

Raleigh's Place Annual Report

Living the Gospel by Loving the Fatherless.

2020

CONTENTS

03

A Word from our Executive Director

04

History & Mission of Raleigh's Place

05

Overview of Program Activity

08

Financial Report

10

Giving Thanks
Looking Forward

A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2020 was certainly a year filled with struggles and the unknown for everyone. Yet for us at Raleigh's Place, 2020 has been like most of the other years since the beginning of this ministry; years filled with challenges, heartaches, and uncertainties. I believe with all my heart that this is why our ministry has continued to grow because it is through each and every one of these times that we have looked to and relied on God to provide whatever was needed. Not only have we learned to seek Him but we have seen His faithfulness time and time again.

The year 2020 was a difficult year as we tried to do Camp 1:27 through Covid-19, yet we saw Christ introduced and work in the hearts of the children who attended. We were delayed for several months in opening our thrift store, Katie's Kloset, yet God has worked generously there in allowing it to be open and prosper. We had to postpone opening the housing part of the Workmanship Initiative due to Covid-19 and a hurricane that took off our roof. But God has provided a new roof and we already have a dozen young adults receiving life skills training and will add more in the coming weeks. We hope to begin renovations for the apartments soon!

I encourage each one of you to remember God's faithfulness in your lives and trust His plan and purpose even in the most uncertain times. We have certainly seen Him work miracles here. We thank all of you who have continued to support this ministry through your gifts and prayers. Your support is what enables us to continue to Live the Gospel by Loving the Fatherless.

Sharon King, Executive Director

HISTORY & MISSION OF RALEIGH'S PLACE

Raleigh's Place was created 20 years ago after the death of Raleigh, Tim (co-founder) and Sharon King's (executive director/co-founder) oldest daughter. Raleigh became ill as a toddler. This illness led to many other debilitating issues: mental retardation, physical disabilities, and seizures. The Kings thought they would spend the rest of their lives caring for Raleigh and were prepared to do so. One fateful night, however, God demonstrated that He had a different plan for the Kings' lives. Raleigh died in her sleep after struggling with a seizure. Devastated by this, the Kings did not know what to do. They sought counsel from friends, family, church members, and pastors. God eventually led them to a Bible verse that immediately gripped their heart: James 1:27 - "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world." (ESV) The Kings felt particularly called to care for orphans, thus the beginning of Raleigh's Place.

Raleigh's Place exists to live the Gospel by loving the Fatherless. We are a Christ-centered foster care ministry. Our desire is to impact the lives of foster children and families with the love of Christ. We serve Chilton and surrounding counties, providing homes, free summer camp and clothing, and education for children in need.

Since Raleigh's Place was founded, we have had over 300 foster children in our homes that have been cared for for varying lengths of time (we have also helped many of these children find forever homes, as well as recruited many families to become foster parents); we have served over 800 foster and adopted children and children in relative placements at Camp 1:27; we have provided clothing for over 500 foster children and families through Katie's Kloset; we have provided food for partner families on a weekly basis; and we have hosted several different foster parent training classes at our facilities. The Lord has enabled us to do all this debt free!

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY



Raleigh's Place has 3 foster homes on campus and several foster families in our area we consider partner families. Each of those homes has had foster children at some point this year; many with an increase in usual intake. Covid-19 increased the number of children in care in our county. For many of us, Covid has been an inconvenience but the sad reality for many children in our area is that they were forced to stay in homes where they were abused or neglected more frequently because everyone in the home was forced to remain home. We have opened our homes to foster children and provided food, clothing, furniture, and other items to foster families.



We are pleased to say that amid all the struggles of 2020 we were still able to have camp this year. Under Covid guidelines it looked a little different as we were only allowed a maximum of 40 kids each week. We had to have extra nurses for temperature checks and could not have large group activities like going to the lake. Being able to have camp even under strict guidelines was such a great blessing for us.

