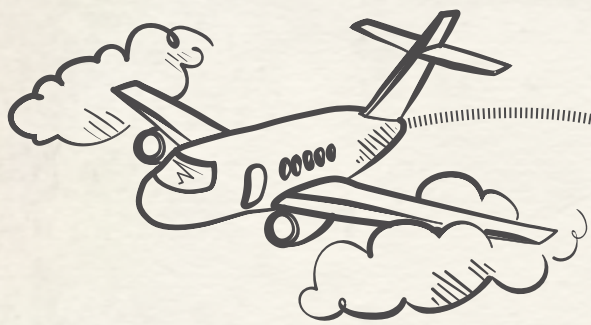




"Joining The  
ministries of our Partners  
at home and  
across the world..."





What's  
your Mission  
in Life? ✓



"As the  
→ Father ←  
has sent me,  
so I am  
sending you"



- Jesus (John 20:21)





In John chapter 20, as Jesus appears to his disciples after the resurrection, He offers them encouragement and instruction for what will now be their life's work. In verse 21, we read these words, "As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you". What a powerful truth! Just like the first followers, you and I are sent into the world, by Jesus Christ himself! Make no mistake about it, as followers of Jesus, you and I have been given a divine purpose. God the Father sent Jesus into the world so that we could be saved. Having completed his mission, Christ has now sent us, not to save the world, but to point to the One who has already saved. Yes, we have been given a divine purpose indeed.

I am afraid that we often miss out on much of the spiritual joy and growth that Jesus intended, because as we go through our daily lives, we forget that we are on this life-changing, life-defining mission from Him. The divine purpose gets overshadowed by the seemingly pressing issues we face and we lose sight of our ultimate purpose. We forget the reason we are here, which is to take the beauty and treasure of a life in Jesus and share it with those who have not yet trusted in him for their salvation.

The apostle Peter put it this way "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, (WHY?) that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." 1 Peter 2:9

You see, you and I aren't meant to be like everyone else on this earth. We weren't called to simply "do life" like everyone else. Jesus has made us a new people and has given us a new purpose in life; to proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light! It is with this marvelous light that we are sent back into the world, not simply to flee darkness, but to show others the way out.

As a missions team, it is part of our ministry to remind us all of this truth and to encourage one another to commit to the mission on a daily basis. This missions guidebook lists for you both the local and global ministry partners that we support as a church. Many of these partners work directly with individuals and groups that are experiencing some of the darkest aspects of our society. As you read about these partners who are living out their mission in highly tangible ways, you may feel the tug of the Holy Spirit to join them in what they are doing. The good news is, there are a number of ways to get involved. Maybe you begin to support them through your prayers, sending them notes of encouragement, or by contributing monetary gifts. Many of our partners also offer ways to serve alongside them, ministering to people in their day-to-day work. Look for their contact information on each page and reach out to them to see how you can get involved in what God is doing both globally and locally.

Whether God leads you to pray, give, go on a short-term mission or serve with one of our local partners, it is our prayer that you will join in, get engaged, and know the joy found only in living on mission with Jesus!

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# Local Missions Partners

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**CHURCH**  
**STRENGTHENING**  
**HEALTH, FOOD**  
**AND SHELTER**  
**ORPHAN MINISTRY**  
**PRISON MINISTRY**  
**SCHOOL MINISTRY**

But you will receive  
**POWER** when the  
**HOLY SPIRIT**  
has come upon you.

& you will be my witnesses  
in Jerusalem & in all Judea  
& Samaria, & to the  
end of the **EARTH**

**(Acts 1:8)**



# City Connections

## OUR MISSION

City Connections is a trusted agent to be a champion, an inspiration, a connector, and a cultivator of greater works in the city! We appeal to business owners and/or hiring managers to call on our missional staffing company, Operation Restore, when their company is in need of general laborers. These individuals have been referred to us by one of the faith-based drug/alcohol rehab programs or by a minister with one of our church partners, and are worthy of a "second chance."

We also host "Feed the Funnel Parties" to allow employees to be involved in a hands-on community outreach effort that addresses the food shortage issues faced by the poor in our city, while also providing a dynamic team-building exercise for your employees at a very affordable price.

Our mission is to inform, inspire, and energize Christ-followers (many of whom in the past have been largely under-deployed) who are ready and willing to give back and do good! Why? Because one thing we know for sure – the greatest untapped resource for good is in the church communities scattered all across our city. More specifically, we're talking about individual persons of faith who wish to make a difference, who may not know exactly how to get started or have the support to keep going.

## GET INVOLVED

**We need business professionals** in all the disciplines to use their expertise to give back and work with one of our non-profit community partners. Contact Anthony Hampton at [anthony@cityconnectionsinc.org](mailto:anthony@cityconnectionsinc.org) to join our Google Group, where you can find different opportunities to serve one or more of our 300+ non-profit partners.

