



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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Building Trusting Relationships
Listening • Caring • Encouraging

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TO OUR MEMBERS

Ministry Highlights

Yokefellow Prison Ministry launched a new arm of ministry called Virtual Aftercare, which provides listening ministry for people transitioning from prison back into society (returning citizens) using the Zoom platform. Returning citizens with access to the Internet (video) or a landline (audio only) can attend Virtual Aftercare meetings from anywhere in the State (or world!).

Virtual Aftercare Ministry Support on the Outside

*Provided Virtually
through Computer or Phone*



Yokefellow's in-person aftercare ministry in High Point, provided through A Second Chance Community Church, adapted its program to COVID-19 pandemic constraints. During Phases 1 and 2, Yokefellow aftercare meetings were provided on Facebook Live. During Phase 3, in-person ministry resumed, capped at 10 attendees with social distancing protocols in place.

Yokefellow launched online versions of its New Volunteer Training as well as its Refresher Training for Seasoned Volunteers through Convene Communities. Modules are provided for both prison and aftercare ministry and include videos & post-tests.



Yokefellow held its first Town Hall meeting on Zoom. Attendees divided into breakout rooms based on region to enable volunteers to hold discussions specific to their region of the State. Attendees then came back together as one group to hold a Q&A with Board members, where questions were welcomed on any ministry-related topic.

Yokefellow said goodbye to its last surviving founder, Rev. Jerry Dwight Murray. In 1964, Rev. Murray, along with John Kale and John Spillman, went to Pennsylvania for a Yokefellow retreat and were so impressed that they brought the Yokefellow model and dream back to North Carolina. They launched the first Yokefellow meeting in a NC prison in 1969 and incorporated the ministry in 1972.




Faithful
FRIENDS

Yokefellow launched a new donor campaign called **Faithful Friends** in tribute to Rev. Murray, who considered Yokefellow volunteers to be “faithful friends” of those who are or have been incarcerated. Donors who pledge to donate at least \$10 a month beginning in 2021 will be designated a **Faithful Friend** of the ministry.

889
Average # of inmates served weekly

231
Average # of volunteers ministering weekly

67%
of NC prisons have active ministries

3
evenings/week Virtual Aftercare offered

1
active in-person aftercare program

37
NC prisons with active ministries

**Prison Ministry statistics from January through March 2020, before prisons closed to volunteers due to COVID-19.*

Thank you to all of our 2020 Local Coordinators & Backup Coordinators for their tireless service. We appreciate you!

Avery-Mitchell: David & Alice
Houser

Bertie: Howard Hoggard

Butner: Ruth Poole & Rob
Ferry

Carteret: Ross Beebe & Buff
Chalk

Columbus: Curtis Shaw

Craggy: Robert Towe &
Robert Vaughan; Nancy
Trepes

Craven: Ricky Durham & Hugh
Howard

Cumberland Detention Center:
Mickle Mitchell

Davidson: David Bush &
Robert Foster

Eastern: Esther Perara

Foothills: TBD

Gaston: Wilfort Powell

Greene: Charles Pierce

Greensboro Aftercare: Val
Follo & Wesley Richmond

Harnett: Collett Davis & Willis
Martin

High Point Aftercare:
Pastor Kelvin Sellers

Hyde: Bill VanStaalduinen &
Barbara Stanley

Lincoln: TBD

Lumberton: Bishop Ford, Jr.

