

This report covers the year ending December 31, 2022.

We are thankful to be a servant agency to our beloved church and to the Elder Body.



ACCFS currently has 11 full-time staff (including 4 counselors, 3 church outreach teachers, 1 Elder Teaching Resource teacher, 2 front office staff, and an administrator) and 8 part-time staff (including 2 counselors, 3 church outreach staff, 2 front office staff, and 1 in housekeeping).

## 2022 Key Prayers & Opportunities

- **Need for Counselors** – We are thankful for trained counselors within the Apostolic Christian Church. The ACCFS clinical staff is stretched to meet the counseling needs within the denomination and makes referrals outside the agency when we lack capacity or specialties needed. We encourage both sisters and brothers to consider going into the counseling field. We appreciate knowing of individuals with potential interest in going into the field or who may be interested in working at ACCFS.
- **Sharing Helps and Resources**– ACCFS relies heavily on individuals sharing and forwarding our helps (resources) to others. We want to encourage this sharing of helpful resources with others. We have designed our website content to be easily sharable.
- **Discipleship Connectors** – We are working to identify and curate a group of Discipleship Connectors within the church who can serve as connection points between the resources of ACCFS and the needs of the local church. These individuals would support their local elder to champion the resources of ACCFS to the local church.
- **Resiliency of Staff** – Our staff are thankful for the opportunity to serve as we do. We love the work, and it also takes significant energy and stamina to fulfill. Please pray for the wellness of our staff members and their families. Pray for wisdom and attunement to the direction of the Holy Spirit in our work.

# Services in 2022

## Counseling

- For those in need of psychiatry services, ACCFS offers telepsychiatry provided by Aaron Plattner, MD, a brother in our Alto, MI, church. This service is available to those located in Illinois or Michigan. Having a high-quality psychiatrist who works from a Christian perspective is a great blessing. We sincerely appreciate Dr. Plattner's heart for serving people from our church family and his efforts to make this service available. Dr. Plattner performed more than **220 telepsychiatry sessions** in 2022.
- ACCFS provided referrals to qualified mental health professionals and specialized services near callers' home locations. This year we continued to expand and update our Referral Index. We are partnering with Elders and local church leadership to identify high-quality referral options near their location. Also, as increasing numbers of mental health professionals are using telehealth to deliver services, individuals have more options for receiving referrals for telehealth counseling within their home state.
- In 2022, ACCFS, along with the Eureka Home and AC LifePoints, offered the first round of scholarships to assist students planning to go into healthcare and social service fields. In 2022, ten individuals were offered the scholarship opportunity for a total of \$19,000. The scholarship is open to individuals residing in Illinois.
- ACCFS provides on-going consults and mentoring for those affiliated with our churches who are students or professionals in mental health-related fields.
- ACCFS provided **over 3000 Christ-centered counseling** sessions with approximately 455 clients from 65 churches. Our counseling sessions help clients work through issues such as depression, anxiety, OCD/scrupulosity, trauma, marriage, parenting and family relationship struggles, addiction, and adjustment issues.
- Approximately 62% of these sessions were through telehealth (voice and/or video calls with clients at their location).
- More than 730 inquiries came into ACCFS seeking information about mental health issues or relationship problems for themselves or others. This includes elders and ministers who called regarding ways they could support others who were struggling.

## Church Support

- There were **115 educational presentations and trainings** provided to members and ministers from different churches. Over 4,200 attended these presentations in their various venues.
- ACCFS continues to develop and offer video content for some of our communications. These include teaching videos for Courses, Counselor and Discipleship Moments (short teaching videos on key concepts), resource introductions, and awareness videos of our Events (Marriage Conference, Discipleship Conference, ABIDE Discipleship program).

## Online Services

- ACCFS has developed a series of online Courses in certain topic areas. These courses are offered to encourage discipleship as well as spiritual and emotional growth, and they can be used by individuals, those in mentoring relationships, or small groups. We offer **11 courses** today:
  - Individually paced courses: Identity, Emotional Intelligence, Biblical Decision Making, Basic Counseling Skills, and Emotional Regulation.
  - Mentor-driven courses: Way of Purity, Healing from Sexual Betrayal, and Telling Myself the Truth.
  - Small group courses: Lessons on Grief, Core 8: Building Vulnerable Community, and Sexual Integrity 1.2.3.
- We encourage you to explore ACCFS Courses for your own growth as well as the growth of others.
- ACCFS released **26 Breaking Bread podcasts** on various topics throughout the year. There are currently **187** podcast episodes available. To date, there have been over 350,000 downloads of these podcasts via AC Central, our website, and other venues, with an average of over 1890 downloads per episode.
- ACCFS held three additional **Minister Webinars** this year for AC Church ministers and wives. Since we have begun hosting minister webinars, we have conducted **17 total** ministers' /wives' webinars and over 257 ministers/wives from 86 different churches have attended at least one of these 17 webinars, with an average of 55 ministers and 40 churches per webinar.
- ACCFS resources continue to be shared via social media to increase access and availability. We currently have over **1,200 friends on Facebook** and over **1,300 followers on Instagram**.

