

A photograph of three young women hugging outdoors in a grassy area with trees and houses in the background. The woman on the left has long brown hair and is wearing a red shirt and jeans. The woman in the middle has long brown hair with glasses and is wearing a white textured sweater and jeans. The woman on the right has braided hair and is wearing a brown sweatshirt with a yellow cartoon cat and the word "SIMPLY" on it, and jeans. A red semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

2023 MINISTRY REPORT



JESUS LOOKED AT THE
CROWDS AND HAD
COMPASSION ON THEM

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

A recent study revealed that kids are tired of flashy programming.¹ They don't want more entertainment. Do you know what they crave more than anything else? Humble guides and trusted mentors. *That's what we do!*

Throughout the pages of this Ministry Report you'll see evidence of Jesus working in this generation's receptiveness to the gospel through faithful staff, volunteers and partners.

You'll see a 20% increase across all ministry metrics, when averaged. That means across our 1200 ministry sites, more kids are sharing their name with a leader, coming back to a ministry site, engaging in Christ-centered relationships, making a decision to follow Christ, and plugging into discipleship. On top of that, 25% more kids are relationally sharing their faith with their peers! This is a beautiful display of our "3Story® way of life" and a rising metric that has our full attention.

We celebrate the joy of growth -- but growth also comes with growing pains:

- The demand exceeds the supply: We have more kids who want to engage than we are currently capable of serving.
- We provided more trips and camps scholarships last year than before, but the need is growing and we turned away over 2,000 kids' legitimate scholarship applications.

Jesus isn't silent on these types of matters. He says in Matthew 9: *"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'"*

Christ's words infer that there is a plentiful harvest, and we see it too... plenty of young people who are ready to hear the Good News! We need more workers, more volunteers, more partners to help us meet kids where they are. We must pray earnestly and keep inviting others into this critically important mission.

Our vision is simple: We're praying for MULTIPLIED GROWTH. We've seen the "growth through addition" year over year, and we praise God for it. But we're praying for a gear shift—for more Kingdom torque. More kids in relationship, whose lives will never be the same because of Jesus.



In YFC, it's not just about numbers or scope or scale. Every number is a name. Every kid a story.

Together with you... until all have heard,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JDB", written over a white background.

Jacob D. Bland
PRESIDENT/CEO

¹ "The State of Religion and Young People 2022" by Josh Packard, Ph.D. (Springtide Research).



Our Mission

Youth For Christ 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 History

Since 1944, we've had an unwavering commitment to meet 11-19 year olds in pivotal moments, and to introduce them to the hope of Christ. From holding rallies with Billy Graham in the 40's, to entering campuses to reach students in the 60's, to now empowering community leaders to build meaningful relationships with young people everywhere – it's our aim to walk with young people through their story, and to be the friend and mentor that we've longed for ourselves. When we welcome God into a pivotal moment, we invite Him to uncover His story of hope in our lives, and to give life to our story.