Marion: James O'Neal

Maury: Clara Murray & Henry
Williams

Morrison: Roberta Wilkes

Mountain View: David Bickel

Nash: Ken Ripley

NCCIW: Ebony Michelle Smith

New Hanover: James Dykes &
Clayton Williams

Orange: Janie Glasgow

Pamlico: Grosvenor Barber

Pasquotank: Al & Carol
Humbert

Piedmont: Eric Beaver

Polk: Bill Boyle

Randolph: Richard Lundy

Sampson: Thira Peterson

Sanford: Charles Green

Scotland: Christopher Mitchell

Southern: Paula Varner

Swannanoa: Cady Waddington

Tabor: Daisy Brooks

Virtual/Mondays: Ken Ripley &
Malia GoPaul

Virtual/Tuesdays: Steve
Ritchey & Ricky Durham

Virtual/Thursdays: Rob Ferry &
Moe Jones

Wake: Josephine Drayton

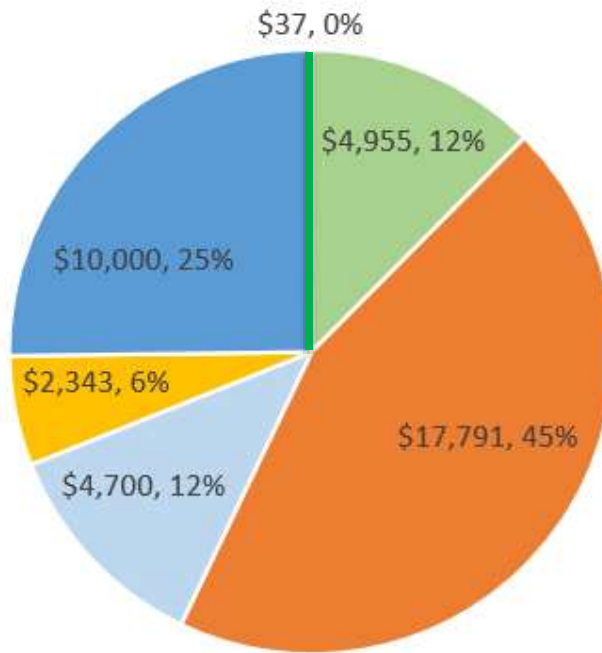
Wilkes: Frank Shealy



Donor Highlights

In 2020, Yokefellow Prison Ministry received \$63,406.20 in cash donations.