# Special Events in 2022

- In February 2022, we held our annual **Cultivating Connections Marriage Conference** in Latty, Ohio. This event was conducted only in-person with the recordings being shared out on our website and AC Central afterwards. We had **150** individuals from 13 different churches attend the event and over 2700 downloads of the audio/video since the event.
- In April 2022, we held our annual Discipleship Conference in Morton, IL. The main sessions were also recorded and shared on the ACCFS website and AC Central. We had over 100 attendees from 27 different churches attend this in-person conference and over 1600 downloads of the audio/video since the event.
- The Elders Teaching Resource (ETR) continues to grow its offerings. There are now seven different courses available for ministers in the ETR minister curriculum, including its first in-person, regional offering which was piloted in Livonia, MI, in October. The ETR continues to work on several projects for the Elder Body. The Apologetics committee hosted their third Apologetics Conference in November in Washington, IL, with over 200 in attendance from 35 different churches. The videos of the Apologetics conference are available on the ETR website. Audio is available on AC Central.
- ABIDE discipleship – The ABIDE discipleship program launched in 2022 and offered its Discipleship Training program in Peachtree City, Georgia in May. Ten individuals from six different churches attended this three-week intensive program. ABIDE also partnered with HarvestCall for a one-week Short Term Missions pilot in July. This Short Term Missions program will be repeated three times in 2023.
- At the August Elder Meeting in Bluffton, ACCFS held a workshop with the Elders’ wives to support them in their important role.
- ACCFS supported a number of Regional Elder/Deacon meetings throughout 2022.

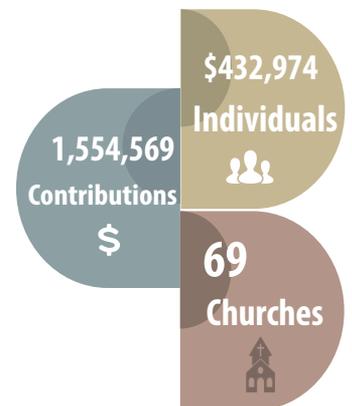
## Finances

Finances for operations were received from **69 Apostolic Christian churches**. Of the **\$1,554,569** received in contributions, \$432,974 of that amount came directly to ACCFS from individuals. ACCFS is greatly appreciative for the contributions, both from churches and from individuals.

ACCFS received funds from the National Brotherhood Fund to help cover expenses incurred from activities related to direct support of the national church. These expenses result from services such as Elder Body support, minister support, Breaking Bread podcasts, etc.

ACCFS received a generous grant from the Apostolic Christian Endowment Fund in 2022. This grant enabled ACCFS to upgrade our podcast recording studio, create a 4-cubical work area for mobile staff, and to resize some of our internal office space for improved workflow and efficiency.

Although some of the costs of operations are covered by client billings, these billings are based on a sliding scale that corresponds with the client’s annual household income. The average rate paid by clients was \$96.20/session, which is 74% of the full rate charge. The money received from billed services represents 23% of our total operating expenses. Thus, ACCFS relies heavily on contributions.



## Conclusion

In 2022, we grieved the loss of one of our Board members, Bro Denny Meyer (Indianapolis) to cancer. Bro Denny had such a joy about him and carried that joy into any room he entered. We are very thankful for the time he served the church on the ACCFS Board. He has been and will continue to be truly missed. Additionally, one Board member completed his term: Bro Ken Rinkenberger. We want to thank Bro Ken for his many efforts on behalf of ACCFS for many years. Bro Ken has served on the Board starting in 2012. He has been a diligent worker leading and supporting ACCFS over the years. Through Bro Ken’s time we were able to develop an ACCFS strategic plan and expanded our Counseling and Church Outreach. We will miss his services. In 2023, we welcome Bro Clint Dotterer (Denver) and Sis Amy Ekren (Morris) to the Board.

As always, we are thankful to God for His loving guidance, and we appreciate the support and encouragement provided by the Elder Body as well as the brotherhood.