Who We Serve

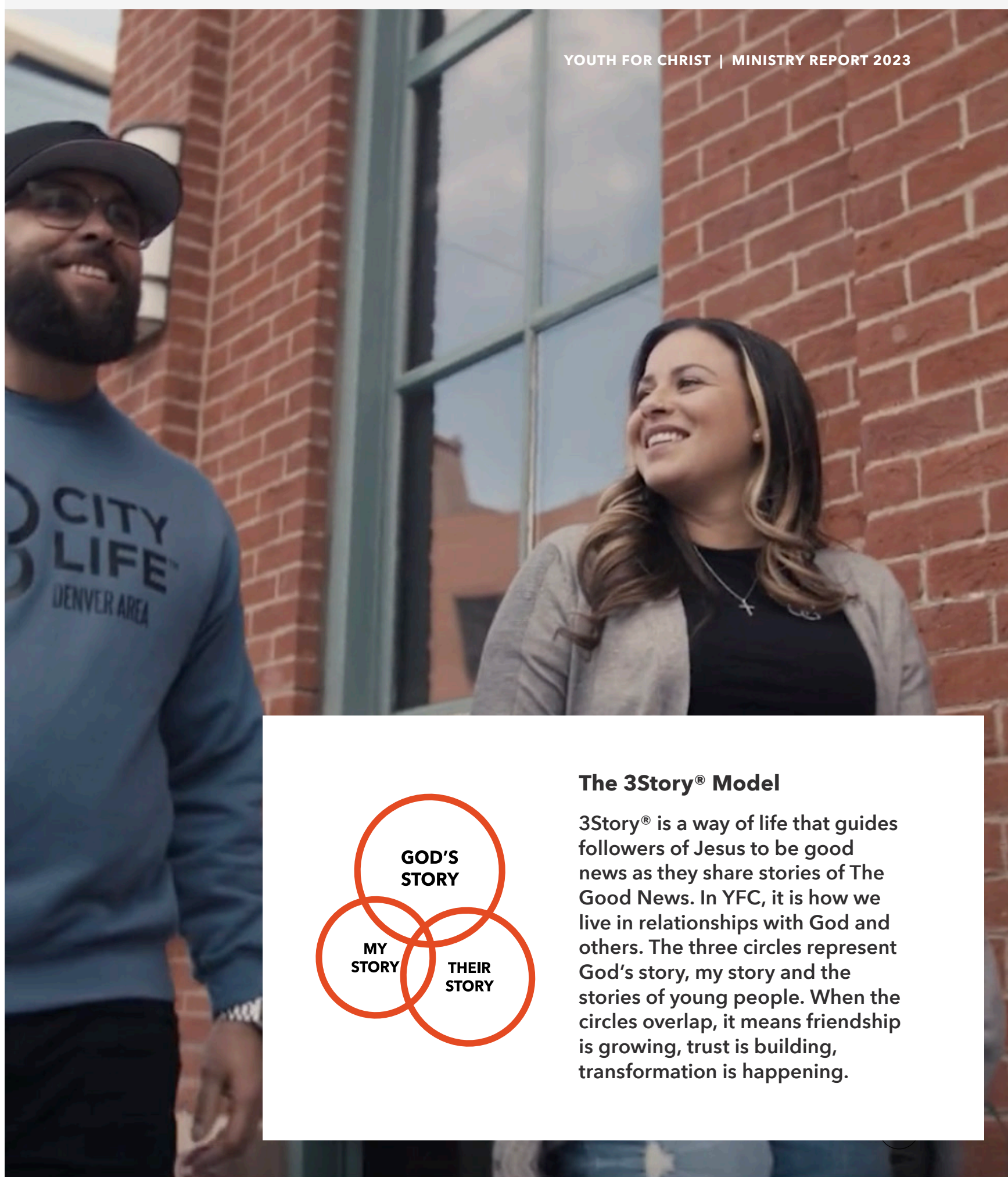
We actively pursue 11-19 year olds walking through pivotal and story-shaping moments. A pivotal moment can be anything from navigating a new school, to becoming a teen parent, to being deaf or hard of hearing, to spending time in a juvenile institution. These young people can often feel overlooked, and it's our passion to make them feel seen, heard, and valued. Our aim is to be a steady voice and presence in their lives, intentionally postured as a humble and authentic mentor.



WATCH

Scan QR code to learn more about the 3Story® model and how we view relationships that allows us to naturally and intentionally share our faith.





The 3Story® Model

3Story® is a way of life that guides followers of Jesus to be good news as they share stories of The Good News. In YFC, it is how we live in relationships with God and others. The three circles represent God's story, my story and the stories of young people. When the circles overlap, it means friendship is growing, trust is building, transformation is happening.



Youth For Christ engages young people ages 11-19 wherever they are to uncover God's story of hope in their story through authentic relationships, shared experiences, outdoor adventure, mentoring, small groups, and more.

Our campus-based ministries reach 11-19 year olds on campuses throughout the country:

Campus Life® serves middle school and high school students on campuses throughout the United States. Campus Life is our largest ministry model.

Campus Life Military® ministry reaches young people on military bases.

Deaf Teen Quest™ seeks to break down language barriers by building relationships with deaf and hard of hearing young people.

Each of our 850 campus-based ministry sites reach a diverse group of 11-19 year olds with very unique needs, but all of them involve young people on campuses in one way or another. No matter what the campus, we build meaningful relationships in which God can work in the life of a young person.

