

FaithBridge

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# Making Generational Impact

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2025



# DEAR FAITHFUL PARTNERS

With each passing year, I am more humbled by the privilege of stepping into the lives of children and young adults during their most vulnerable moments. I am equally grateful for you and the role you play in making this work possible.

When even one young person experiences love and healing, the trajectory of their life, and the lives of future generations, can be forever changed. **Because of your partnership, cycles of pain are being broken and replaced with a lasting foundation of hope.**



And while we celebrate what God has done, the need in front of us remains great. More **children and youth are waiting for families, for support, and for the opportunity to experience lasting change.**

We remain deeply committed to meeting children and youth exactly where they are, in every stage of life. **Our vision is unchanged: for every foster child to experience the hope, healing, and unconditional love of Jesus Christ.**

Thank you for walking alongside us and for continuing to be part of the life-changing work ahead.

With deep gratitude for your partnership,

Bob Bruder-Mattson  
President & CEO

The stories in this report are more than data; they are glimpses of the work God is doing in individual lives. Behind every page are **hundreds of other children and youth – each with a name and a story – who are finding stability, healing, and hope through your generosity and God’s favor.**

## FOSTER CHILD STABILITY

Each time a foster child is moved to another home, another layer of trauma is etched into their life. Keeping them in stable homes is crucial to their ability to start healing.

**Children in FaithBridge care experience 7.6 times fewer placement moves than the average child in Georgia.**

# TOGETHER, WE BRING HOPE, HEALING, AND LOVE TO GEORGIA’S FOSTER CHILDREN

**In 2025, FaithBridge served 2,001 current and former foster children.**

**When children are brought into foster care, they need families to help them heal from the trauma of neglect and abuse.** FaithBridge is the largest, Georgia-based, and Christ-centered child placing agency in the state.

**We recruit, train, and support foster and adoptive families in local churches.** We license these families to provide community-based, short- and long-term traditional, medically fragile, and therapeutic foster care and, when needed, adoptive homes.

**We work with the state of Georgia to provide Child Life Histories for children** awaiting adoption, ensuring they have every document required to join a forever family.

**FaithBridge’s Youth Opportunities program collaborates with young people** aging out of foster care to assess their needs, set personal goals, and provide them with the financial, educational, and emotional support they need to achieve successful independent lives.

**FaithBridgeU is a national training website that provides valuable live and on-demand training** for foster and adoptive parents. It is geared to help them face the unique challenges that come with parenting children who have experienced trauma.

**Our vision is for every foster child to experience the hope, healing, and unconditional love of Jesus Christ. Our mission is to mobilize, organize, and equip local churches to solve their community’s foster care crisis.**

# FOSTER CARE

**They got the call last spring: a baby girl was found abandoned in a garbage can and desperately needed a home.** Seasoned foster and adoptive parents, Meg and Roy Sams welcomed baby Cora\* into their home just hours later.

Over the next few months, they quickly fell in love with this sweet baby. **They were prepared to be her forever family, when the courts located her biological father, Shamari.** He had no idea he had a daughter and decided he wanted to pursue custody.

Meg and Roy prioritized what was best for baby Cora over their own dreams of adoption. Rather than stepping back, **Roy stepped in to mentor the new father.** He sent photos of Cora, talked on the phone regularly, and often prayed over him when they spoke.

As Shamari prepared his home before being granted custody, **Meg and Roy's Community of Care quickly provided the support he needed.**

Friends delivered highchairs, baby toys, and even a crib.

Only one thing remained: Shamari needed a car.

When Meg and Roy shared the need with their church community, people stepped in. Just a few weeks later, **a local dealership with connections to their church donated a truck.** Roy had the joy of surprising Shamari with the car, just in time for Cora to come home for Christmas.

**“Mr. Roy is a huge blessing in my life. He is like a father figure to me. I can talk to him about anything.”**

Today, Roy and Shamari continue to speak regularly, **Cora is thriving, and Shamari is enjoying his new-found fatherhood.**

“I love having her with me and I love being a dad. I don't want her to ever wonder if I'll be there for her. I always will.” Shamari shared.



