



**INSTITUTE for
YOUTH STUDIES**



2023 Annual Report

Forwarding Grace
Around the Globe

Forward Grace!

Assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you

Ephesians 3:2

Dear friends,

Thank you for helping us **forward grace** around the globe!

In his letter to the Ephesians, the Apostle Paul mentioned, "the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me **for you**" (3:2). Having radically experienced the grace of God, Paul was now entrusted to steward and forward grace. As Christians, the same is true for us today.

As you read our 2023 Annual Impact Report, you'll discover we've faithfully stewarded the trust you've placed in us as you **prayed, partnered, and passed the word on** about IYS.

By intentionally investing in youth ministry influencers (leaders of national and global ministries) we connected with and cared for leaders around the world. These collaborative friendships allowed us to create strategic and relevant solutions to exponentially impact global youth ministry.

Indeed, because of your support and the Holy Spirit's leading we've forward grace so that more of the world's 2 billion youth may come to know Christ and make Him known! On behalf of our team and ministry partners, thank you.

Forwarding grace,



Mark

Rev. Dr. Mark Andréson

Executive Director

The Institute for Youth Studies

www.iyouthstudies.org



Read our **2024** theme

Mission

The Institute for Youth Studies exist to encourage, equip, and empower global youth ministers.



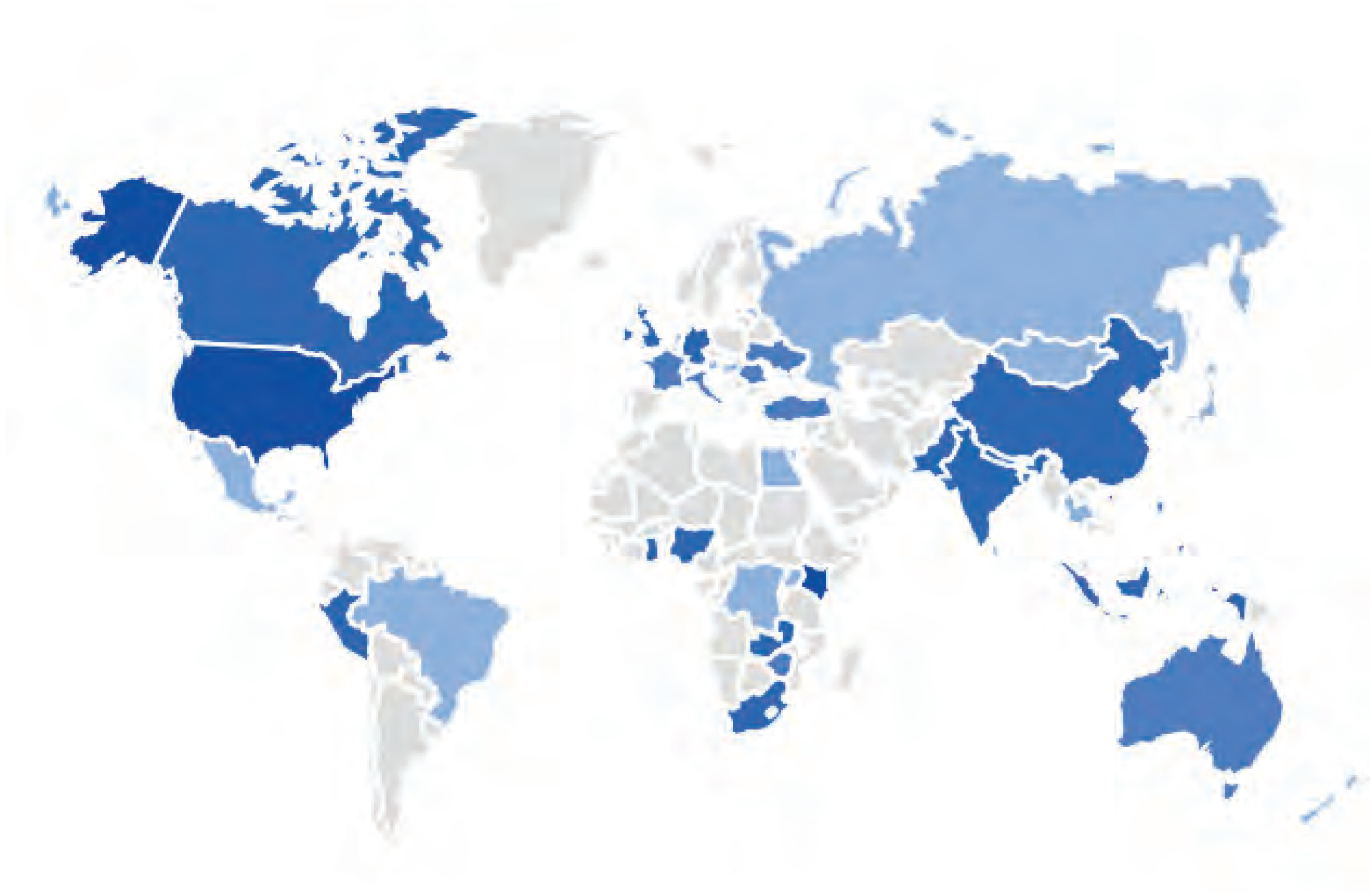
Approach

We *care* for and *collaborate* with youth ministry influencers to create relevant and strategic solutions which *contribute* to the local church's ongoing ministry to and through youth.

Vision

By God's leading and local partnerships, IYS will help others establish strategically positioned, self-sustaining teams to encourage, equip, & empower thousands of youth ministers who will impact countless youth around the globe.





Impact

Through our unique approach to global youth ministry, we encouraged, equipped, and empowered fifty national, multi-national, and global-level youth ministry influencers and organizations (YMI/O) in 2023. We estimate a minimum of 1,000 youth are impacted through one YMI/O.*

Australia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, Rwanda, Scotland, South Africa, Turkey, U.K., USA, Western Samoa, & Zambia

50. **YMI/O**
encouraged, equipped, and empowered

22. **Countries**
impacted across the globe

52. **Nations**
engaged our website

* Many of our clients and partners have influence with tens of thousands of youth