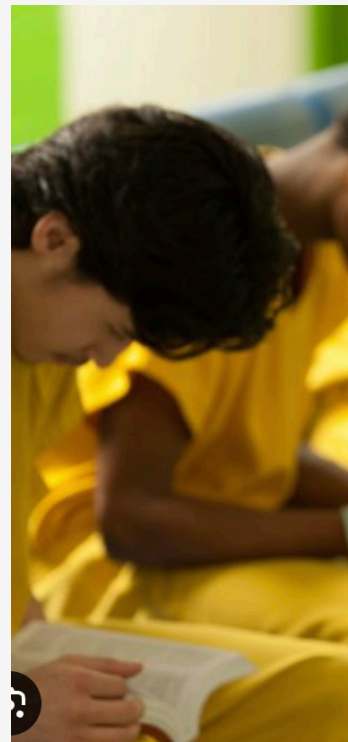
Our community-based ministries facilitate relational ministry rooted in Christ's call to those who feel overlooked.

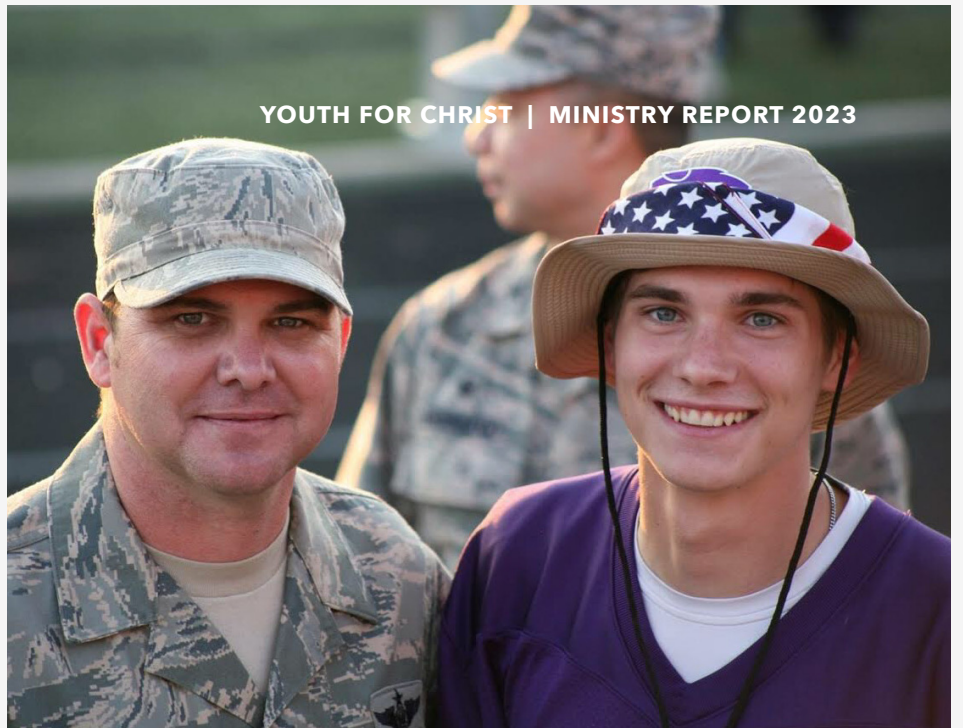
City Life™ is a relational, holistically based ministry that desires to see deep change in urban neighborhoods by raising up leaders from within that community.

Parent Life™ connects pregnant and parenting young people with leaders that help these young people uncover God's Story.

Juvenile Justice Ministry® strives to respond to the needs of young people in the juvenile justice system with Spirit-infused empathy.

Together, our community-based ministries encompass over 400 ministry sites engaging relationships with thousands of young people across the country.