Cash Contributions 2020

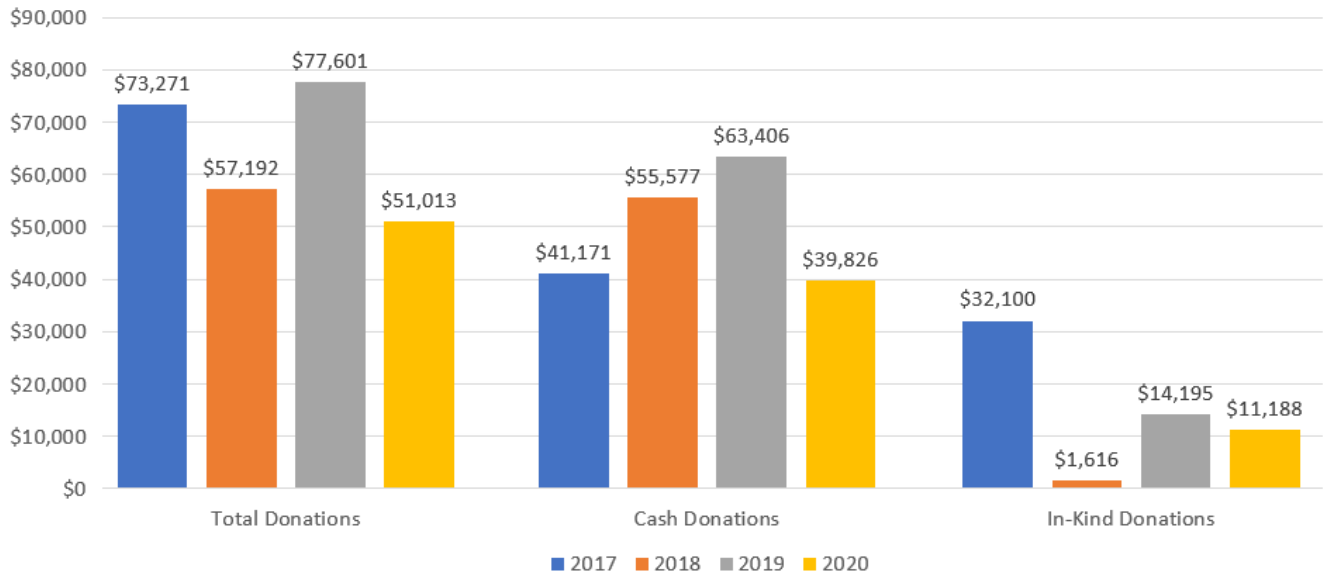


■ Board Members ■ Individuals ■ Churches ■ Denominations ■ Foundations ■ Other

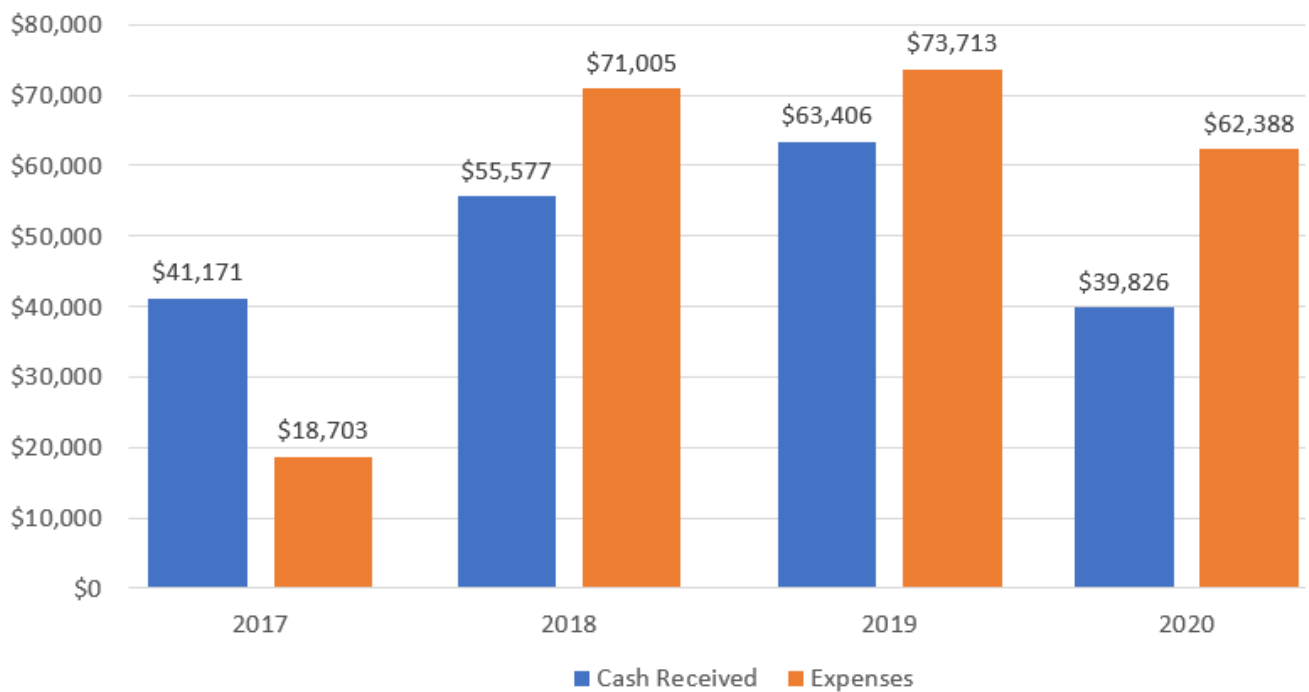
2020 Donations by Month



Donation Trends 2017-2020

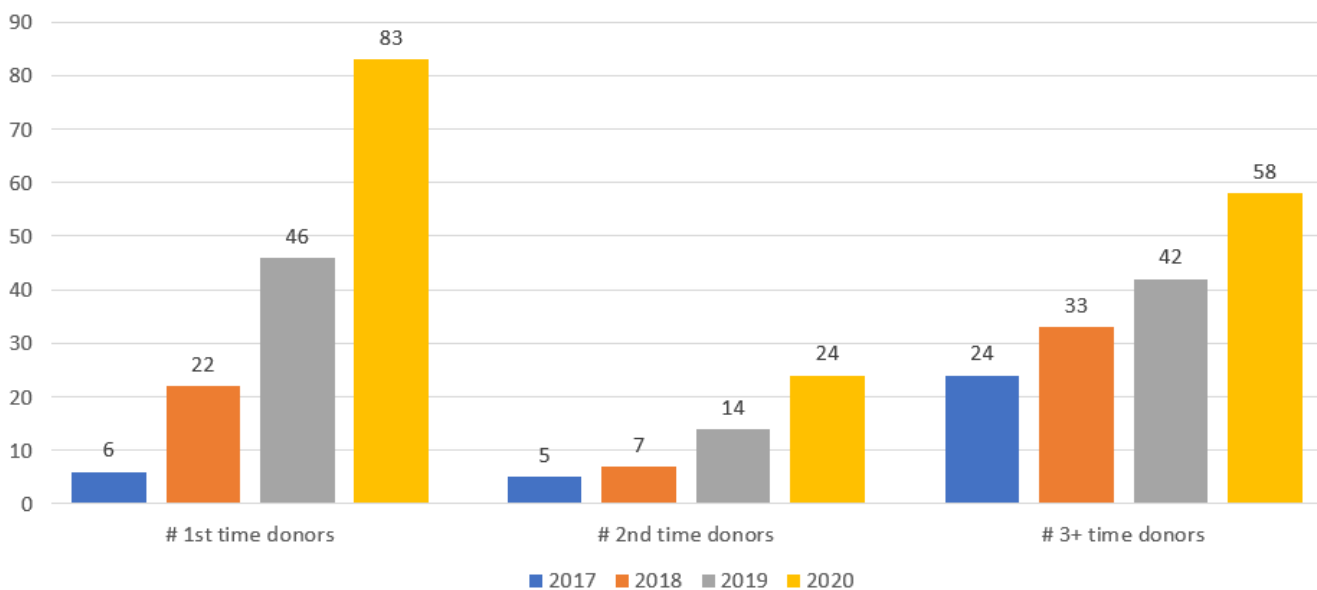


Cash Received versus Expenses 2017-2020

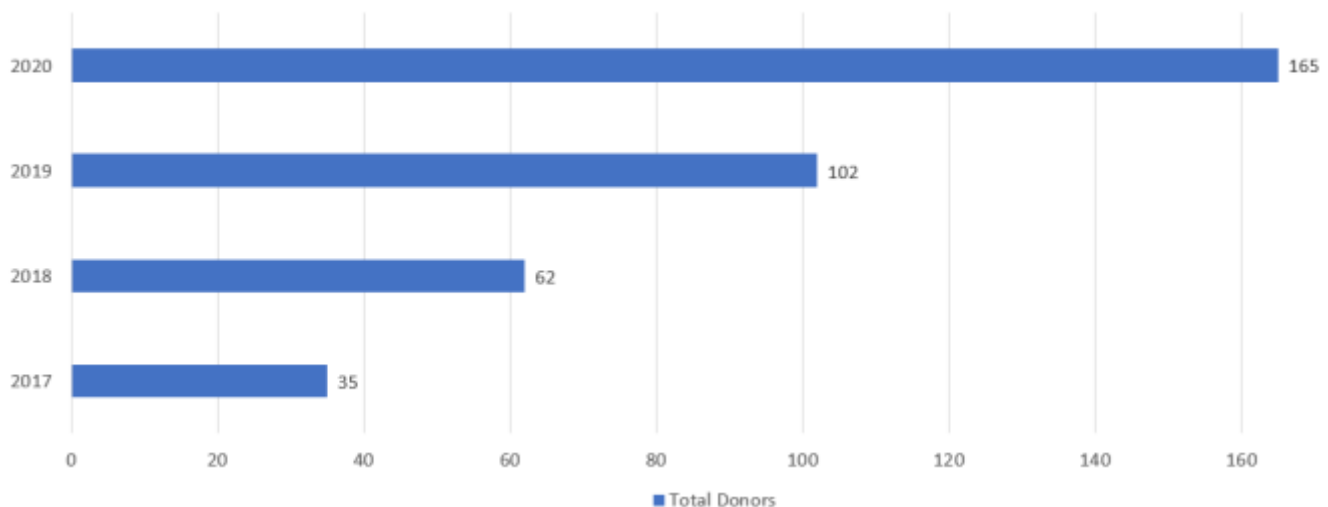


Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the donor base for Yokefellow Prison Ministry continued its upward trajectory, growing exponentially since 2017, when a mere 35 donors supported the ministry financially. Total donors more than quadrupled from 2017 to 2020, with 165 total donors providing financial support in 2020. The number of *first-time* donors in 2020 exceeded *total* donors in 2018 and more than doubled *total* donors in 2017. Repeat donors also increased. Second time donors grew from 5 in 2017 to 24 in 2020, nearly a 5x increase. The number of 3+ time donors more than doubled from 2017 to 2020, with 58 donors supporting Yokefellow for a third time or more in 2020.

New & Repeat Donors 2017-2020



Total Donors 2017-2020



Thank you to all of our 2020 Donors. Yokefellow Prison Ministry could not continue without your support!

