,096 SERVED

**TOTAL ADULTS SERVED** 

#### 2024 Highlights

## Refresh Boutique



# 297 INDIVIDUALS SERVED WITH PROFESSIONAL CLOTHING

Through the generosity of donations, Refresh Boutique is able to provide professional clothing to clients free of charge to prepare them for interviews and the work force.

## 24 STUDENTS TRAINED THROUGH REFRESH

Refresh is not only a gorgeous boutique, but also serves as a living classroom for young adults to gain valuable work experience. Working at Refresh through our Next Level Internship program, as well as other short-term opportunities, give participants retail experience, responsibility, and practical skills to transfer to their resumes and future careers.





## REFRESH BOUTIQUE CELEBRATED THEIR SECOND LARGEST SALES YEAR

In 2024, Refresh Boutique sold over 5,300 resale items and gained 1,800 reward members. Thank you for shopping small and giving back to our local community! Every purchase made in Refresh directly supports the "living classroom" experience and other programs of TTLM.

#### **PRIVATE SHOPPING EVENTS**

Refresh Boutique offers exclusive private shopping events, providing a personalized, after-hours experience with special discounts, refreshments, and personal shopping assistance—all supporting True to Life Ministries' Job Training Program. With a variety of options available, including complimentary experiences, there's a perfect package for any occasion, from birthdays to bridal showers and more!

## Keeping Hope Alive

### Stories of LIFE CHANGE from 2024



#### **Meet Ellie**

Ellie connected with True to Life Ministries while completing high school at Brazos Success Academy. After making decisions that caused her to struggle with her education, Ellie wasn't sure how to take her next steps toward her future...or even what those next steps would be. Ellie met April Faul, a member of TTLM's Youth and Young Adult Services team, as she was searching for a job, but felt too afraid to take the next step—calling employers or scheduling interviews seemed overwhelming. That's when April introduced her to TTLM's Level Up Summer Internship.

For 8 weeks, Ellie spent her summer at True to Life, building her resume, gaining valuable career experience, and building professional skills. More than anything, she found the confidence she had been missing. She was able to explore her dream of working in the medical field through hands-on job shadowing, giving her a fresh vision for her future.

As her internship came to a close, Ellie stayed connected to the TTLM family. So, when the True to Life team offered Ellie a spot to continue her learning through the Next Level Internship program working in Refresh Boutique, she didn't hesitate to say yes!

Along with her participation in this program, Ellie registered for college and is successfully managing her course work. She is especially grateful for Justin Collard, who encouraged her to stay in school and work hard. She will be ending the semester with a 4.0!



Meet Layden

If you attended our Fall Gala, you may remember Layden's powerful story. Layden grew up in a turbulent environment, moving frequently across Brazoria County. At school, he felt isolated, convinced that no one could relate to his struggles. Determined to support his family, he started working as soon as he could. Long shifts kept him out past midnight, leaving him too exhausted to attend school. Layden described it as "taking bigger steps than his little feet could handle."

In search of a fresh start, Layden moved in with his brother. But setbacks followed, including time on juvenile probation and eventually being unenrolled from school due to poor attendance. Directed to the Lighthouse Learning Center, Layden enrolled in a 30-day program to get back on track. Balancing a job, schoolwork, and family challenges, those 30 days stretched into 60. After completing the program, Layden transitioned to Brazos Success Academy to finish high school. It was there he learned about True to Life Ministries.

Layden felt drawn to TTLM's paid Level Up internship, believing it could help him move forward. That summer, TTLM staff poured into Layden, making him feel valued, supported, and seen. For the first time, he began to envision a stable future. With TTLM's guidance, Layden secured his own apartment, purchased his first car, and found a job he's passionate about. Today, he's pursuing a welding degree in college and is determined to rewrite his family's story. We couldn't be prouder of Layden!

## 2024 Community Support

## Volunteers

As part of TTLM's commitment to stewarding our resources well, we recognize that our resources extend beyond finances to include relationships. Because of this, we intentionally engage the local community and church. Our goal is to invite others to join TTLM's mission by offering volunteer opportunities in various areas of the organization.