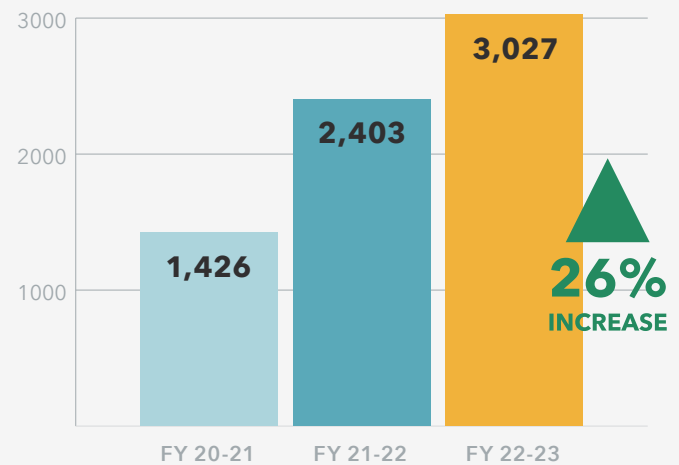




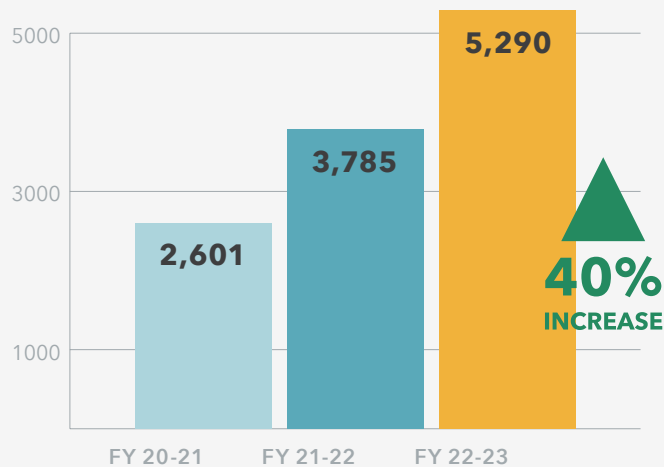
MINISTRY OUTCOMES

2022-2023

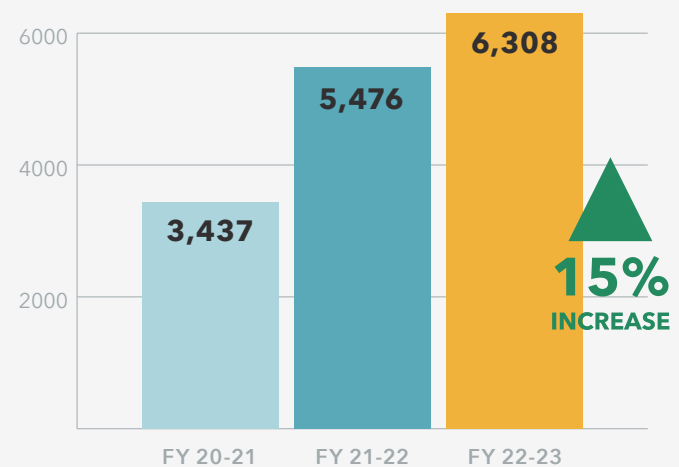
New believing kids who began 3Story® relationships with peers:



Kids who were plugged into a fellowship:



Kids engaged in discipleship:



Kids who were plugged into a fellowship:

Fellowship most often means a local church. Because the body of Christ spans multiple generations, a fellowship will sustain them through life -- in a special way beyond YFC.

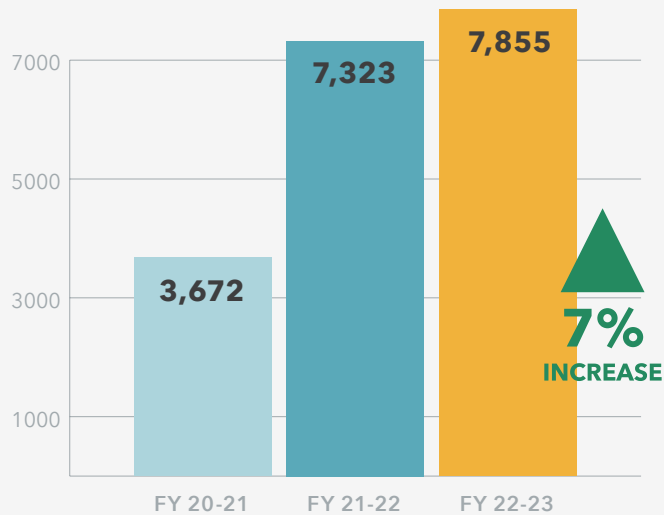
New believing kids who began 3Story® relationships with peers:

We love when kids who come to Christ ultimately begin to catch a vision for their lost friends. These Young Leaders are the future and a proven part of our growth strategy!