Pictured here:  
Shamari & Cora



## OUR IMPACT

93.9%

CHILDREN IN ONLY ONE FOSTER HOME

67

CHILDREN REUNIFIED WITH FAMILY

59,657

NIGHTS IN LOVING HOMES

Pictured here:  
Charlie's Adoption



# ADOPTION

When Charlie entered the foster care system he had already spent most of his very young life in the hospital. He was in need of foster parents who could care for his complicated medical needs. Despite the requirement of spending countless hours in the hospital for medical care training during a global pandemic, Crystal, Ryan, and their two daughters said “Yes” to this little one.

“When we went to see him in the hospital, I wasn’t prepared for what I saw – for how serious his medical needs were,” recalls Crystal. “The doctors told us he would probably never sit up, walk, or crawl. But then I held him and he was touching my face and all of the worries faded.” More than one month later, they brought him home, along with all of the tubes and wires that kept him alive.

In their care, Charlie began to flourish. He was sitting up and crawling within months and over the next few years, the Lord kept showing up with Charlie continuing to reach new milestones.

Today, five years later, Charlie is walking, running, and attending school. **This past August, he officially became a Casey through adoption.** He still has a lot of medical needs and a long road ahead of him but they are committed to this sweet boy, to make sure he has the stability and care that he needs to thrive both now, and in the future.

[Click here to watch Charlie's story.](#)

## Child Life History

When children in foster care become eligible for adoption, each one is required to have a compilation of documents that tells their life story called their “Child Life History.” This includes official records like medical and education as well as information about their lives including milestones reached, major life events, and family information.

They are shared with potential adoptive families to help them understand the children’s backgrounds and serve as a way for the children to know about their personal history after adoption.

FaithBridge completed 231 Child Life Histories in 2025, supporting each child on their journey towards finding a permanent, loving home.

### OUR IMPACT

**100%** FOSTER CHILDREN KEPT SAFE

**26** CHILDREN ADOPTED BY FAITHBRIDGE FAMILIES



# TRAINING

FaithBridgeU provides live and on-demand training for foster and adoptive parents, equipping them to meet the unique challenges of parenting children who have experienced trauma.

It includes world-class, trauma-informed training from more than 35 national content creators and it is proven to help with family retention and placement stability. It is currently being used by foster parents in 29 states with 12 agency and church partners.

Our vision is for all foster and adoptive families in America to have access to high-quality training.

Learn more at [faithbridgeu.com](https://faithbridgeu.com)

