



ANNUAL REPORT

2022



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This annual report is up to date as of December 31, 2022.

Letter from The Executive Director & Chairman of The Board of Directors

Hello Ezekiel Ministries Family!

More than ten years ago, through your generosity, Ezekiel Ministries began its impact in one of the hardest places in Columbia. Since then, Ezekiel Ministries has grown from a tiny ministry serving one neighborhood to a ministry that has helped dozens of local churches serve children throughout the Midlands and increase the impact of the Gospel more than we ever could have imagined. We believe we are just getting started!

As you hear how the Gospel has changed the lives of many children and families through mentoring, we hope you will celebrate with us! We also hope that after you rejoice, you'll look forward to the work that is still undone.

You've been faithful to invest your time, your prayers, and your money into the mission of mentoring in the Midlands, and the fruit is starting to show. God has been preparing us to tackle bigger mountains, and we look forward to you continuing on this journey with us.

Please take a moment to look at the Ezekiel Ministries 2022 Annual Report and learn about the major impact members from the local church, like you, have made in the community through Ezekiel Ministries.

Our staff has supported over 79 mentoring matches from over 40 churches, served 115 kids in our After-School programs, and launched our third after-school site, White Knoll. The peer mentoring program was redesigned as EZE NextGen with a big vision for supporting adolescents in their journey to adulthood.

We've expanded our infrastructure by hiring a Director of Development, a Communications Director, and an Office Manager, helping us steward your resources well. This also prepares us for a season of growth as we work hard to continue helping local churches show up, listen, and guide children from hard places in the Midlands and beyond.

Thank you for helping us expand the reach of the local Church into the lives of those who need us the most!

In Christ,

Josh Whitlock, Executive Director



Casey Goodrich, Board Chair



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Mission, Vision & Values

OUR MISSION & VISION

Today's culture is brutal on families. When children don't receive enough quality time with loving adults, they can be lured into self-destructive behaviors.

Ezekiel Ministries partners with local churches to help recruit loving adult mentors who will make a long-term investment in children's lives.

As a result, children make better decisions, families grow stronger, and communities are forever changed.

Relationships change lives!

So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet - a vast army. - Ezekiel 37:10

OUR VALUES

**We Show up.
We Listen.
We Guide.**

[watch his story.](#)



Jaquaris' Story : Why Showing Up Matters



Jaquaris was one of the first students involved in EZE's after-school and mentoring programs. He and his mentor, Josh, were matched more than a decade ago. As an adult, Jaquaris recounts times he knew no one could show up, only to find his mentor in the crowd.

"We never knew that 15 years later...I could have never imagined it in my cards. Mentorship is just so strong."

2022 Board of Directors & Staff

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



SPARKY DOUGLASS

Former Treasurer
Former Board Member



CASEY GOODRICH

Board Chair



ALLEN HANCOCK

Board Member



BRIAN HARMON

Secretary



JEFF LAWSON

Treasurer



DESHAWN MITCHELL

Board Member



NIGEL TURNER

Former Board Member



JOSH WHITLOCK

Executive Director

2022 ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

EZE FARMS ADVISORY TEAM

DANIEL ANDREWS
TREMOM DAVIS
MARK HUMPHREY
WESLEY SAWYER, CHAIRMAN
BRETT VARNER
VIANNA VARNER, SECRETARY

AFTER-SCHOOL ADVISORY TEAMS

JILL EHRENCLOU
SHANE JOHNSON, INTERIM CHAIRMAN
BREONNA MEALING, SECRETARY
CAMERON MORTENSON
ZACHARY OHANESIAN
NIGEL TURNER
SAMANTHA TURNER

MENTORING ADVISORY TEAM

SALLY BROWN, INTERIM SECRETARY
ALLEN BRIDGERS
AARON DUPREE
GRANT GILLESPIE, CHAIRMAN
BEN GOODING
BRITTANY KIRKLAND
HEATHER PRICE
RANDI LYNN ROBERTS
GILL WEATHERS
STACY WILLIAMS