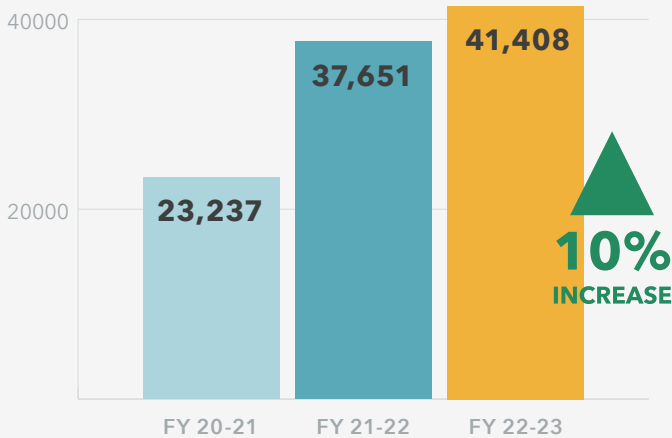
Kids engaged in discipleship:

When kids come to Christ, we engage them in an ongoing discipleship relationship to help them learn how to follow Jesus faithfully.

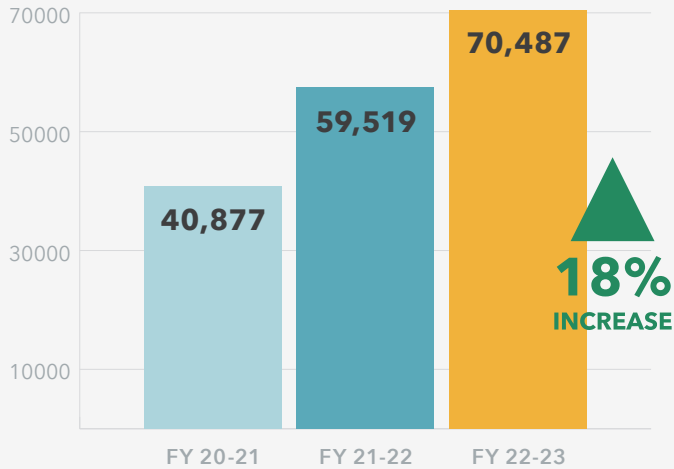
Kids who came to Christ:



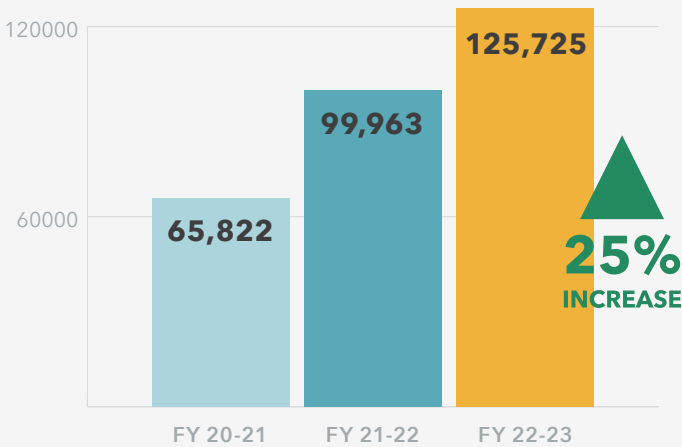
Lost kids in authentic Christ-sharing relationships:



Kids in conversations with a leader:



Kids who shared their name with a YFC leader:



Kids who came to Christ:

We believe that if we're faithful to put leaders in authentic, Christ-sharing relationships with lost kids, the Holy Spirit will do what only He can do.

Kids in conversations with a leader:

Leaders and kids initiate conversations with each other throughout the year. Conversations help leaders identify lost kids and create opportunities to share Christ.

Lost kids in authentic Christ-sharing relationships:

Our leaders initiate and sustain new 3Story® relationships through the year. Our most important measurement: leaders with lost kids.

Kids who shared their name with a YFC leader:

A concrete measure of the total number of kids connected to YFC ministry.



HAILEY'S STORY

She'd been let down a lot in her past.



Scan the QR code to read more about Hailey

NEJALON'S STORY

It all started with a bike



Scan the QR code to watch Nejalon's story



SUMMER IN REVIEW

What a pivotal season of YFC Camps and trips so far!

Last fall, we prayerfully and strategically transitioned from nationally-led summer camps to localized camps and trips year round. We redirected our resources towards training and equipping all 130 of our chapters to provide local trips based on what their youth need.