To sign up to volunteer or learn about volunteer opportunities with TTLM, visit www.ttlm.org/volunteer.



+100 Volunteers Engaged



733 Hours of Service



Estimated value: \$24,548

## **Agents of Hope**

We would like to say thank you to the

156 Agents of Hope who are individuals,

businesses, and churches who support TTLM on a monthly basis. Your monthly giving raised a total of

\$191,926





# Join us in transforming lives

Agents of Hope are the foundation of True to Life Ministries, providing consistent support that fuels life-changing programs. Through their generosity, lives are being transformed, obstacles are being overcome, and hope is being restored every day. There are opportunities for individuals, businesses, and churches to become Agents of Hope through a monthly commitment, as well as corporate sponsorship opportunities for those looking to make an even greater impact. Your partnership ensures that those facing challenges have the resources, guidance, and encouragement they need to keep moving forward. Together, we can continue making a lasting difference. For more information or to join the mission today, donate at ttlm.org/donate or call 979.529.9702.

## A Special Thank You

### Agent of Hope Businesses who are part of the TTLM Agents of Hope

Network giving a minimum of \$100 monthly

- American Realty- Kim Beebe
- **Refined Coffee Company**
- **Lowell Adams PhD & Associates**
- Tom's Pawn

Thank you for AC services

• Solutions Mechanical

#### **Grants Received**

- United Way of Brazoria County
- **Lowrey Community Service**
- Women Building Community
- Brazoria County ARP
- The William Stamps Farish Fund

#### Gateway Partners

who have committed a significant portion of their proceeds to TTLM's work in 2024





Corporate Partners who have supported TTLM in a substantial way in 2024





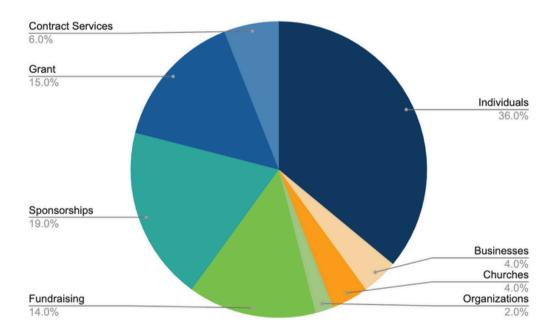


Legacy Donors who have committed to provide longterm financial support for life change



## Financial Overview

One of the most commonly asked questions is how TTLM is funded. Throughout the years, TTLM has been faithfully supported by individuals, businesses, organizations and churches in our community and beyond. Without the compassion and generosity of our local community, the work that TTLM is doing would not be possible. Your support is helping keep hope alive for so many in our community who are working hard to change their situations, their lives and their futures.



#### 2024 Financial Overview

Total Income: \$955,665.81 Total Expenses: \$880,833.64

74% of expenses were directly related to programs



Thank you for your ongoing support of TTLM--your generosity makes life change possible.



## 2025 Horizon

This year, True to Life Ministries is celebrating the individuals who are taking bold steps toward life change and stability. Statistics say that those who are stuck are likely to remain stuck. However, at TTLM, we know that true life in Christ offers us another way. Life change isn't fast, and overcoming obstacles is complex. We believe that together, we can overcome all odds.





Across TTLM's programs and services, the theme boils down to two ideas: employability and longterm stability. As we strategically plan for 2025, here are a few things on top of mind:

- Employability Initiative: a multi-month collaboration with various community organizations offering adults free job readiness and employability skills workshops, intensive case management, access to robust jobs, and resource fairs to help bridge barriers to living-wage employment
  Comprehensive overhaul and modernization of our
- adult Employment Readiness curriculum
- Launch of TŤLM's revitalized Next Level Internship Program
- The 2025 Gala -- save the date for September 6!

Hope is alive, and change is possible. Here's to Beating the Odds. Everyday.