



JOURNEY

BIBLICAL † CLINICAL COUNSELING

December 14, 2023

Dear Faithful Friends of Journey,

Merry Christmas! The divine rhythm and hum-drum of the Advent season reminds us to reflect on the faithfulness of our God and praise Him for how He leads, attends, and provides for us. At Journey, we are undoubtedly thankful for those expressions of God's providence and provision to us. Last year, we shared with you, "*A Year of Change*" and for 2023 we want to share with you how God is positioning Journey with strength, stability, and hope for the future.

15 years ago, Journey began with one simple mission - to impact lives by providing professional and Biblical counseling through compassionate and competent counselors who facilitate transformation through the power of the Gospel of Christ. Journey is growing and changing in positive ways while remaining true and faithful to its foundation and roots. We are excited to share with you how God has expanded and strengthened our ministry!

Over the last year, Journey has adjusted well to our new clinical director, new counselors, and board members who are equally passionate about Journey's mission and vision. We've welcomed two new counselors to our team, Brooke Thrasher and Susan Medlin, who are clinically trained and biblically-based.

We have expanded our services; we now provide counseling for children and adolescents, as well as adults, couples, marriage, and families. We have expanded our play therapy room and resources to meet the growing need for counseling services for children. We offered our first group counseling experience this year: *Forming: Changed by Grace*, which is a 12-week interactive experience to create deeper intimacy with God and others. **We thank God for making our dream of expanding our services to meet the needs of the whole body of Christ more of a reality this year.**

This year, God provided \$15,000 for our client assistance fund, which provided approximately 150 sessions at a reduced rate for clients in need. The client assistance fund is vital to the mission of Journey because it helps reduce the financial barrier of counseling as we provide professional and Biblical counseling to hurting people.

As a partner of the local church, Journey prioritizes relationships with pastors, churches, and ministries. We have strengthened our partnerships with over 25 local churches and ministries. This year, our counselors provided twice as many seminars and workshops as any prior years, totaling 17 that covered topics such as anxiety, depression, gender and sexuality, marriage, attachment, and empathy. We are so grateful for opportunities to meet the specific needs of the church in this way.

In this season of growth, we are trusting God to expand our ministry by providing more compassionate and competent counselors so that we can provide even more services tailored to the needs of our local churches. Would you pray to that end?

If you're drawn to our vision of partnering with local churches to help members of our community thrive through biblically based, clinically trained counseling, would you consider contributing to Journey? **Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to support client assistance and general operating expenses.**

To give, please visit our website at www.journeycounselingministries.org to make an online donation, scan our QR code, or mail your gift to Journey Counseling at P.O. Box 14, Dayton, VA 22821.

We gratefully accept contributions in any amount. Journey Counseling Ministries is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and your donation may be tax-deductible. Journey Counseling Ministries' financial statement is available upon written request from the Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218.

On behalf of our counselors, staff, and Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support of Journey and for considering supporting us in this way.

Ally Padilla
Clinical Director

Michael Miller
Board Chair

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