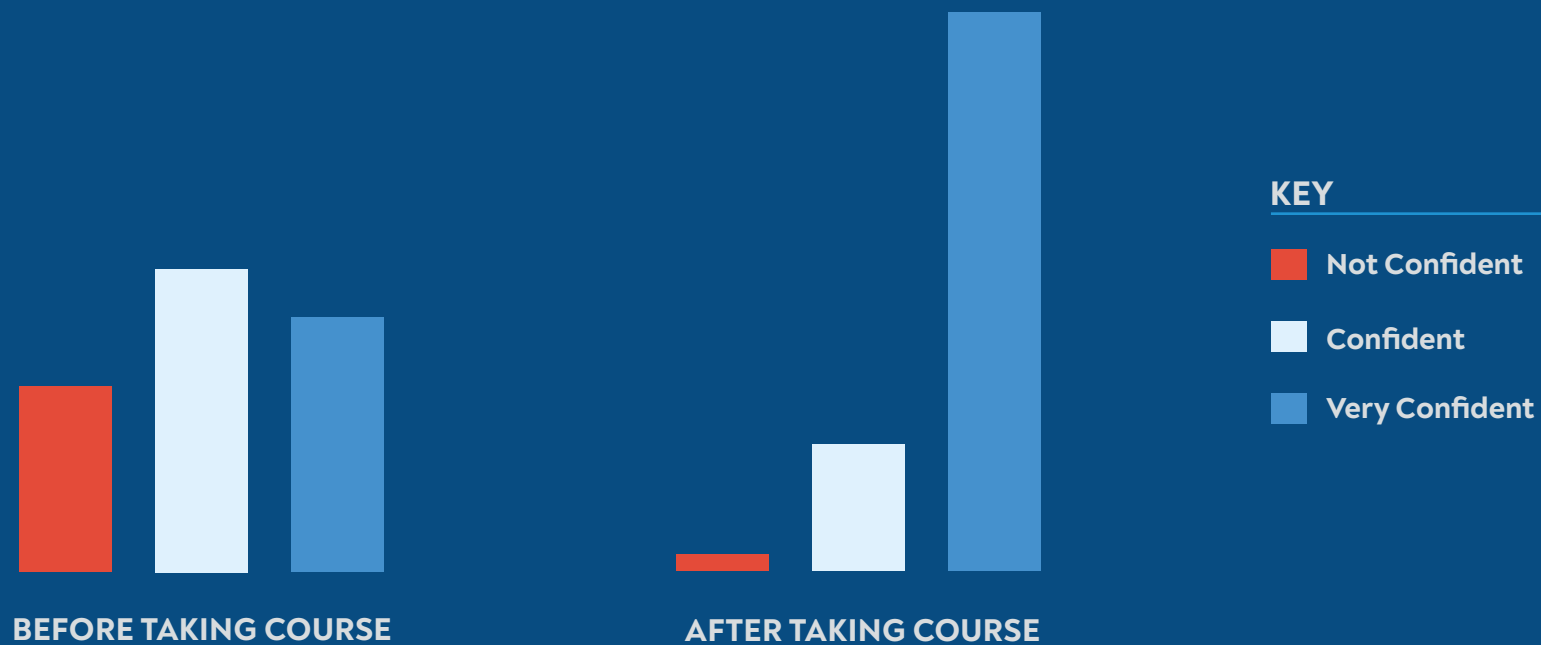
## WHAT OUR USERS ARE SAYING:

“FaithBridgeU is doing an EXCELLENT job of training and equipping!”

“FaithBridgeU has made me a better parent.”

“FaithBridgeU encourages foster parents to reflect Christ’s heart – not perfection, but faithful love in action.”

A total of 1,445 users ranked their confidence in parenting topics before and after FaithBridgeU training.



## OUR IMPACT

**1,938** PEOPLE EMPOWERED BY FAITHBRIDGEU IN 29 STATES

**89** FAMILIES TRAINED TO BECOME FOSTER PARENTS



Pictured here:  
Emily M.

# YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

**Emily was overwhelmed. She was homeless with a newborn baby** and desperate for support. She knew she wanted to finish her education and pursue a career so that she could support herself and her daughter, but that felt impossible. Then a friend told her about FaithBridge and everything changed.

We are all too familiar with the devastating statistics that have historically painted a bleak picture for Georgia's aging-out foster youth—**more than 700 youth age out of foster care annually and only 37% achieve a high school diploma**. As a result, many of these youth have experienced poverty, incarceration, unemployment, homelessness, substance abuse, sexual trafficking or becoming single parents. **Nationally, less than 3% graduate from a four-year college.**

[Click here to see the rest of Emily's story.](#)

More often than not, **many don't have connections with adults and parental figures who can guide them through challenges** such as seeking financial aid, applying to schools, getting an apartment, or opening a bank account.

FaithBridge's Youth Opportunities Life Coaches **collaborate with former foster youth, ages 18-26**. They assess their needs, set personal goals, and provide them with the support they need **to achieve successful independent lives**.

Our program experienced transformative growth in 2025, effectively **doubling our reach**. Post-secondary enrollment surged from 161 to 307 students—a **102% increase**—while our **average census climbed 107%** to 331. Beyond enrollment, we celebrated **29 graduations** and provided critical support to **116 students** who were facing housing instability, ensuring they stayed on the path to success.

## OUR IMPACT

# 473

**YOUNG ADULTS  
SERVED THROUGH OUR  
YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES  
PROGRAM**

## FAITHBRIDGE FOUNDERS SCHOLARSHIP

We awarded the FaithBridge Founders Scholarship to two deserving young people who had been adopted into FaithBridge homes.