Steve & Phyllis Ade	Wayne & Peggy Dodson	Home Moravian Church
Allegra Printing	June Farmer Doyle	Eva Horne
Vita Alligood	Priscilla Durkin	Billie Houston
Amazon Smile Program	Renee Easter	Earl & Susan Hudson
Anonymous Donors	Efland United Methodist Church	Sandy Huffman
Stephen & Patricia Anthony	James Elliott	Al & Carol Humbert
Arapahoe UMC	Elizabeth Fenwick	Hyde Prison Ministry
Edward & Darlene Armstrong	Rob & Kathleen Ferry	Jonathan & Alisa Jerkins
Barbees Chapel Miss'y Baptist	Kyle & Elizabeth Fishbaugh	Eric Joerger
Elizabeth Barker	Alexander Folsom	Paul Jones
Miriam Bartley	Vicki Forest	Dot Kibler
Robert & Barbara Bays	Dee Anne Fortescue	KLOVE Radio
Roland Bell	Kristen Foster	Robert & Margaret Lassiter
Boyd Bennett	Polly Fuller	Debra Latham
Cynthia Billings	Gloria Galloway	Loveta Lewis
Theresa Blount	Gibson Memorial UMM	Chris & Christy Long
Keith & Barbara Boulware	Frances Gladden	Marvin United Methodist Church
Martha C. Bowen	Carlton Gooding	Richard McBride
Dottie Brogdon	Paul Grass	Ed McMichael
Patience Brumley	James & Margaret Greenwood	Marion McNeal
Gary & Janis Burger	Greg Gregory	Audrey Midgette
Julia Burke	Angela Griffin	Lorena Mills
Frank & Nancy Cagle	Grove Park Baptist Church	Leon & Yvette Morrow
Gary & Emily Cagle	David Guion	David & Linda Morton
David & Jeanne Canady	Loretta Gurkin	Gayle Mull
Mary Elizabeth M. Causey	Glenn & Phyllis Hajnos	Nancy Murray
Cemala Foundation	Phillip Hare	Jane Mutnansky
William Clark	Cheryl Harris	NC Conference of the UMC
George Coates	Carol Hartis	Elizabeth Neal
Steve Couch	Hewlett-Packard	Beth Neill
Eli Davis	Hickory Grove UM Men	Greg Nesmith
Barbara Dickinson	Chris Holland	New Sharon United Methodist Church
Jean Dinkins	Page Taylor Hollar	North Raleigh UMC

Thank you to all of our 2020 Donors. Yokefellow Prison Ministry could not continue without your support!

Office Depot	SalesForce Dewey & Rebecca	Trinity United Methodist Church
Roberta Painter	Sawyer	Paul Triulzi Jeremy & Margaret
Sue Pak	Joe Sellers	Troxler
Bruce & Jean Pate	Kelvin Sellers	Sylvia Tyndall
Cassidy Pate-Moore	Frank Shealy	Anne Tyner
Robert & Brenda Payne	Claudia Sheppard	Richal Vanhook
Esther Perara	Calvin & Addie Shipman	Martin Vanstaalduinen
Paula Perkins	Gloria Simpson	Wesley Wachtel
Douglas & Suzanne Poorman	Anita Smith	Keith & Cynthia Wagner
Sudeepthi Prakash	Jeremy Smith	Dean Walker
Private Foundation	Melvin & Mary Speight	Jean Ward
Gary & Barbara Radcliff	St. Luke Pent'l Healing Temple	Kathleen Wehlitz
Michele Rainey	Mark Stallings	Bert Weidle
Michael Randall	David Stanford	Linda Weisthal
Richard J. Richardson	Staples	Gordon Welles
John & Denise Richter	Daniel Steinert	Western NC Conference UMC
Ken & Vickie Ripley	Rene Stephenson	Connie Whitney
Steve Ritchie	Stone PC Works	Katie Williamson
Cathy Robertson	Judy Sullivan	George & Sheila Wright
Holly Rossi	Tabernacle Baptist Church	Kim Wright
Joshua Rumley	Julie Taylor	Zion Hill UMC



Continue
to remember
those
in prison as if
you were
together with
them in prison.
~ Heb. 13:3a



Looking Ahead

The theme of 2021 is **PIVOT**. The ministry's focus on **UNITY** in 2018 helped solidify its foundation, which was followed in 2019 by **DIVING IN**, as Yokefellow spent less time shoring up its foundation and more time expanding its ministry. The theme of 2020 was **EXPANSION** as Yokefellow Prison Ministry planned to launch two new prison ministries and two more in-person aftercare ministries, assess the effectiveness of its prison ministry on reducing the recidivism rate, and build its sustainable funding base ... and then COVID-19 struck.