2022 FULL-TIME STAFF



SALLY BROWN

Director of EZE Mentoring



BRITTANY BURGESS

Office Manager



BRENT FOLKS

Director of NextGen
Youth Programs



SHELLY FULLER

EZE Mentor Coach



EMILY FORDREE

White Knoll
EZE After-School Site Director



JOSH LAICHE

EZE NextGen & Mentor Coach



SHANE JOHNSON

Director of
EZE After-School Programs



LOI LE

Downtown Lexington
EZE After-School Site Director



VIKTORIA MCKENNA

Director of Development



CATHERINE RICE

Downtown Columbia
EZE After-School Site Director



SHAYLA TABOR

Director of Communications



BRETT VARNER

EZE Farms Director



JOSH WHITLOCK

Executive Director

2022 EZEKIEL PART-TIME & PREVIOUS STAFF

AYMAAN ASLAM, PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, LEXINGTON
 SUNDY BRANHAM, PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, LEXINGTON
 JULIANNA COOK, PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, WHITE KNOLL
 NATYSIA DINGLE, PREVIOUS PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, LEXINGTON
 JOAN DOUGLASS, ADMINISTRATIVE VOLUNTEER
 SHAUN FORRESTER, PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, WHITE KNOLL
 GINA HANCOCK, PREVIOUS OFFICE MANAGER
 JOSHUA HICKS, PREVIOUS FARM ASSISTANT
 ANGELA JONES, PREVIOUS PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, DOWNTOWN
 ANTHEA JOHNSON, PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, LEXINGTON
 ALLYSON KEESLING, PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, WHITE KNOLL
 DESTINEE MCCRAY, PREVIOUS PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, LEXINGTON
 COREY SHEARER, PREVIOUS EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER AND MENTOR COACH
 MARIE WILLIAMS, PART-TIME EZE AFTER-SCHOOL TEACHER, DOWNTOWN
 JANET FREDRICK, PREVIOUS PEER MENTORING DIRECTOR



History & Timeline



Ezekiel Ministries began as a service project in 2009 in a low-income community called "The Gates."

The environment kids were growing up in was hard, and families found themselves in cycles of generational poverty. From the first time a young boy stuck his head in the window and said "What y'all doing?", we knew the renovation was just the start.

Members of the local Church jumped into action, showing up consistently to meet the relational needs of children in The Gates community, which quickly led to the beginning of what is now our EZE Mentoring program.

We realized the one hour per week a child spent with a loving adult mentor was going to pay dividends long-term. We also realized that children urgently needed a safe place to go after school, academic assistance in reading, and to understand how much God loves them!



A decade later, Ezekiel Ministries serves more than 150 children from some of the hardest places in the Midlands.

With the help of donors, volunteers, and staff we currently operate a community-based mentoring program, three EZE After-School sites, are piloting youth programs, and partner with dozens of local churches in the Midlands.

As Ezekiel Ministries continues to expand, our foundational roots in mentoring remain the same. We continue to focus on children building quality long-term relationships with loving adults who show up, listen, and guide them - through all avenues of our programming.





2009

A LOCAL CHURCH BEGAN A SERVICE PROJECT IN THE GATES COMMUNITY, WHICH GREW INTO EZEKIEL MINISTRIES

2012

FIRST FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE JOINED EZEKIEL MINISTRIES

2013

EZE'S FIRST AFTER-SCHOOL, EZE AFTER-SCHOOL DOWNTOWN, STARTED AT GRACE CHURCH OF COLUMBIA



2014

EZEKIEL MINISTRIES RECEIVED 501(C)3 STATUS

2016

EZE AFTER-SCHOOL LEXINGTON OPENED AT RADIUS LEXINGTON AND THE EZE FARMS PROGRAM BEGAN



2019

MERGER WITH BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GREATER COLUMBIA (BBBSGC) WAS INITIATED

2021

EZE'S PEER MENTORING PROGRAM WAS RELAUNCHED

2022

EZE AFTER-SCHOOL WHITE KNOLL WAS LAUNCHED & EZE'S PEER MENTORING PROGRAM WAS REDESIGNED AS NEXTGEN



25
new
matches

79
matches
served

109
kids
waiting



Over the past year, we have seen tremendous growth in our mentoring program!

In 2022, we matched 25 kids with mentors for a total of 79 mentor and mentee matches across EZE Mentoring.

As of December 31, 2022, 109 children were on our waiting list to be matched with a mentor; 27 of which are high priority.

Because of the exponential growth and need, our program expanded to add staff and systems to ensure each participant receives a life-changing relationship with a loving adult through our program.