**Pictured here:**  
Northside Foster Family Fellowship  
Kokes Girls Send Off



# CHURCH HIGHLIGHT

Since 2017, Northside Church has been a dedicated FaithBridge church partner. Driven by their senior pastor and his wife's deep passion for vulnerable children, the church provides ongoing opportunities to serve foster families and children in their community.

Northside's commitment to these families is unwavering. They have hosted countless information and training sessions, they have built a robust Community of Care, and on any given Sunday there are many ways to serve.

One of those families is Chris and Maria Koke. Foster parents since 2018, they welcomed a sibling set in 2021 whose path to permanency was long and complex. The case had shifted to adoption when the court unexpectedly ruled for reunification last year. Chris and Maria were the only parents the children had ever known and saying goodbye was heartbreaking.

In their grief, they realized the church had an opportunity to share the love of Jesus and embrace the children's entire family. The Northside Community of Care hosted a beautiful send-off celebration where their child's biological parents were welcomed with open arms. It was grace in action – a church family supporting a grieving foster family and a reuniting biological family with the same compassion and support.

God's love continues to be shown through their ongoing relationship with this child and their parents.

## OUR IMPACT

294

FAMILIES INTRODUCED TO FOSTER CARE

18

CHURCH PARTNERS LAUNCHED



**Pictured Here:**  
Shane Jackson,  
Beth Guckenberger, &  
Bob Bruder-Mattson



## FAITHBRIDGE 2025 GALA

# SO THAT THE NEXT GENERATION WOULD KNOW

In November, FaithBridge hosted the fifth annual gala at Phase Family Center in Alpharetta.

This year's theme, "So That the Next Generation Would Know," inspired by Psalm 78:6 centered on the exponential impact we can have when we care for children and youth in foster care.

Shane Jackson, President of Jackson Healthcare, shared how **one family changed the trajectory of his father's life, which shaped the future of their family for generations to come.**

“ The ripples, the impact of what you're doing, are going to go well beyond what you'll ever be able to see.  
- Shane Jackson

Beth Guckenberger, author and nonprofit leader, brought the keynote message. She highlighted **the exponential effect that just one person can have in the life of a child and their family.**

“ When we intervene in the life of a [child] we are impacting 100 years from now. I can't think of a better way to invest our time and resources and lives.  
- Beth Guckenberger

The evening served as a celebration of what happens when a community chooses to step forward in love and compassion. **Because of the generosity of those in the room, more children and youth in foster care are experiencing safe homes, healing relationships,** and the support of families and communities committed to helping them thrive.