## CONTACT

**Jo Wilson Myrick**, *Operation Restore*  
[jo@cityconnectionsinc.org](mailto:jo@cityconnectionsinc.org)

**Tim Chapin**, *Feed the Funnel*  
[timchapin22@yahoo.com](mailto:timchapin22@yahoo.com)

**Anthony Hampton**, *City Connections*  
[anthony@cityconnectionsinc.org](mailto:anthony@cityconnectionsinc.org)



# Downline

## OUR MISSION

Downline Little Rock exists to strengthen and elevate discipleship in the local church by equipping men and women to make disciples. The mission of the Church from its birth has been to make disciples of Jesus. (Matthew 28:16-20) With this in mind, the Downline Institute, a nine-month intensive discipleship training program, provides believers a life-changing paradigm for biblical discipleship, a deep understanding of the narrative of Scripture, and 120+ hours of curriculum and tools which can be used to disciple others.

Along the way, students experience world class teaching from over 70 instructors aimed to develop a deeper knowledge of Scripture and disciple making. They are engaged at the heart level as they identify the Gospel motivation for making disciples. And finally, they develop new habits of studying and teaching as they prepare to make disciples in their homes, local churches, and communities.

Downline was launched in 2012 in cooperation with Fellowship and other local partners. Since that time, two additional Downline Institutes (Conway and Español) have been initiated. Over 300 graduates from 60 local churches have completed the Downline Institute.

## GET INVOLVED

There are two major ways to get plugged in with Downline:

**Join an Institute** from August to May. Believers of all ages and backgrounds get equipped in Bible and Disciple Making [Little Rock, Conway, or Little Rock **Español**]

**Join Emerging Leaders.** In addition to completing the institute, these recent college grads and young professionals develop community and focus intensely on organizing their lives for kingdom impact in their sphere of influence.

## CONTACT

**Danny Hinton**, *Executive Director*  
**501-613-7847**  
**[danny@downlinelittlerock.com](mailto:danny@downlinelittlerock.com)**  
**[downlinelittlerock.com](http://downlinelittlerock.com)**



# Fellowship Associates

## OUR MISSION

Fellowship Associates exists to train leaders to establish gospel-centered, community influencing, church planting churches as well as to create resources that call men to “Authentic Manhood.” We believe that church planting is the most powerful agency for evangelism and discipleship in our world. We offer the FA Leadership Residency, where church planting residents in the program travel to Little Rock and other partnering churches for training two times a month from September—March each year.

18 years into the journey, we have had the privilege of establishing 93 churches coast-to-coast and internationally through graduates of the Residency program. Our Alumni churches have planted over 100 more churches!

In addition to church planting, we offer Authentic Manhood resources, which are designed to set men up to live lives of truth, passion and purpose by offering clear and practical biblical insights on God’s design for manhood. Resources, including the original Men’s Fraternity curriculum created by Dr. Robert Lewis, have influenced millions of men around the world. Our newest tool, *33 The Series*, is a multi-volume, gospel-centered video series that presents the timeless truths of Authentic Manhood in a powerful and engaging way. It is based on the life Jesus modeled in His 33 years on earth.



## GET INVOLVED

**Pray** for our leadership team as we continue to develop a multiplying movement of church planting churches and for the growth of our Authentic Manhood movement.

**Choose** a church planter and his family to pray for and follow them on their website. A listing of our church plants can be found on the FA website: [fellowshipassociates.org/alumni](http://fellowshipassociates.org/alumni)

**Visit** one of our church plants and introduce yourself to the staff. Your visit will encourage them and bless you!

**Take** a group of men through *33 The Series*. Begin praying about men in your neighborhood or workplace who could be in your group. Any man can lead 33 anywhere.

## CONTACT

**Ann Blair**, Church Planting Residency  
501-975-5050  
[ann@faleader.org](mailto:ann@faleader.org)

**Rick Caldwell**, Manhood Resources  
501-975-5050  
[rick@faleader.org](mailto:rick@faleader.org)



# International Friendship Outreach

## OUR MISSION

International Friendship Outreach (IFO) is a local ministry for international students who live and study in Central Arkansas, and for the Americans who serve them. IFO is a community-based program from local churches, offering opportunities for social and cultural interaction between American hosts and internationals who study, work, or live in the central Arkansas area. IFO provides the framework for relationships to be formed between missional-minded Christians and international students who come from countries all over the world. The majority of these students come from limited access countries where we, as Americans, would find it very difficult to move. Instead, these students have come to us, and we can now love, serve, and minister to their needs without having to deal with issues such as visas, work permits, and multiple days of travel.

God has brought the nations to us, and He has opened the doors by which His love and glory can be shared to individuals from "every nation, tribe, people, and language" (Rev 7:9). Will you join us in reaching the nations for Him? The nations are at our very door. All we have to do is open that door and start talking with them to share the love of God in practical ways.