SOME OF OUR 2022 MATCHES

RANDY & BYRON



MEAGHAN & HANNAH



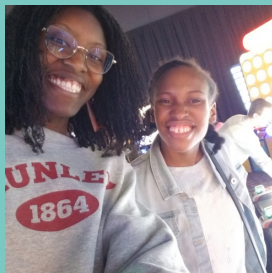
SPARKY & AIDEN



CATHERINE & SUMMER



TENNILLE & NAOMI

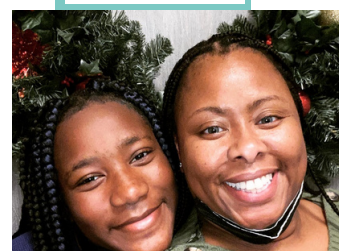


BREONNA & KASIDDI

Breonna and Kassidi spend their time together doing simple things like sharing a meal or walking the river walk, but they also step out in boldness together, like canoeing on the river and ice skating!

The pair has been matched for 2 years, and most recently, Breonna was able to celebrate Kassidi receiving an award at the SC Special Olympics.

[Watch their mentoring story here](#)



QUARTERLY MENTOR & ME EVENTS

Each quarter mentors and mentees gather together for fun and fellowship! In 2022, EZE's Mentor & Me events were canoeing, jumping at a trampoline park, visiting a corn maze, and ice skating!



KATHRYN & ADRIANE

This match has been together for 6 years! Kathryn, a college counselor, has loved investing her time helping Adriane find the best university to pursue her dreams of being an English teacher! This is a picture of them on a recent college visit.



In 2022, we increased our mentoring support structure by hiring new mentor coaches and implementing New Mentor Trainings where mentors engage with other mentors, learn best mentoring practices in a fun and engaging way, and get to know the EZE Mentoring staff.

Mentors spent approximately 4 hours a month showing up, listening, and guiding children from some of the hardest places in the Midlands this year, totaling about 4,000 volunteer hours!



MATT & DANIEL

"I just don't want this day to end!"

This match was able to use our zoo pass to check out Riverbanks for the day. Daniel was having so much fun hanging out with Matt, he didn't want the fun to stop.



[Interested in becoming a mentor?](#)





EZE After-School provides students K-5th grade a safe, loving place to spend afternoons. Kids have a chance to play, receive tutoring, improve reading and other academics, eat healthy snacks, and take part in Bible, Life Skills, Enrichment, and STEAM lessons.

115

total children
enrolled in
EZE After-School
programs

47

total children
on EZE
After-School's
waiting list

46 enrolled in Downtown Columbia

44 enrolled in Downtown Lexington

25 enrolled in White Knoll

EZE After-School students are able to participate in enrichment lessons and field trips like karate, swimming, cooking, music, carpentry, horseback riding, farming, golf and more!



READING SKILLS

Many of the students who join our programs initially read below their grade level.

Our After-School sites include an emphasis on reading, as well as other social-emotional skills (e.g. decision making, relationship building, self awareness). We have teachers and tutors who work one-on-one with students.





EZE After-School also offers a summer program for students 4 days a week to have a safe place during the summer to play, learn, and have new experiences!



EZE After-School kids were able to join a local church to help pack boxes for The Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry.



[Learn more about volunteering with our EZE After-School programs!](#)

77

total
EZE After-School
volunteers

In 2022, 77 volunteers served weekly across our three EZE After-School sites!

MEN'S NERF NIGHT

In 2022, we hosted our first ever Men's Nerf Event!

Groups were split into two teams and battled until elimination, with one team left standing.

It's so important for the young men in our programs to learn from and be around Christian men in a fun environment!



EZE NextGen

In 2022, the Ezekiel Ministries Peer Mentoring program was redesigned as EZE NextGen.

EZE NextGen is an after-school program for middle and high school students, providing a safe place for hard conversations and practical applications for youth, including financial literacy training and leadership skills building. Students also gather monthly to spend time with each other and participate in experiences together!

In 2022, EZE NextGen had over 55 youth participate in youth programs.

15 volunteers spent time investing in NextGen students this year!

NextGen will continue to pilot youth programs in 2023.



55+

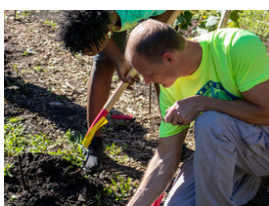
total youth
participated in
NextGen
programming in
2022



EZE Farms, an apprenticeship program for youth, creates an environment where youth can learn leadership skills and put those skills into practice through agriculture.

EZE Farms focuses on preparing them in foundational work-related skills in several categories: interpersonal skills, personal responsibility, solid work ethic, and hard skills related to sustainable food production.

EZE Farms is developing a more robust program that will provide youth with a variety of opportunities to broaden their vision for a successful future.