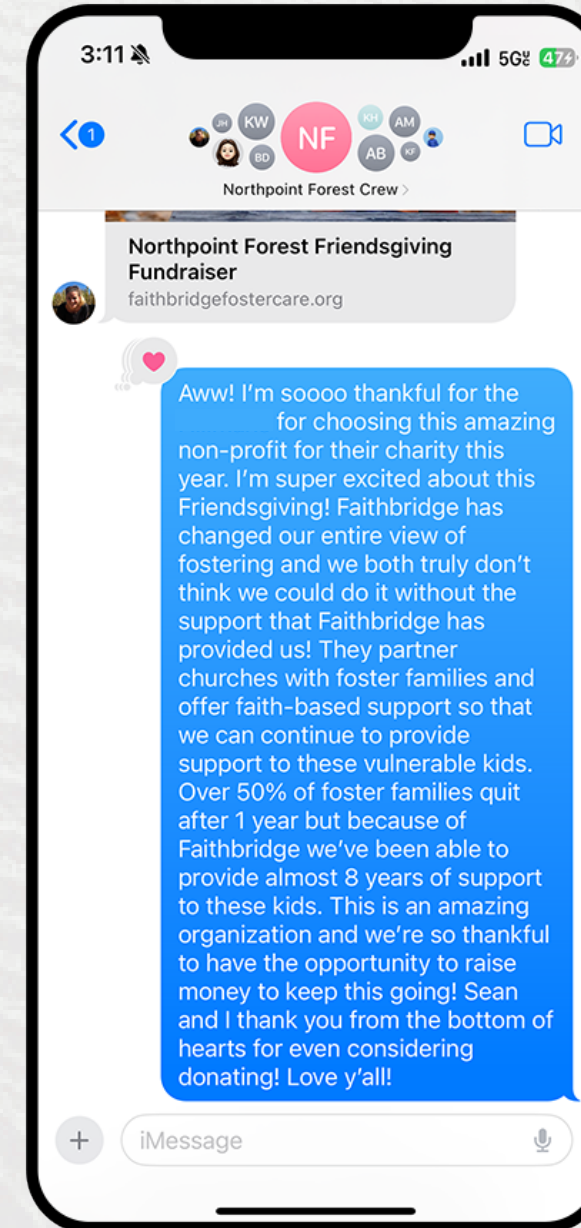
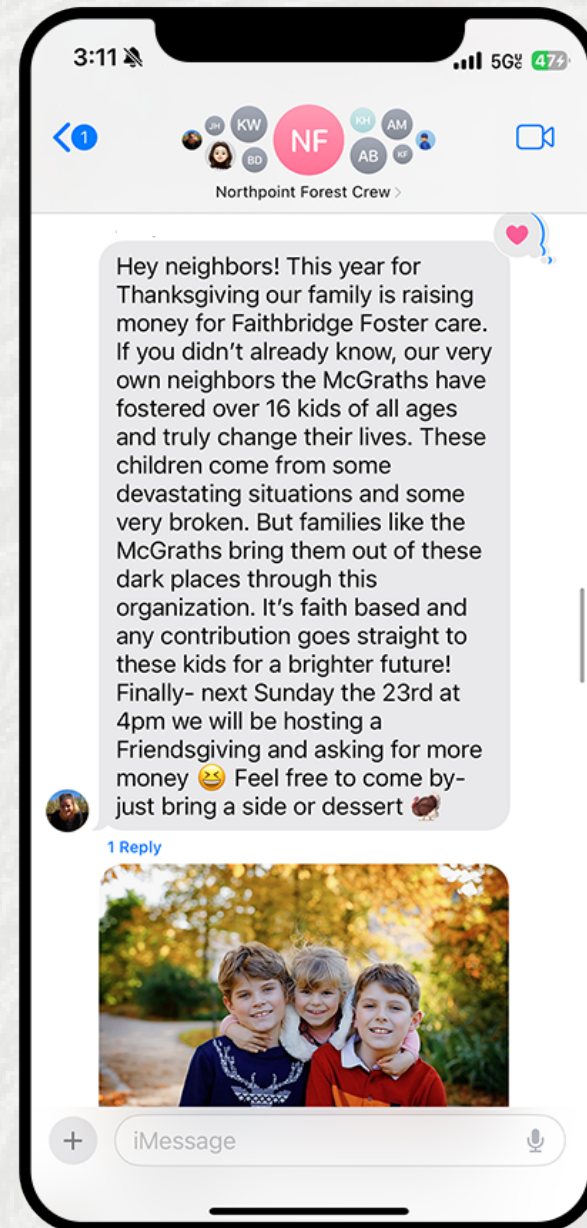
[Click here to see highlights from the 2025 Gala](#)

# DONOR HIGHLIGHT

Each year, our donors continue to step into the FaithBridge story in ways that surprise and bless us. Often, we will receive a donation that is so perfectly timed with our needs it brings us to tears. Gifts like these remind us that God is active in all of our lives in this important Kingdom work!

In the fall, we were blessed when the neighbors of foster parents Sean and Megan McGrath decided to do a holiday fundraiser.

“A lot of our neighbors add a charity to the parties they have! We have one friend who picks an organization for their Christmas party, and this neighbor does one for Thanksgiving,” says Megan. “She said ‘As long we’re having that many people over we might as well use the platform for a good cause!’”