We are already seeing evidence that our new strategy is leading to exponentially more kids being able to experience YFC camps and trips through every chapter across the mission. We can't wait to see what God does through the rest of the school year!

ELLIE'S STORY

Ellie's mom told another leader, "She has been different since she got back."



Scan the QR code to read more about Ellie



HELPING KIDS GET TO CAMP

OVER 60K
in National Scholarships
have already been
distributed this summer

ANOTHER 32K
is expected to be
distributed in November
for school year trips

KIDS LIVES CHANGED

4,425
went on a YFC Camp or
trip this summer

856
kids said "YES" to Jesus
at a camp or trip this
summer

2,945
under-resourced youth
received full or partial
scholarships to attend
camps or trips this
summer!



Leader Formation

The Leadership Formation team is here to serve all levels of Youth For Christ leaders by providing resources, relationships, and training experiences that nurture their personal relationships with Jesus and most effectively equip them to fulfill the mission of YFC.

Online Courses Completed

This past fiscal year our digital learning platform, “myTrailhead,” engaged over 6,000 YFC staff and volunteers in 15,000+ online courses related to YFC’s mission, vision, guidelines for ministry, youth safety, and more.

New 3Story® Course Released

Our three-part 3Story® Overview course launched in “myTrailhead” to help all leaders embrace and live out a 3Story lifestyle as they encounter God’s Story, their story, and others’ stories.

New Leader Cohort Kickoff

Our inaugural 18-month New Leader Cohorts kicked off in July 2023 with 160 participants and 24 facilitators. Over the course of 18 months, new staff members will be trained on topics such as 3Story, Soul Care, Prayer, and YFC Ministry Models with the goal of receiving their YFC Credential in early 2025.

National Service Center (NSC) Gathering Content Preparation

Each year, the entire NSC staff from across the country gather together to cultivate our NSC Workplace Cultural Values, in addition to monthly Spiritual Formation opportunities.

2024 National Leadership Conference (NLC)

Leader Formation is curating the content for the 2024 NLC in Orlando, FL to include a New Leader Cohort Gathering, followed by general session and breakout speakers handpicked by the team to equip YFC USA to focus on the simple theme of knowing, experiencing, and sharing God’s Story.

YFC Board Training

Our 3-year Murdock Foundation Board Training partnership is underway. We expect to train board members and Executive Directors from 10 chapters in 2024, followed by 10 additional chapters each year, the following 2 years, for a total of 30. Our hope after that is to continue to train additional chapters until all YFC USA boards are fully equipped.

3Story® Training For Churches

We are in the process of developing a version of our 3Story training specifically to engage church audiences. This training will also be translated into Spanish, so it is able to reach even more people with the 3Story framework, teaching them to live a 3Story lifestyle as they encounter God’s Story, their story, and others’ stories.



RAISING UP THE NEXT GENERATION OF YOUNG LEADERS

Former YFC City Life kid, Karri Jacobo is deeply committed to serving the community she grew up in, as one of our rising young leaders.

Karri Jacobo is a proud San Antonio native. After receiving her Bachelor's in Business at Our Lady of the Lake University, she joined the San Antonio Youth For Christ staff as the Mission Investment Coordinator.

In her role she has been able to contribute her skills and passion to advance the mission and vision of San Antonio Youth For Christ. As a City Life alumna, Karri is deeply committed to serving the community she grew up in. She serves as a volunteer at City Life where she empowers and helps build up more indigenous leaders from within the inner city of San Antonio.



Partnerships

We can reach more youth together. YFC is a bold ally of the local church and partner to like-minded organizations. We come alongside other Kingdom builders and create Christ-centered, biblical communities on behalf of young people. We are open-handed in sharing our work and resources with missional partners who are driven by advancing the Gospel. Three of our key partners are: Luis Palau Association, Tenx10, and the Public Reading of Scripture through the Grace and Mercy Foundation. Multiplying our efforts with these key partners will change cities across our nation through faithfulness to God's word, Kingdom outreach, and young leader education opportunities.

Public Reading of Scripture (PRS) Immersion

In addition to our weekly PRS, your investment integrates PRS into our New leader cohorts, Young leader cohorts, and Chapter training. We will also begin to extend PRS to young people in Juvenile facilities and urban neighborhoods. YFC's 3Story® way of life calls us to know and share God's story.