## GET INVOLVED

**Provide** a meal for Conversation Club

**Pick up** new students at the airport  
*(usually in August or Dec/Jan)*

**Join** IFO on one of our activities  
*(Canoe Trip, Lake Trip, Christmas Party, Spring and Fall Picnics, etc)*

**Host** an international for a holiday excursion or meal *(Thanksgiving, 4th of July, etc)*

**Host** a newly arrived international for up to three days

**Participate** at Conversation Club *(one evening a week for 5-6 weeks every semester)*

**Become a Friendship Partner** with an international student. This is our hope for all involved Americans. This means:

- Contacting them weekly
- Meeting them a couple times a month
- Helping them adjust as necessary to living in Little Rock
- Being a friend
- Sharing the love of Jesus

## CONTACT

**Kenneth and Anisha Hoekman**  
**kenishaifo@gmail.com**  
**IFOarkansas.org**  
Ken's Cell: **361-779-3606**





# Kingdom Quilters



## OUR MISSION

Kingdom Quilters is on a mission to bring comfort to those in need through handmade lap quilts. We serve a community of people who, during a crisis, need to feel God's arms of love surround them. We pray as we make the quilts that each recipient will feel the comfort of the Lord touch their life. We believe that our time, skill and creativity will be an expression of encouragement that they are not alone. Our quilters are also blessed by our friendships and sharing with one another as we quilt. Kingdom Quilters supplies the fabric and batting needed, so quilters just need a sewing machine and a few sewing notions.

## GET INVOLVED

**Sew with us** twice a month on the first Monday and the third Saturday

There is a particular need for someone with a **long-arm quilting machine** who would be willing to volunteer its use.

**New quilters are welcome** whether they have experience or not.

## CONTACT

**Elaine Green**  
[elaine.green.roland@gmail.com](mailto:elaine.green.roland@gmail.com)  
501-765-3323



# Nehemiah Network

## OUR MISSION

The unity of the church is the prayer of Jesus and has a strategic role in the advance of the gospel (John 17:20-23). The Nehemiah Network unites, strengthens, and mobilizes Central Arkansas Churches by providing opportunities for united prayer, connecting and strengthening leaders, and mobilizing churches in strategic initiatives that proclaim the good news of Christ in both word and action.

United Prayer opportunities include a monthly Leader Connection, an annual pastor's prayer summit, and One Voice—a quarterly citywide night of prayer and worship. The Network serves as the Central Arkansas host for the Global Leadership Summit that is now serving 400,000 leaders worldwide. The Central Arkansas Antioch Initiative provides fully accredited church-based theological training for a growing leadership development movement that is training leaders who can effectively establish and strengthen churches. The growing unity of churches is the foundation for responding to the greatest needs in the community including strengthening marriages, racial unity, and community development.



## GET INVOLVED

**Opportunities** are available to serve at prayer and leadership events such as the Global Leadership Summit. In addition, there are opportunities to assist with administrative support. Dates are flexible. Check [nehemiahnetwork.org](http://nehemiahnetwork.org) for a calendar of events.

## CONTACT

**Mike Ferguson**  
**501-940-7920**  
**[mferguson@nehemiahnetwork.org](mailto:mferguson@nehemiahnetwork.org)**





Randy Likens

Brent Staley

# Search Ministries

## OUR MISSION

Search Ministries in Little Rock creates comfortable venues in and around the marketplace for seekers and skeptics to engage in meaningful conversation about the big questions of life and God. We are reaching a niche of people that are mostly unreached and unengaged. We encourage people to ask questions, explore answers and invite conversations—all in the context of meaningful relationships.

We create one-on-one and small group opportunities for discipleship and equip believers to be a part of the Great Commission through apologetics training. In short, we partner with believers to reach their sphere of influence through deep relationships.

Our world is moving more and more towards a postmodern era. Fewer people show up to religious events and meetings to get answers to the biggest questions of life and God. And even some who are attending religious events have confusion about the big questions of life and faith.

## GET INVOLVED

**Sign up** for Apologetics Training & Equipping Class

**Attend** our monthly Leadership Network Meeting

**Participate** in an outreach event by bringing a seeking or skeptical friend

## CONTACT

**Randy Likens**, Area Director  
501-766-0115

**Brent Staley**  
501-231-6931

# Hope's Closet



## OUR MISSION

Located in Cabot, Hope's Closet's mission is to extend a hand of encouragement and compassion to those who have fallen on hard times. We provide clothing, food, furniture, household items and encouragement through God's word to clients throughout Lonoke County. The organization is run by a group of servants who daily meet the needs of people in our community.