Our theme for this summer was “God Is.” We spent the week looking at what the Bible says about God, His character and attributes. What better time is there to study God than a worldwide pandemic? Our campers were able to examine Scripture to see that God cares for us, is involved in our lives, and is extraordinary. They also learned that God is not useless, distant, or just an angry old man looking to punish everyone. Our hope is that God used this time to draw campers to Himself so that they can have hope for this life and become followers of Christ.

One of the main goals of camp is to be involved in our campers’ lives every summer and when possible throughout the remainder of the year. It is so important for these children to have that consistent contact. Each constant in their life reduces the number of negative outcomes for children who are already at greater risk for unfavorable social outcomes. We are very grateful to all of you who helped make camp possible.



Katie’s Kloset, our thrift store ministry, opened May 1st. We have had a steady business and have continued to do repairs to the building. Covid has caused an increase in many of societies struggles therefore causing an increase in the number of children in care. Through the store we have been able to provide many, many children with necessary items such as: clothing, baby furniture, toys, and bicycles. We have also helped provide some young adults and single moms with much needed items for setting up their first apartments. All of these things are provided at no cost thanks to generous donations of items and funds. The additional items are sold in the store to fund our transitional living program and housing for older children and Camp 1:27.



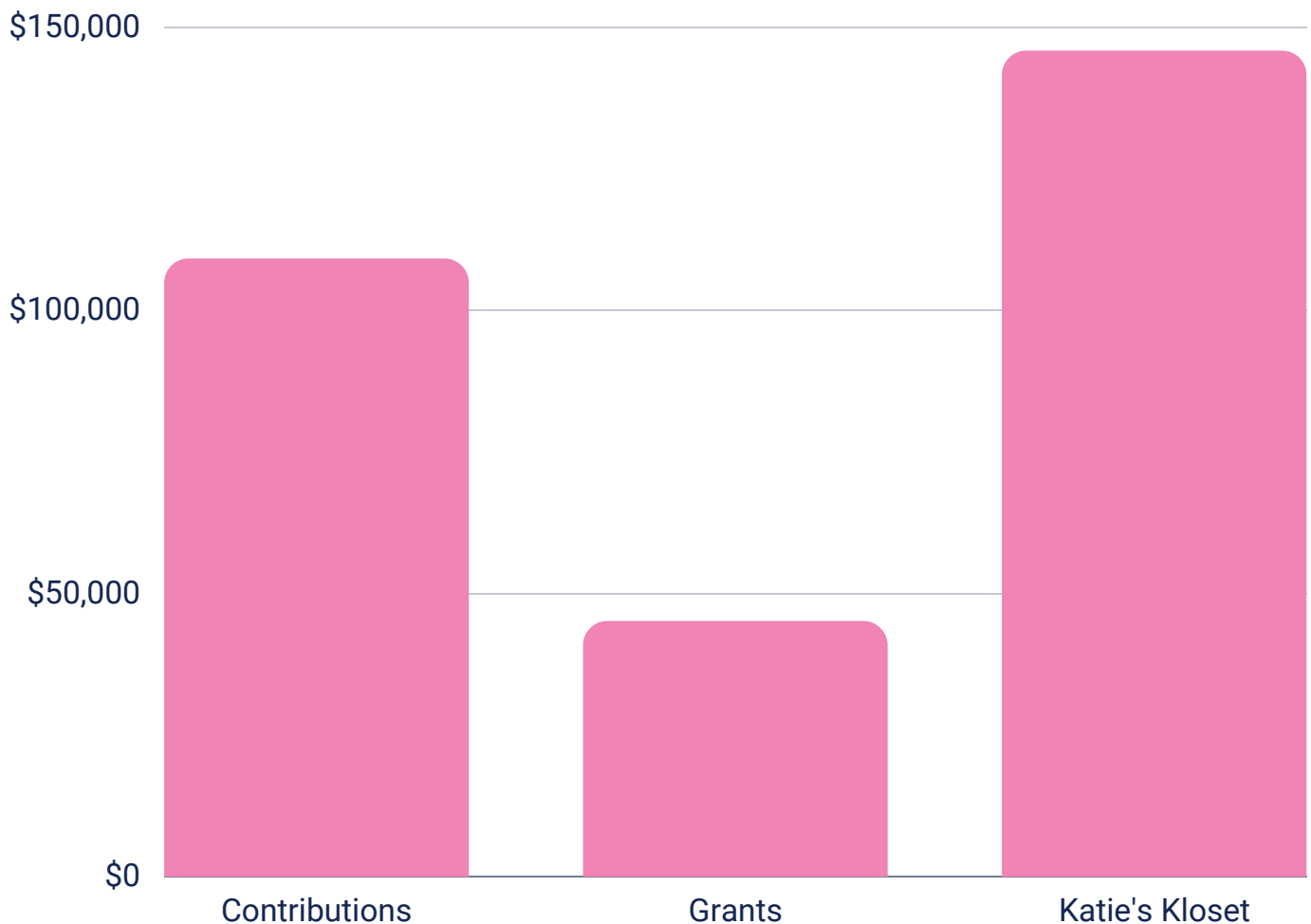
Workmanship Initiative

The Workmanship Initiative is designed to equip teenage foster children preparing to age out of care with the skills necessary to be self-sufficient adults. We will focus on four primary areas: Education, Life Skills, Job Training, and Job Placement. We began this program in July and currently have 10 teenagers enrolled. Our current focus is on teaching them basic life skills, setting career/educational goals, and working to meet those goals. We hope to expand this ministry in the new year as we open up apartments to serve as transitional living for some of these teenagers.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