“You are an answer to my prayer. I am grateful for you becoming the catalyst, and coaching my life to accomplish what God has called me to.”
Kihu, AOG, Kenya

“Thank you for reminding me that we serve an amazing God. Let’s dream and work together.”
Ashish, WEA, India

“God used you to encourage me a lot in the path I was to take regarding the assignment God had given to me. Thank you.”
Kwesi, E.Y.O, Ghana

Initiatives

We connect, care, collaborate, and create through strategic project and partner initiatives.



Networking

We connected, cared, and/or collaborated with **forty-six national, multi-national, and global-level youth ministry influencers** from youth movements, networks, denominations, and parachurch organizations. This networking encouraged leaders toward greater synergy and momentum.

"Having someone mirror things for me is so extremely helpful. It was so impactful and generous! IYS is incredibly generous with their time and resources and have worked with some remarkable ministries already."

Evi, LeadNow, Germany



Care

43 benevolence gifts (such as goodies, appreciations, funeral support, couple's care, medical care, transportation assistance, and Christmas gifts for kids) were given to **18 youth ministry influencers in 10 countries**.



Inspire

We love helping friends piece together the visions God places on their hearts. Through consulting, coaching, and strategic support services we empowered & equipped **nine ministry leaders** to start, strengthen, scale, and/or sustain transformational impact.

From introductory to advanced levels of support our collaboration and creation of custom solutions encouraged national-level leaders from Ghana, Kenya, Nepal, Pakistan, and Zambia. Furthermore, we helped continent-level leaders from Europe and Africa as well as two different global-level leaders.

Inspire Highlight



Your faithful support helped our partners, GLDZ, inspire more Zambian youth to high hopes by offering immediate, lasting, and eternal hope. In several areas, this initiative saw double to triple growth in 2023!

Immediate hope was provided through menstrual health and hygiene training and essential toiletries, such as washable cloth sanitary pads for girls and shaving razors and toothbrushes for boys.

Lasting hope was provided through character training, interactive games, and fun Bible teaching meant to empower youth to know their identity is determined by their Creator, not their circumstances (Eph. 2:8-10).

Eternal hope was provided through the sharing of God's good news and His wonderful plan for young lives.

Pray for us as we help our partners launch the Hope Hub, a multi-hope facility, to expand the life changing work of HyHOPES.