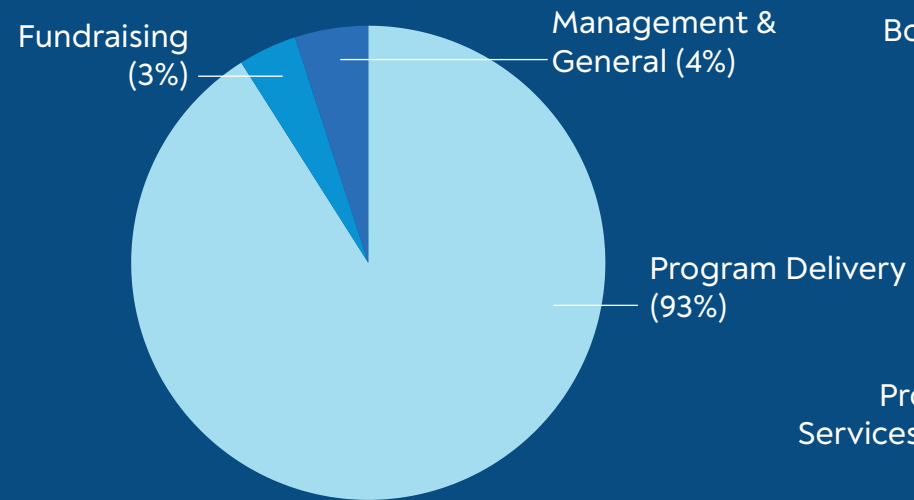
As you can see in the text messages, the McGraths were thrilled to learn that this year, their neighbor chose FaithBridge as their Thanksgiving charity! They quickly reached out to us for some help. We set up a special donation page just for their event and included a QR code for easy access to the page.

When they got to their “Friendsgiving” party, the host had printed out a bunch of the QR codes with the donation site and put one on every place setting! They had a goal to raise \$5,000 to help children in foster care and the families who care for them.

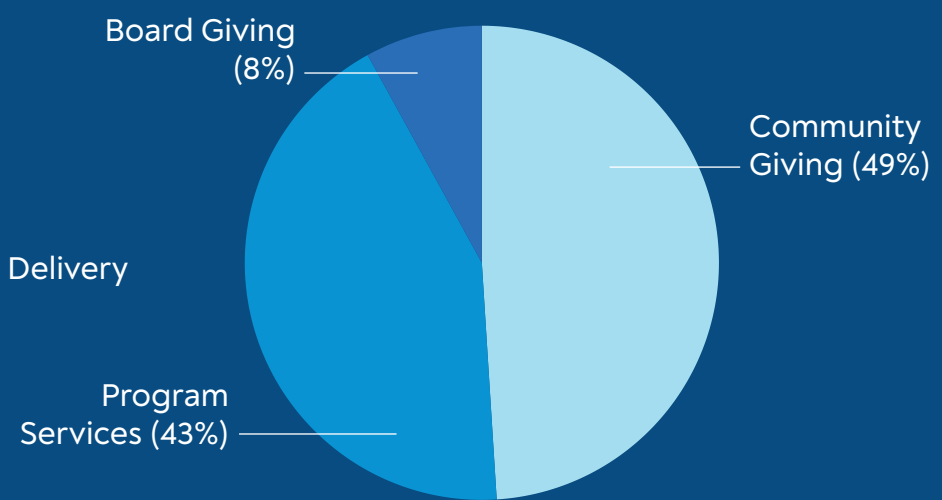
As a result, more than \$6,000 was raised and they even inspired a neighbor to post a “Giving Tree” at her preschool, encouraging parents to donate during drop off or pick up!

# FINANCIALS

## EXPENSES



## REVENUE



# OUR BOARD & EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT & CEO

Bob Bruder-Mattson

BOARD CHAIRMAN

Richard L. Jackson

BOARD SECRETARY

Wayne Stolz

BOARD TREASURER

Leslie Kurtz

BOARD MEMBERS





Charles Evans  
Larry Powell

## FaithBridge Foster Care

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# FaithBridge

**With roughly 1,600 children waiting for adoptive homes each year and more than 11,000 children in foster care in Georgia, we believe the answer to this crisis is the church.**

This is why we partner with local churches to help raise up and license adoptive, foster, and respite families. A Christ-centered foster care and adoptive ministry not only allows churches to care for vulnerable children and their families but also provides a way to support foster and adoptive families.