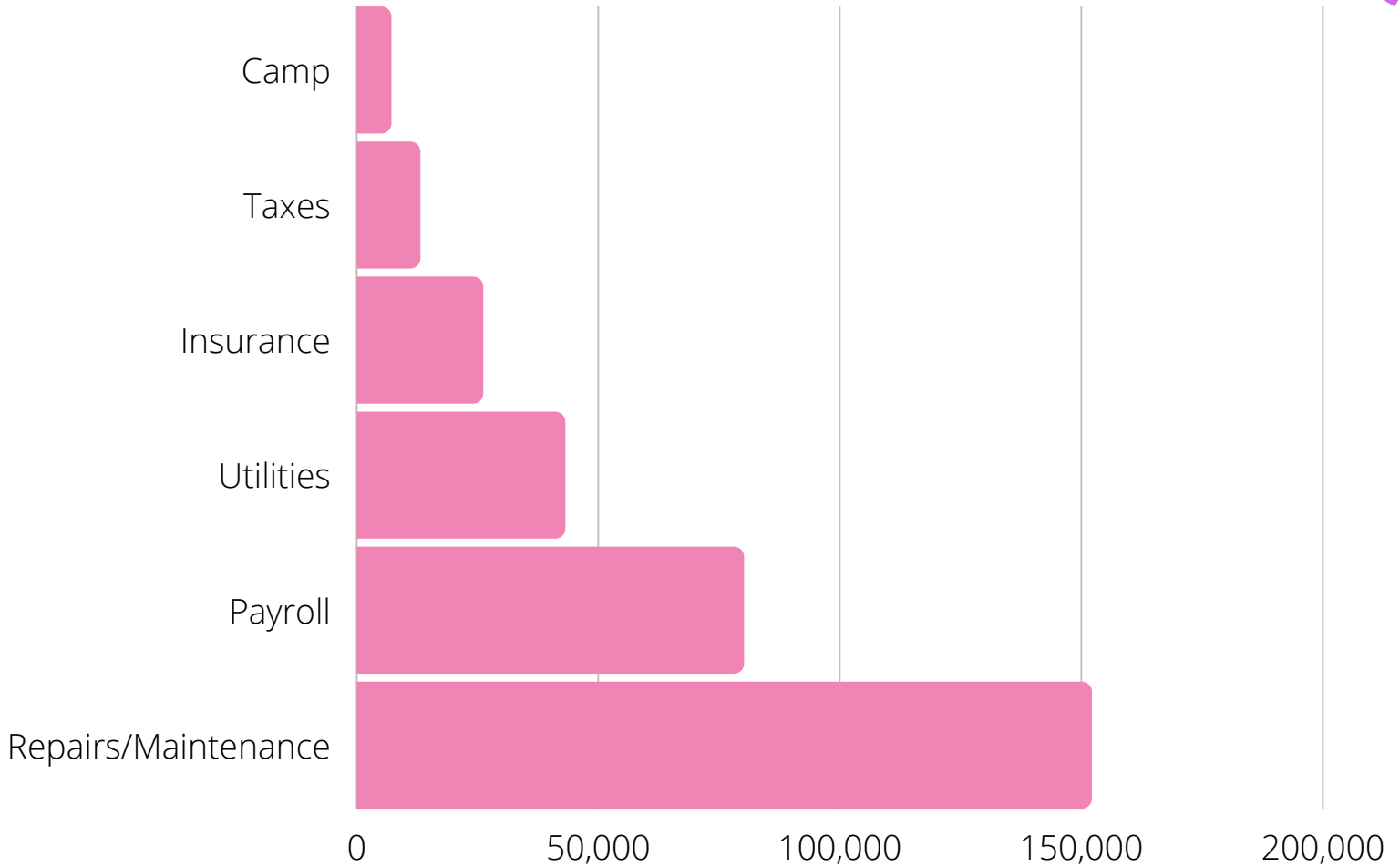
James 1:27

FINANCIAL REPORT: REVENUE



Financially, 2020 has been one of our greatest years ever! Even as Covid-19 has raged, our supporters have remained faithful to the ministry; we were blessed with several grants; and Katie's Kloset has brought in a great amount of income for us. Unfortunately we had to cancel our biggest fundraisers for the year yet God still provided all that we needed to continue Living the Gospel by Loving the Fatherless through our programs.

FINANCIAL REPORT: EXPENSES



Our biggest expenses for 2020 can be seen above. Nearly 50% of our expenses went towards building renovations, repairs, and supplies. Much of this building expense was at our thrift store Katie's Kloset. It needed many updates to make it a suitable thrift store building. Payroll was our second biggest expense as we hired many new employees at Katie's Kloset as well as began paying our program directors. Our Camp 1:27 expenses were less than half of what they usually are since we had to limit our camp numbers so severely.

GIVING THANKS & LOOKING FORWARD

As we move into 2021, we look forward to what the Lord is going to accomplish this year. Before we get to some of our plans and goals we want to take a moment to thank everyone who has helped us get where we are today.

One term that so many organizations use to describe their most faithful supporters is "Champion." A champion is someone who fights or defends a cause. That certainly describes all of you who faithfully contributed to Raleigh's Place this year. You are Raleigh's Place Champions. The amount of support you gave us in the midst of a global pandemic and civil unrest is nothing short of a miracle. We are so thankful for you and hope you continue to partner with us as we seek to Live the Gospel by Loving the Fatherless.

2021 is poised to be a momentous year for Raleigh's Place. We are working to create an official Raleigh's Place families program that will serve to help feed, clothe, and train foster parents to love and serve their families in a Christ-like manner. We hope to have an announcement with details in the coming weeks.

Assuming we do not have another pandemic, Katie's Kloset will be open for business an entire year. This will be a tremendous revenue stream to help fund all of our efforts.

This summer will be our 10th year of Camp 1:27. We also expect to hit a milestone by surpassing the 1,000 campers served! We are actively recruiting staff members to serve with us this summer. Please visit our website for more information, to apply as a staff member, or register your children for camp.

We hope to begin renovating our apartments for the Workmanship Initiative living facility very soon. Lord willing, we will begin housing residents this spring.

A disc golf course will be installed on campus at Raleigh's Place this spring. We hope to host tournaments as fundraisers when we complete the installation. This will also be used by our families and campers as they enjoy the sites of Raleigh's Place and a growing sport!

Our annual fundraisers will hopefully return this year so we can celebrate with all of you in person.

Please be in prayer for Raleigh's Place. There is much work to do to serve the fatherless. If you want more information about how you can be even more involved at Raleigh's Place in 2021, please contact us. We would love to have you on board!