We base our organization on the biblical text found in Matthew 25:40: "And the king will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

## GET INVOLVED

**Volunteer** throughout the week on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday to organize donations.

**Volunteer** at one of our special events throughout the year including: Boxes of Hope in November, Stuff the Bus in August, and in February when we do our chocolate covered strawberries for Valentine's Day.

## CONTACT

**Kimberly Buchberger**  
**501-628-7173**

# First C.A.R.E



## OUR MISSION

First C.A.R.E. (Christian Assistance Resources and Encouragement) is a ministry of First Baptist Church Cabot. First C.A.R.E. differs from other food pantries in our area in that we use the opportunity to meet our clients' physical needs as the opening to address their spiritual needs. The food, clothing, and financial assistance that we can provide gives us the chance to share Jesus to individuals who might never step into a church.

We are here to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the indigent, the transient, the hungry, and those with other specific needs in our community and our church. This assistance is ministered in the name of Jesus, to demonstrate the love of Jesus, that they might receive the redemption of Jesus.



## GET INVOLVED

Our volunteers are here to share the love of Jesus with each person who comes through our doors. This is their most important mission, no matter the area of service. The only qualifications necessary for volunteers are a **passion for people, a commitment to serve, and a willingness to share their testimony.**

Our **volunteers** greet clients, interview clients to determine the best way to meet their need, sort and display clothing and other donations, and sort and bag food donations and purchases.

## CONTACT

**404 W. Olive St, Cabot**  
**Monday-Thursday, 9am-2pm**  
**[firstcare@fbccabot.org](mailto:firstcare@fbccabot.org)**







## OUR MISSION

Home Away From Home serves out-of-town patients and their caregivers who must reside in Little Rock while receiving out-patient treatment. We offer seventeen, beautifully furnished, one and two-bedroom apartments in midtown Little Rock at the Park Avenue Lofts and in West Little Rock in the Palisades at Chenal. Special pricing is offered for month-to-month, weekly, and even per-day rates. This Christ-centered hospitality ministry is administered by Little Rock Church and enjoys a growing partnership with Fellowship Bible Church, as well as individuals and other local organizations.

A team of three, part-time staff leads volunteers to offer hope and inspiration through prayer, food and words of encouragement to patients and caregivers as they coordinate reservations for guests and custodial care of the apartments.

## GET INVOLVED

**Encourage and inspire** guests with prayer support, encouragement cards, ready-to-eat meals and snack bags, and decorative care to our beautifully decorated apartments.

D Groups can **adopt an apartment** and offer supportive care to patients during their stay.

## CONTACT

**Kim Burket**, Coordinator  
**501-530-0095**  
**[kim@littlerockchurch.org](mailto:kim@littlerockchurch.org)**

Home  
Away  
from  
Home



# A-Camp



## OUR MISSION

A-Camp is an awesome, therapeutically driven camp that encourages growth, development and acceptance for kids with autism. What makes A-Camp unique is that all autism spectrum disorders and associated challenges are welcomed. A-Camp is also unique in that typical peers, called “buddies,” participate in camp programs to model and build friendships with the campers. Exploration and outdoor recreation delight, empower, and help campers reach their highest potential.

A-Camp’s mission is to break down barriers, transform perceptions and change tomorrow for kids with autism, their families and friends, and the communities in which they thrive. A-Camp instills three core values throughout its operations, programs and participants: Love, Hope, and Acceptance!

## GET INVOLVED

A-Camp is held for six weeks during the summer months of June and July.

**Volunteer opportunities** for youth (must have completed 8th grade) and adults are available. Trained volunteers enhance camp programs by working alongside camp counselors with the campers and buddies.

A-Camp runs Monday-Thursdays when in operation. Volunteers are needed for both our Action (grades K-5) and Adventure (grades 6-8) camps. Volunteers attend a one-hour training session, and may sign up for more than one week. Summer camp volunteer registration begins on March 1 each year.

We also offer volunteer opportunities throughout the year at our fundraising events, on an as-needed basis.

## CONTACT

**Robbin Benbrook**, *Director*  
**501-563-4059**  
**[info@a-camp4kids.org](mailto:info@a-camp4kids.org)**

# I CAN! of Arkansas

## OUR MISSION

I CAN! of Arkansas is dedicated to enriching the lives of children with special needs with a wide array of extracurricular activities offered free of charge, including dance, art, music, culinary skills and tumbling. The program, which emphasizes God's amazing love for each and every child, is geared for youngsters, ages four-young adult who have disabilities such as spina bifida, Down Syndrome, cerebral palsy, autism and other developmental delays. The Crossing at Angel Court sits adjacent to the Resource Center and includes a fully accessible public playground for children with and without special needs in addition to a series of tree houses, linked by ramps so youngsters in wheelchairs can literally "climb a tree."