In 2020, Yokefellow Prison Ministry faced the unprecedented challenge of all NC prisons closing indefinitely to volunteers beginning in March. How can a prison ministry continue to operate without access to people in prison? Yokefellow turned its attention to the area of greatest need within the criminal justice system during the pandemic – to those being released from prison and transitioning back into society. God led the ministry to launch a new initiative called Virtual Aftercare, which provides the Yokefellow model of ministry to returning citizens using the Zoom platform. This enables returning citizens to receive support three nights a week using the Internet or a landline telephone, which removes barriers such as pandemic restrictions and transportation needs.

With the future uncertain in 2021, Yokefellow plans to **PIVOT**. Until the prisons reopen to volunteers, the ministry will continue building its aftercare ministry, adding more nights of support through its Virtual Aftercare program and launching more in-person aftercare programs in various parts of the State. Once the prisons invite volunteers back inside, Yokefellow will work with our volunteers across the State to assist in their return to prison ministry, including providing refresher training for all volunteers. Yokefellow will also build assessment strategies for its aftercare ministries and resume progress on prison ministry assessment once the prisons reopen to volunteers.

Please continue to hold Yokefellow Prison Ministry and those we serve in prayer.

Vita Alligood
Executive Director
May 24, 2021

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Full financial information is available upon request.

Donations & Disbursements

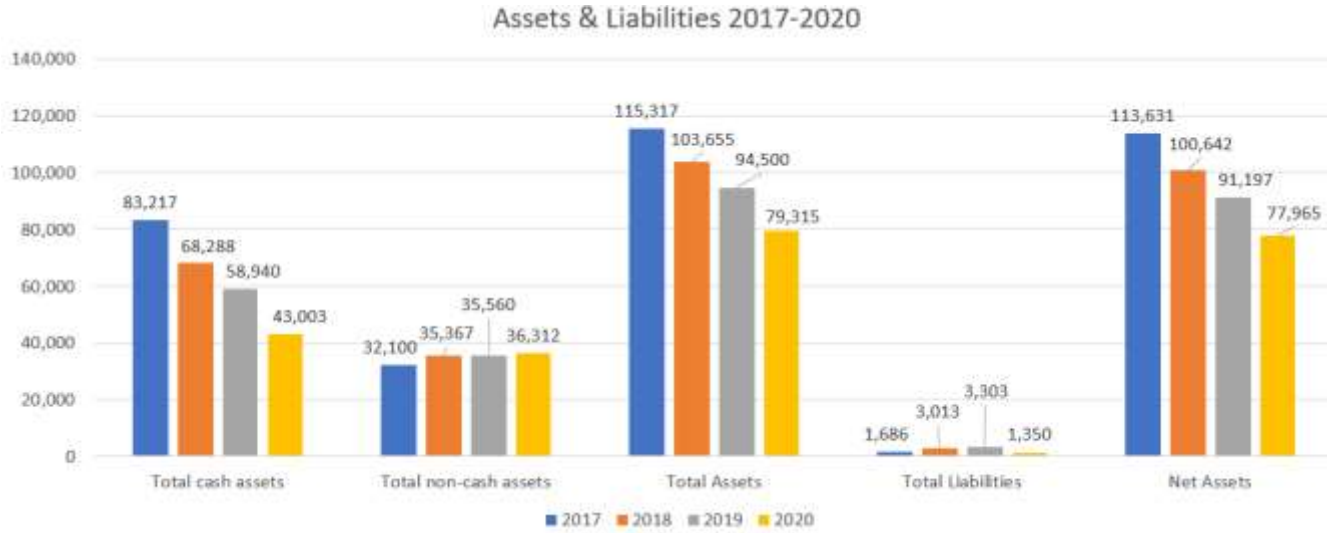
- Total 2020 cash donations = \$39,825.73¹
 - 2019 = \$63,406.20
 - 2018 = \$55,579.09
 - 2017 = \$41,171.00
- Total 2020 cash + in-kind donations = \$51,013.35
 - 2019 = \$77,510.77
 - 2018 = \$57,191.92
 - 2017 = \$73,271.33
- Total 2020 disbursements = \$62,387.95²
 - 2019 = \$73,712.70
 - 2018 = \$71,005.14
 - 2017 = \$18,706.32³

¹ This amount does not include a forgivable Paycheck Protection Act loan = \$8,600. Total cash received including this forgivable loan = \$48,425.73.