1,063

Girls, boys & teachers received toiletries & training



2,196

Students experienced character training and fun Bible teachings



400

Youth put their trust in Jesus Christ

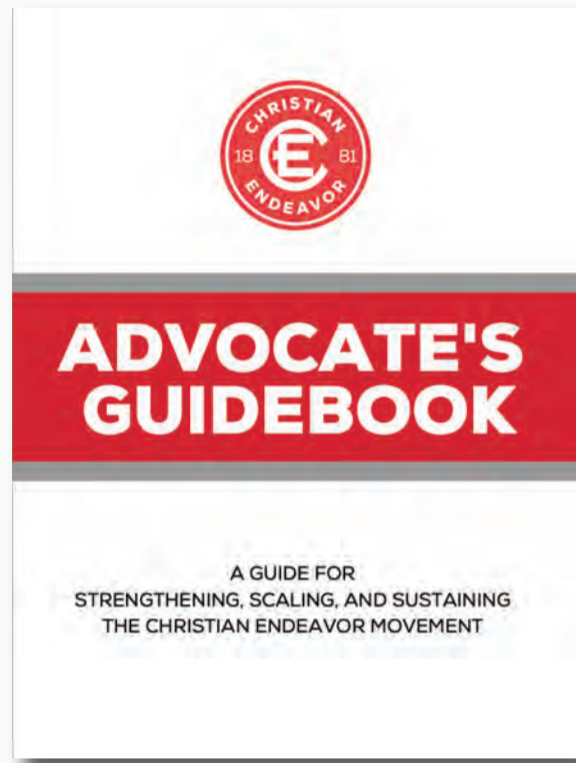


100's

Of teens received prayer & crisis counseling

Initiatives

Advance



From communication aids, growth strategies, action reports, and training materials, God helped IYS create 76 custom tools and solutions for our partners to **exponentially advance the cause of Christ.**

Our largest partner was Christian Endeavor (CE), a global youth ministry movement with interdenominational affiliate churches in 50 nations. The Advocate's Guidebook helps churches start and strengthen biblical based youth ministries. Already, youth ministers from **17 nations have utilized this dynamic training guide;** one of which adapted the material to train 168 ministers, in Ghana! Please pray for our partnership with CE as we equip them with a trainer-of-trainer model to see more CE Advocates align with its purpose and principles, advance its practices, and amplify their passion for ministries of committed and engaged youth.



76.

Custom Resources Created



"It's amazing. It's awesome!!!!!"
Dave, World Christian Endeavor

"It puts words, thoughts, and direction to the idea of a successful ministry. This book is great. Make it available to as many as possible."
training participant



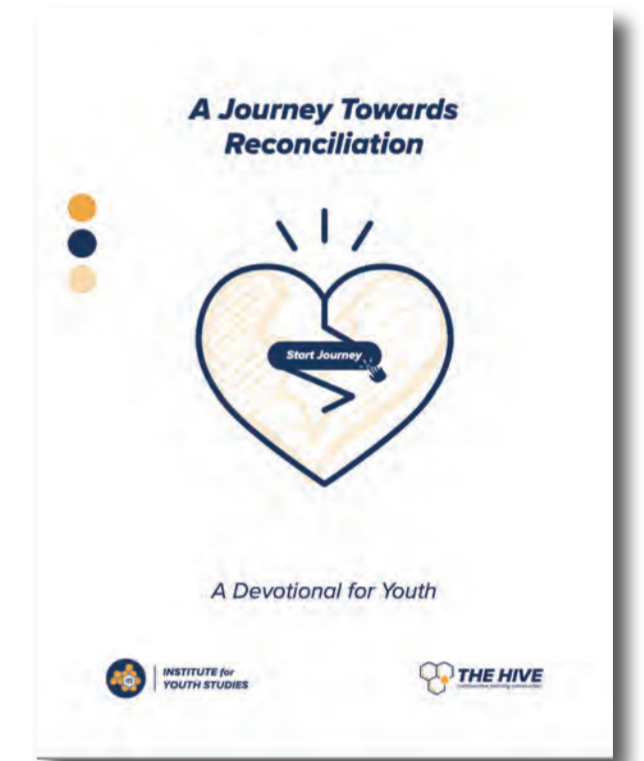
Grab your free copy of the **Advocates Guidebook**



The Hive

Our passion for **intentional collaboration**, led us to launch the Hive initiative so more committed groups of youth ministers could intentionally discover and discuss then develop and deliver relevant resources & responses for youth to know Christ and make Him known.

Our latest Hive resource, **A Journey Toward Reconciliation**, was co-created with youth ministry influencers from Ghana, India, Kenya, and Zambia. Using the biblical story of Philemon and Onesimus, this resource takes youth on a journey of reconciliation which helps them **recognize** their value, **renew** through forgiveness, **rebuild** relationships, and **reach out** to foster friendship with those who need the transformative love of Christ. It has already been downloaded by youth and youth ministers around the globe.



"This is an answer to prayer...I am all in."
Santes, The Wesleyan Church (USA)



In 2023 we created our first **Hive Handbook**, a guide for facilitators to intentionally collaborate using our 4-D Method. We believe it will help collaborators **move from information and inspiration to application and activation!** This resource is now available online for free digital download. Please pray for The Hive, especially our group consisting of U.S. youth directors who are collaborating on the **YL Handbook** (due out in 2024).