While the varied programs at the Resource Center are certainly well attended, I CAN! Dance is the most popular activity, drawing a large following at the organization's eight locations. The classes include "Dancing Buddies" (children without disabilities, ages nine to young adult) who help those needing one-on-one assistance. Some of the Buddies are siblings so they can enjoy an activity together. Based on the Bible verse, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13), each class ends in prayer and devotion.

## CONTACT

**Julie Mayberry**  
**501-888-4140**  
**Julie@icanarkansas.com**



## GET INVOLVED

**Be a buddy** and assist students in our art, dance, music and cooking classes (great for anyone third grade and up). 45 min-1 hour, once a week for 4-10 weeks.

**Help** at one of our fundraisers and special events. We need folks who can help at "I CAN! Dance with the Stars" recital at UCA in November each year. Volunteers sell t-shirts, pass out programs, direct children back stage, and help our photographers. Our Birthday Bash fundraiser in September uses volunteers to sell t-shirts, organize games, help direct traffic, sell water, etc.



# Bethany Christian Services

## OUR MISSION

Bethany Christian Services demonstrates the love and compassion of Jesus Christ by protecting and enhancing the lives of vulnerable children and families through quality social services. Founded in 1944, Bethany has expanded into a global nonprofit organization that brings and keeps families together and envisions a world where every child has a loving family. Bethany's heart is for children and we believe every child deserves a loving family. For more than thirty years Bethany Christian Services of Arkansas and Fellowship Bible Church have worked together in a proven partnership of success—one that protects, preserves and promotes loving families in Arkansas by offering pregnancy counseling and adoption services. With Bethany branches in 36 states and in 15 countries, collectively we impact the lives of more than 100,000 children and over 200,000 people in need every year.

In 2017, we expanded our services in Arkansas to include Safe Families for Children (SFFC)<sup>™</sup>, an innovative and nationally-recognized solution that connects the children of parents facing a temporary crisis with host families who have been called to open their hearts, their arms, and their homes to serve the most vulnerable in our society—our children. SFFC gives hope to families in crisis, reduces risk, and keeps children from entering the foster care system by providing safe, temporary homes for children and support services for their parents. SFFC is dedicated to family support, stabilization, and child abuse prevention. It is a proven model for success and is evidenced by the launch of over 110 locations and 28,000 voluntary placements of children.

## GET INVOLVED

There are three types of volunteers at Bethany:

**Direct service volunteers** provide services such as transporting clients, administrative assistance, fundraising/public speaking, assisting with special events, and serving on the board. (*Any day of the week*)

**Non-direct service volunteers** have contact with clients but do not have access to confidential client information. They help with clerical duties, cleaning, food preparation, and helping with events. (*Monday-Friday*)

**Casual volunteers** provide occasional support for temporary tasks including direct mail campaigns, helping at events, assembling gift baskets for birthmothers, and promoting Bethany's services. (*Monday-Friday*)

## CONTACT

**Veronica Smith, Director**  
**501-664-5729**  
**vsmith@bethany.org**  
**bethany.org**





# The CALL



## OUR MISSION

The CALL is mobilizing the Church in Arkansas to love foster children with the extravagant love of Christ, by equipping the Body of Christ to care for foster children through fostering, adoption, respite care, mentoring, and other support ministries. We help you to become a foster parent, adoptive parent, or volunteer by breaking down barriers to take the first step, and then shepherding you through the process of serving.

There is a critical need for foster and adoptive parents for children in foster care, and the Bible is clear that the church should be the first in line to care for these children. In Pulaski County alone, there are 1,100 children in foster care every year and only 298 available foster families for those children. 202 more families are needed. Plus, there is a need for a forever family for more than 600 children in the foster care system in Arkansas. We are not all called to foster or adopt, but we are ALL called to care for our modern-day "orphans" in foster care.

## GET INVOLVED

The CALL has many **volunteer opportunities**: Foster parent, adoptive parent, respite care parent, providing help with meals, babysitting, transportation for a Fellowship foster family, teen mentor, foster/adopt trainer, church foster care and adoption advocate, DCFS office volunteer, bedside angel for foster children at AR Children's Hospital, event volunteer, CALL Mall volunteer, prayer team, and others. Come to a CALL Info Meeting in your county. Go to [TheCALLinArkansas.org](http://TheCALLinArkansas.org) and find your county page.

## CONTACT

**Mary Carol Pederson**  
[Pulaski@TheCALLinArkansas.org](mailto:Pulaski@TheCALLinArkansas.org)

**Julia DesCarpentrie**  
[SalinePerry@TheCALLinArkansas.org](mailto:SalinePerry@TheCALLinArkansas.org)

**Niki Bolton**  
[LonokePraire@TheCALLinArkansas.org](mailto:LonokePraire@TheCALLinArkansas.org)



# Caring Hearts Pregnancy Center



## OUR MISSION

Caring Hearts Pregnancy Center exists to assist women and their families who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy, and find Godly solutions to their problems by changing hearts.