² In 2020, in-person trainings and launches of new in-person ministries were paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in a significant reduction in total disbursements.

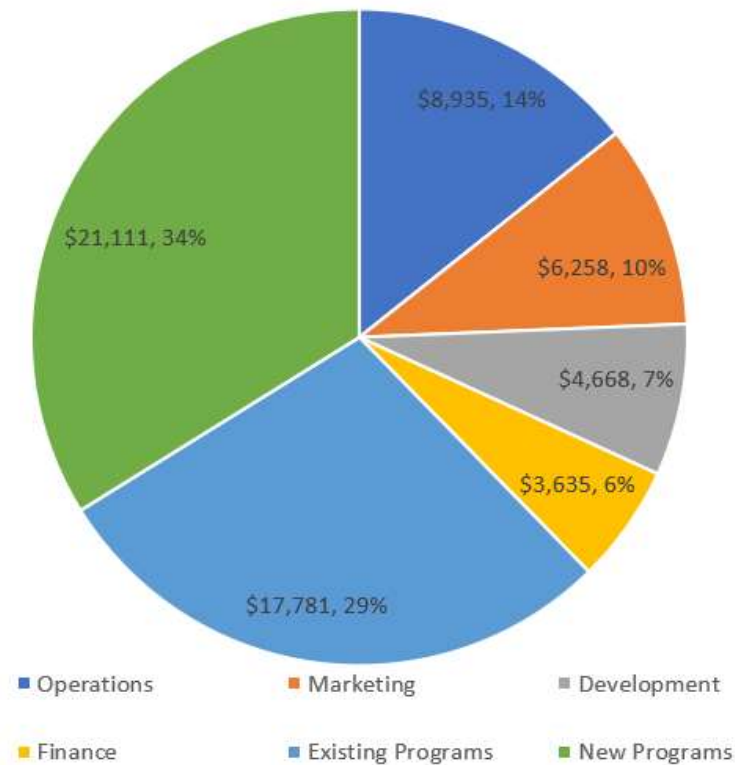
³ In 2017, the former Executive Director worked only 10 hours a week to cover the basics for the ministry from January through October while the Board of Directors conducted interviews for a replacement, so total disbursements were atypical.