Luis Palau | Partnership in the City

Your partnership connects ten YFC city chapters to the "Palau City Movement" to play a key role in mobilizing the church to reach the next generation with the hope of the gospel.

3Story® for the Whole Kingdom

Your investment helps YFC to produce an external version of our 3Story® evangelism and discipleship training, and to develop a world-class digital platform for sharing these effective resources with churches and ministries across the nation!

TENx10 | National Leadership Facilitation for the YFC Movement

TENx10 is rallying the church to reimagine how we form the faith of young people. YFC will play a major role in helping the Church to reach young people in relationship to embrace the hope and truth of Jesus.

A Prayerful Focus on Multiplying Ministry

The YFC movement exists to share the love of Jesus and the hope of the gospel with young people.

The National Service Center (NSC) exists to help grow healthy leaders, chapters, sites and Kingdom partnerships to multiply ministry to 11-19 year olds.

Christ is moving through your partnership as together we seek to:

Simplify

Help our leaders live out what Jesus modeled. Every leader in YFC will know, experience, and share the gospel with lost young people who desperately need hope.

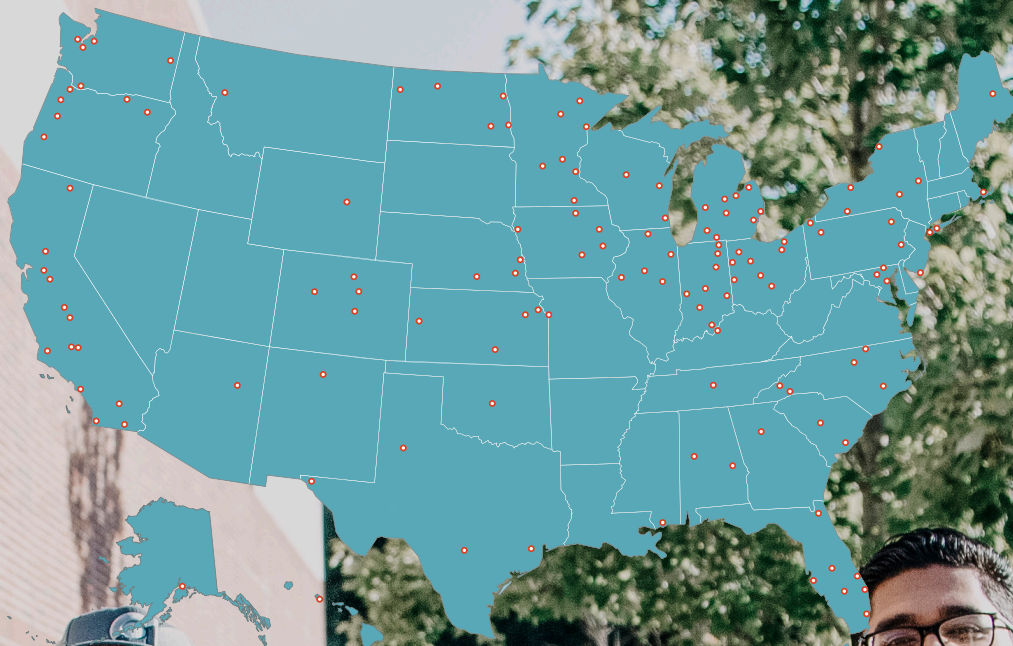
Multiply

Support growth through helping chapters and sites own their local multiplying efforts. The NSC will equip Chapter leaders to not just lead but to multiply their ministry impact in significant and sustainable ways.

Exemplify

YFC is excited by recent invitations to support thousands of local churches through strategic Kingdom partnerships. Specifically, we're being asked to help exemplify what missional youth ministry looks like for this next generation, and to help turn the hearts of the whole body of Christ towards the young people of this nation. Stay tuned for more!





Youth For Christ/USA, Inc is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization in the USA, a charter member of Youth for Christ International, and one of over 100 Youth For Christ national programs around the world.



Local chapters are governed by boards of various sizes and are held to high standards of transparency and accountability. Launch Chapters are staff of YFC USA and are guided by local advisory boards.



FIND A CHAPTER

Scan the QR code or visit us online at yfc.net/find-a-chapter

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