It is important for us to show our clients the Love of God and to let them know that we are there for them no matter the situation or what their final decision may be.

### Hours of Operation

Monday 12 pm – 5 pm

Wednesday 10 am – 3 pm

Tuesday 10 am – 3 pm

Thursday 10 am – 3 pm

*We need volunteers for all days that we are open.*

## CONTACT

**Kay Ericson**, Client Service Coordinator  
**501-753-4038**  
**ksericson@sbcglobal.net**

## GET INVOLVED

**Table Host** Invite guests to fill your table of 10 seats for our Annual Fall Fundraising Banquet, to be held on 10/05/2017 at DoubleTree Hotel.

**Baby Bottle Boomerang** Pick a month that is best for your church, such as: January (*Sanctity of Human Life*), or May-June (*Mother's Day to Father's Day*). We will supply you with everything you need. You simply advertise, distribute bottles and collect all bottles weekly until the last Sunday.

**Diaper Drive** Hold a diaper drive in your school, place of employment, women's ministry, D Group or throughout your church. We are always in need of sizes 3, 4, 5 & 6 diapers.

**Baby Shower** Hold a Baby Shower at work, in your D Group, women's ministry or throughout your church. Possibly offer cake and punch and simply collect miscellaneous new newborn items.

**H.U.G.S Bible Mentor** Offer 1-4 hours per week to facilitate bible studies with young mothers in a one-on-one atmosphere. Training is provided.

**Client Advocate** Offer five hours per week to advise young women and men that are in unplanned situations. Training is provided.

# CASA

(Court Appointed  
Special Advocates)



## OUR MISSION

We are strong, compassionate adults who are a consistent presence, who care, who listen, and who put the child's interests before all others. We give orphaned children a say in what is happening to them. We speak for them when they cannot speak for themselves. CASA Advocates take the time to get to know these children. We go where they go. We talk to the people who touch their lives—parents and foster parents, family members, teachers, doctors, neighbors, friends, social workers, attorneys, and therapists. Every visit, call, and report we make gives judges what they need to act in the best interests of the child. Every detail helps judges move the child out of the system and into a permanent home, where they'll be loved and can thrive.

The CASA organization and its mission is important for one reason—we are there to support the orphaned child. Whatever their age, children removed from their home because of abuse or neglect face a frightening and profound unknown. We make sure they don't face it alone. CASA Advocates stand by them as they navigate the complex foster care system. We are there whenever they need us, for as long as it takes to reach a safe, permanent home.

## GET INVOLVED

**Volunteers** are needed to serve as advocates for the children. Applicants must be over the age of 21, pass criminal and central registry background checks and complete a 30 hour training program. Volunteer time can be coordinated with your schedule, with the exception of court days. Normal time spent working a case is approximately 10-15 hours per month.

## CONTACT

**Delyce Palik, Director**  
**501-676-6533**  
**[dpalik@grandprairiecasa.org](mailto:dpalik@grandprairiecasa.org)**  
**[grandprairiecasa.org](http://grandprairiecasa.org)**



## OUR MISSION

As a team of mentors, volunteers, families and staff, we have hearts motivated by worship, a work-ethic that is scrappy and a commitment to stick with those we serve.

### We walk with ...

**Youth** We provide supportive housing, intensive life skills training and long-term supportive relationships to youth ages 16-22 who are homeless, runaway, victims of sexual exploitation and/or aging out of foster care.

**Families** We provide professional and practical support to foster and adoptive families to equip them to walk with kids who are in foster care or have been adopted.

**Partners** Through Walk for the Waiting, we provide organizations with similar missions an avenue to strategically unify efforts, share their story, and raise funds.

## GET INVOLVED

**Opportunities** range from filing paperwork to serving a meal to investing more intentionally through mentorship. Each Tuesday evening, a volunteer teaches a life skills group class (such as money management, resume building, communication skills, etc.) and a group of volunteers serve a meal afterwards at our family-style gathering. Most volunteer opportunities occur on weekdays during or after business hours, with some opportunities on weekends for scheduled events.

Immerse Arkansas hosts a volunteer orientation once per month which allows you to learn more about what we do, who we serve, and ways to get plugged in!