Assets & Liabilities

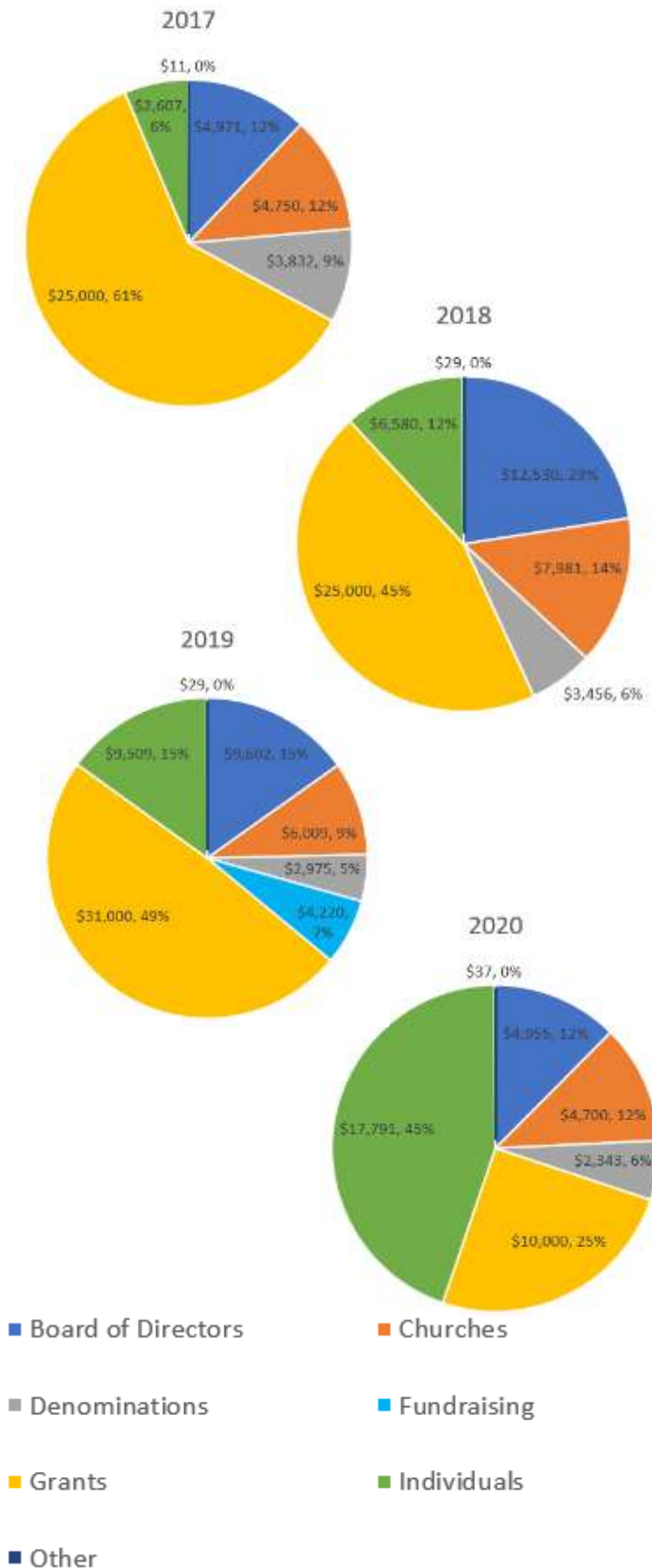


Expenditures

2020 Expenditures



Donor Trends



Individual Donor Base Growing

In 2017, donations by individual donors accounted for 6% of total donations received. In 2020, that percentage grew to 45%. The amount of funds given by individual donors has risen significantly, from \$2,607 donated by individuals in 2017 to \$17,791 donated by individuals in 2020.

Increased Individual Donor Support

In a year in which prisons were closed to volunteers due to the COVID-19 pandemic, donations received from individuals increased \$8,282, which was an 87% increase in donations by individuals from 2019 to 2020.

Decreased Funding from Churches & Denominations

Funding received from churches and denominations steadily declined from \$11,437 (2018) to \$8,984 (2019) to \$7,043 in 2020.

Decreased Funding from Foundations

Yokefellow Prison Ministry received its lowest amount of Foundation funding in four years, dropping from \$31,000 provided by foundations in 2019 to only \$10,000 in 2020.

LOOKING FORWARD

Expand Virtual Aftercare

Virtual Aftercare is currently offered on Zoom three nights a week for those transitioning from prison to society. Yokefellow would like to expand the reach of this ministry to seven days week so returning citizens have support available every evening. This ministry will continue even after prisons reopen to volunteers so returning citizens with health risks or transportation issues have access to Yokefellow support as they transition back into society, no matter where they live.



Launch More In-person Aftercare Ministries

Yokefellow plans to launch more in-person aftercare ministries in various parts of the State while complying with all applicable COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. The in-person aftercare ministry in High Point thrived even during the pandemic and will be used as a model for new launches.



Measure Program Effectiveness

Yokefellow Prison Ministry is working with a doctoral student at the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill to measure the effectiveness of its programs on reducing recidivism. Our efforts to assess the effectiveness of our prison ministry are paused while the prisons are closed to volunteers, but assessment measures will be designed and implemented for our in-person and virtual aftercare programs.



Resume Prison Ministry

Yokefellow prison ministry volunteers are eager to return to the form of ministry they are most passionate about. Yokefellow Leadership will notify volunteers when Yokefellow meetings are invited to resume in the prisons and will provide refresher training for all volunteers across the State. Please pray with us that this day will come soon!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- **Pray.** Ask God to guide Yokefellow Prison Ministry in serving inmates & returning citizens, their families, victims of crime, and prison chaplains and staff.
- **Volunteer.** Invite your friends to join you. Visit yokefellowprisonministry.org/who-we-serve to find the closest prison or aftercare ministry near you. Also consider participating in our Virtual Aftercare program or serving as a Prayer Warrior for the ministry, both of which you can do from home.
- **Donate.** Yokefellow relies entirely upon the grace of God and the generosity of churches, church people, and foundation grants for its financial support.

Thank you for all you do to support Yokefellow as we carry out God's mission of changing the attitudes, hearts, and lives of inmates and returning citizens across North Carolina.

Yokefellow Prison Ministry is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. All donations are tax-deductible.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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