"Pakistan is a country going through unrest and chaos nowadays. We will be using the tool to promote peace among youth."

Pakistan

"I'm interested in this resources because it offers insights into healing and forgiveness, helping you to better understand yourself and others. It also promotes unity and a sense of community, which is important for personal growth and societal progress."

Philippines



Grab your free copy of the **Hive Handbook**

Partnership

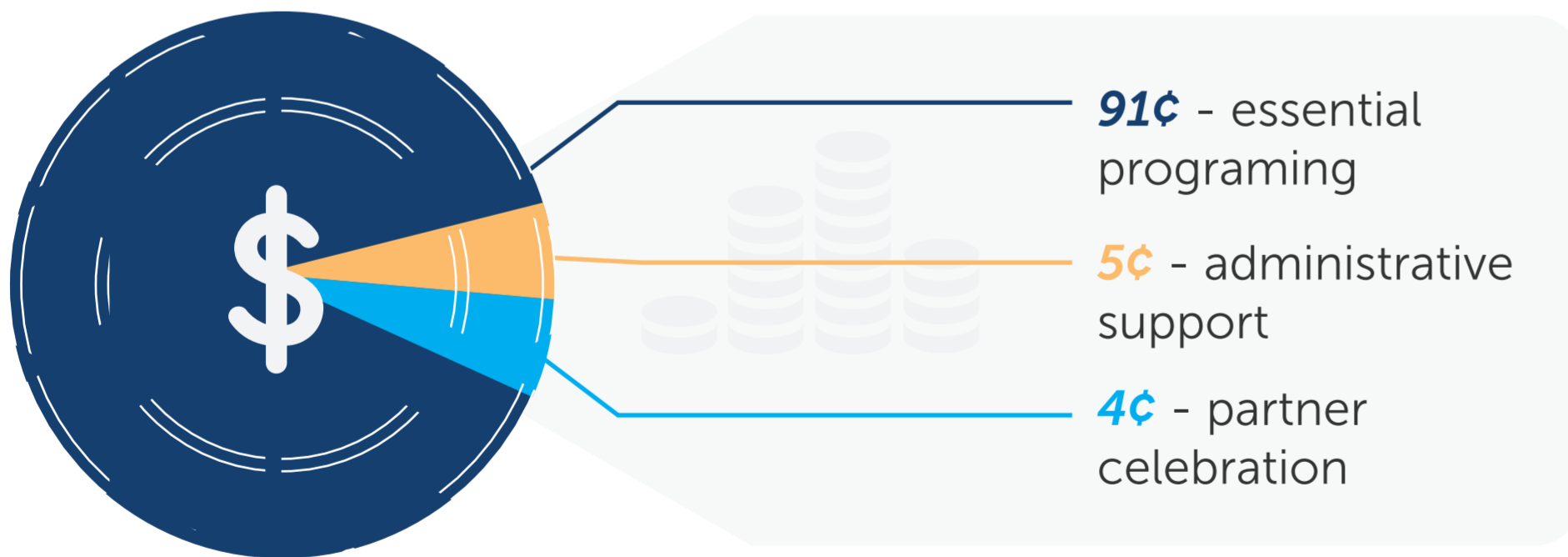
In 2023 God was faithful, and so were you. High inflation, missed grants, and decreased donations put us on a trajectory to finish the year with a 22% deficit. By God's grace, **the Holy Spirit helped us steward resources** and we were able to finish the year better than expected. Thank you to all who gave and increased your monthly financial support. Thank you to the many who volunteered time and talents; you helped carry a heavy load. Prayer partners, keep beseeching the throne of grace on our behalf, we need it. If you're new to IYS or want to increase your support you can do so here. Together, let's forward grace.

 **> 650 Prayer partners**
Helped us align our vision with God's heart.

 **> 74 Giving partners**
Helped us amplify the message of God's eternal hope.

 **> 17 Volunteer partners**
Helped us advance our mission for God's glory.

As a result of your generous **prayers, partnership, and passing the word on**, we were able to exponentially forward grace around the world. Thank you for trusting us to steward your resources for God's glory.



What our **prayer** and **financial** partners say...

"We are excited to be in partnership with you."
Pastor Jordan B., church giving partner.

"It's truly amazing to see all that your ministry is doing. Thank you for being faithful to that call."
Jesse M., giving partner

"Keep up the good work and God bless you."
Linda B., giving partner



Partner with IYS through giving

Pray. Partner. Pass it on.



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