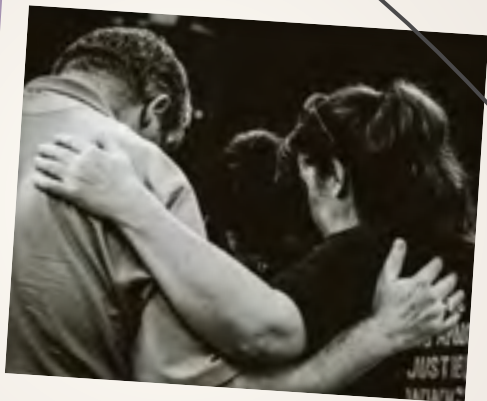
## CONTACT

**Eric Gilmore**, *Director*

**501-404-9890**

**[volunteer@immersearkansas.org](mailto:volunteer@immersearkansas.org)**

# Immerse Arkansas



# Options Pregnancy Center

## OUR MISSION

OPC serves unborn children and young women on a daily and weekly basis. In today's world, not many will stand for the voiceless baby in the womb and the fearful mother that thinks the only choice she has is to take that life. We are committed to meet these women's needs immediately. If we have an at-risk client call after hours to our hotline, which only OPC Staff answer, we don't wait; we call in the staff to get her tested and an ultrasound done.

We have four locations to meet these needs, and have chosen not to forward our phones to another hotline, opting instead to answer them ourselves so we can better direct them. Although we get calls from all over Central Arkansas, we serve them no matter their proximity. Crisis does not have a time clock and we are committed to meet needs as they occur. This approach has led to lives of many unborn children being saved.

## GET INVOLVED

**Teach** parenting education, abstinence education, sexual abuse recovery, post abortion recovery, train to be a Certified Life Coach or a Critical Care Coach or simply work the baby store.

**Clean** our buildings inside and out, cut the grass or do handy-man work. Sometimes things as simple as moving furniture or changing light bulbs are needed.

**Volunteer** at one of our three fundraising events

**Serve** as a Church Liaison, to be they voice of OPC to your congregation, keeping them informed with the needs and prayer requests of the Centers.

## CONTACT

**Vikki Parker**, *Executive Director*  
**501-941-8047**

**Melanie Miller**  
**501-941-5533**



# Project Zero



## OUR MISSION

Project Zero is a child-centered organization with one goal: to have 'zero' kids waiting in foster care to be adopted. We believe that waiting kids are worth fighting for and that they deserve to be placed with a supportive and loving forever family. An unknown author once said, "There are no unwanted children, just unfound families." Project Zero is passionate about finding them!

We raise awareness about the need for foster families through the Arkansas Heart Gallery, short films featuring waiting kids, speaking, and other modes of communication. We strive to build hope in and relationships with waiting kids through monthly events that bring waiting families and waiting kids together. We help connect waiting kids with the right forever families through our partnership with Arkansas Division of Children and Family Service, large 'connection' events, and through one-on-one communication with families.

## GET INVOLVED

**Help** by hosting one of our monthly events, using a special talent or passion to teach waiting kids, and transporting waiting kids to events.

## CONTACT

**Christie Erwin**, *Executive Director*

**Cara Schaefer**, *Administrative Assistant/Heart Gallery Coordinator*

**[info@theprojectzero.org](mailto:info@theprojectzero.org)**





## OUR MISSION

The Exodus Project was born as a direct ministry of Fellowship Bible Church. It began with Men's Fraternity in prison, became Hidden Creek post-release center, and now has evolved into a non-profit discipleship academy for pre-release inmates from Arkansas Community Corrections. The academy is evangelistic in purpose and restorative in nature.

There are 20,000 men and women in Arkansas incarcerated by the State this year. In missionary terms, you could think of them as an unreached people group. More than 53% of them will return to prison with-in three years of their release. This suggests that our correctional system isn't effectively changing people. We know that this is because their work has no spiritual compass to guide it. Exodus is a unique opportunity to present the gospel to an unbelieving audience broken by life and hungry for change. We continue to follow our students and provide ongoing discipleship. Our students are brought to us each week and the instruction is provided at our campus on 65th street in Little Rock.

Our mission is to advance God's kingdom through discipleship. We have watched well over 100 men and women come to Christ and still more become God seekers.

# The Exodus Project

## GET INVOLVED

**Help** by being an instructor or mentor. Visit graduates in prison, participate in our missional community, employ liaisons and internship supervisors.

## CONTACT

**Paul Stevens**, *Director*  
**pstevens@exodus.life**  
**Mallory Weaver**  
**501-529-9931**



# Pathway To Freedom

## OUR MISSION

Pathway To Freedom (PTF) is the only Christ-centered, values-based program in Arkansas whose office is inside a prison with a staff at the unit every weekday. Our program includes 18 months of pre-release program services and training, and up to 12 months post-release re-entry assistance.

We are also positively affecting the recidivism rate, which is the rate at which inmates are re-arrested after leaving the prison system. State-wide, the recidivism rate is around 53%, but as we have tracked the men who have gone through our program, we are proud to see rates of only 15%. Fewer prisoners equal fewer crimes, fewer crime victims, and less tax money spent on housing and care of prisoners.

Our mission gives us the opportunity to preach the Gospel to men so the lives of the men we serve can be transformed. When we can reach these men, it not only impacts them personally, but also their families and the citizens of Arkansas.

## CONTACT

**Mary Mealler**, Office Administrator  
**501-897-0764**  
**mmealler@ptfprison.org**

## GET INVOLVED

PTF relies heavily on volunteer participation. We recruit and train men from churches throughout Arkansas to serve the men in our program.

**Receive training** to serve inside the prison as teachers, small group facilitators, or mentors; or as a mentor out in the community. (Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings and/or serve as mentors on Thursday evenings.)

**Church groups** volunteer for our Prime Time service on Wednesday evenings as scheduled. Special volunteer events may also be scheduled by the Executive Director on Fridays.

A volunteer who is trained to serve as a **mentor to a PTF member** who has been released may meet with the member on the day and time they schedule.





# AR Kids Read

## OUR MISSION

Did you know that in Central Arkansas, two out of three third graders are reading below grade level? AR Kids Read is a literacy-based nonprofit focused on improving the overall community by addressing this exact issue. AR Kids Read has built a tutoring program that is relationship-based between volunteer and student. The focus is on first through third graders who are reading below grade level. Volunteers commit one hour per week and work one-on-one with their students to help them become stronger, more confident readers.

In addition to one-on-one literacy mentorship, AR Kids Read helps build home libraries for these students by distributing at least four books to them every year. Volunteer tutors have a profound impact on these students' lives that goes beyond improved reading levels.

## GET INVOLVED

**Work** with two students each week (30 minutes per student) on reading comprehension, vocabulary and fluency.

**Volunteers** need to be able to commit one hour per week from October to March. Volunteers can choose from a variety of days and times that work best with their schedule. Most opportunities are open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and training, school orientation, and continual support is provided for volunteers.

## CONTACT

**Charlie Conklin**, *Executive Director*  
**501-244-2661**  
[cconklin@arkidsread.org](mailto:cconklin@arkidsread.org)



## OUR MISSION

The Our Kids Program (OK Program) is unique because it is the only mentoring program of its kind that encourages African American men and African American police officers to work closely together mentoring African American males (12-18 years of age) to address traumatic and violent issues that are plaguing their communities. We encourage law enforcement leaders, mayors, city managers, superintendents and public school teachers to form a partnership that facilitates a holistic approach to identifying and addressing the needs of the individuals who are impacted. The police officers are encouraged to take a more proactive approach and move beyond the traditional roles of law enforcement by utilizing the unique power and influence they possess as African American Police Officers.

At the heart of the OK Program is our effort to take action and address the devastating impact that the high rate of incarceration and homicide have on young black men and their families. The OK Program is not just a program that's organizing men and mentoring kids. It's developing a relationship and bridging a gap between the police department and the community.

## GET INVOLVED

**Pray** for more African American men to answer the call of mentoring in their communities.

**Need** for more business owners willing to provide jobs for at-risk youth.

## CONTACT

**Sgt. Willie Davis**  
**501-251-4161**  
**[wdavis@littlerock.gov](mailto:wdavis@littlerock.gov)**  
**Officer Carl Turner**  
**501-350-3556**



Our  
Kids  
Program

# Step Ministries



## OUR MISSION

The mission of STEP Ministries is to foster intentional, one-on-one mentoring relationships between Christian men and women and children in need. We seek to love, care, and help at risk youth, through a variety of programs. Our mentoring program is a one night per week commitment that includes life skills training, structured bible study, and a summer program. In addition to the Mentoring Program, the Encouragers Program is an exciting opportunity to integrate into elementary schools throughout the city by working with individual children on their reading and literacy skills.

Through Christ-centered relationships, STEP seeks to be a positive influence in the lives of students who often face astronomical obstacles in life. You can help be a part of changing the life of a student in need.

## GET INVOLVED

In addition to the yearlong opportunities, STEP hosts a Summer Literacy Camp for two weeks in August, focused on one-to-one tutoring and academic achievement.

## CONTACT

### Mentoring Program

**Rob Smith**  
**501-425-7837**  
**[robnjesus@gmail.com](mailto:robnjesus@gmail.com)**

**Phyllis Harvey**  
**501-952-5102**  
**[phyllisstepministries@gmail.com](mailto:phyllisstepministries@gmail.com)**

### Encourager Program

**Angela Smiley, Little Rock**  
**501-247-6470**  
**[asmiley501@gmail.com](mailto:asmiley501@gmail.com)**

**Lenya Ehrmann, North Little Rock**  
**501-837-6209**  
**[lenya\\_e@mac.com](mailto:lenya_e@mac.com)**

### Literacy and Academic Program

**Juli Atkinson**  
**501-260-9521**  
**[juliatkinson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:juliatkinson@sbcglobal.net)**

"You are a chosen race,  
a people for his own possession.  
(Why?) That you may proclaim the  
EXCELLENCIES  
of HIM who called you  
out of darkness into  
HIS MARVELOUS  
≡LIGHT≡"

(1 Pet. 2:9)