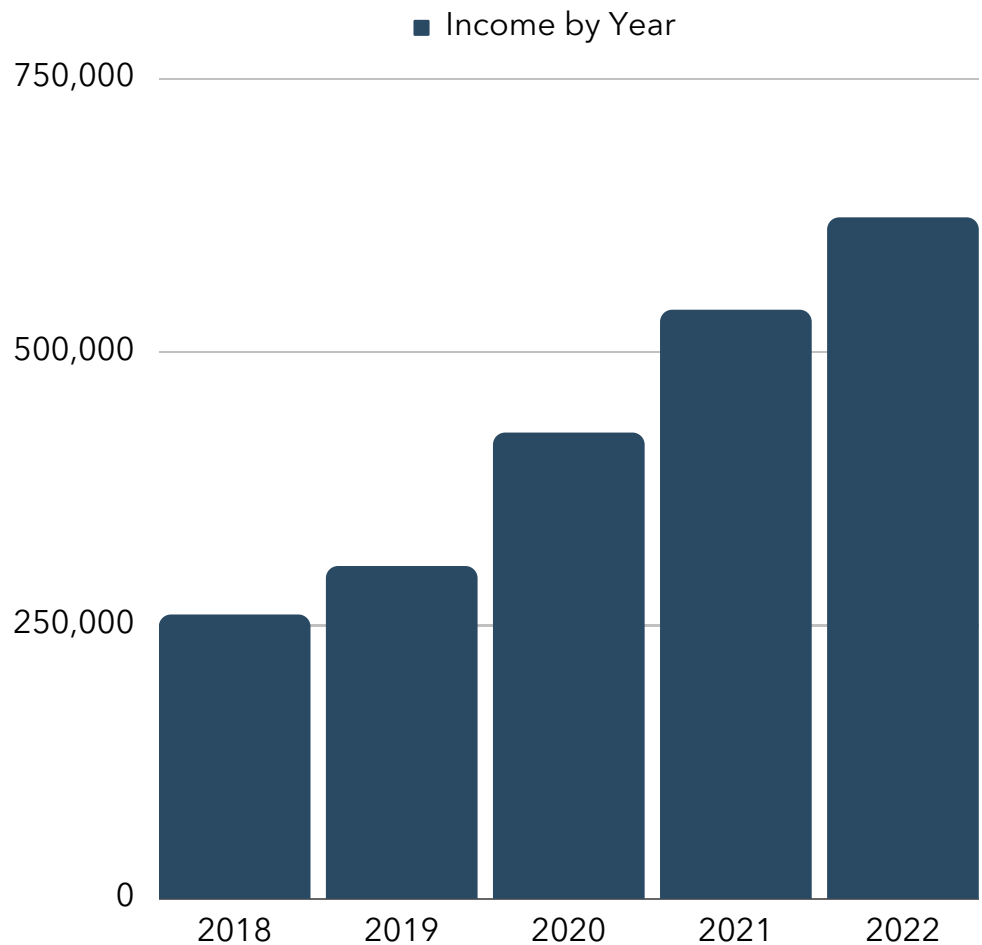


22

CSA (Community
Supported
Agriculture)
memberships

2022

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



Financial Stewardship

Current Assets

Cash: \$293,767.17
 Other Current Assets: \$4,758.85
 Total Current Assets: \$298,526.02

Fixed Assets

Program Vehicles: \$130,431.13
 Equipment & Resources: \$18,738.11
 Fixed Assets: \$149,169.24

Other Assets

Other Assets: \$2,000

Total Assets

Total Assets: \$449,695.26

Current Liabilities

Total Liabilities: \$12,333.14

Equity

Restricted Assets: \$69,192.13
 Total Equity: \$437,362.12

Total Liabilities & Equity

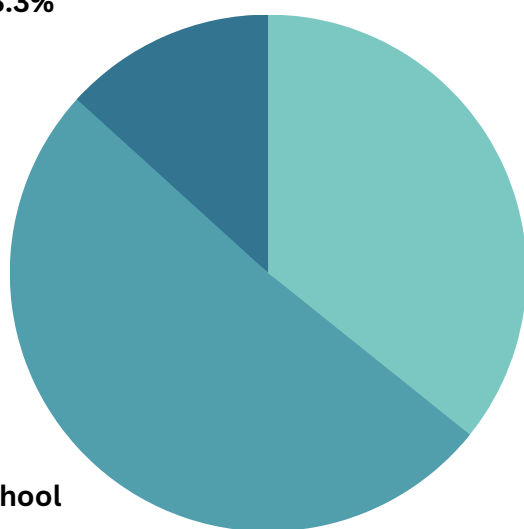
Total Equity: \$449,694.14

Program Expenditure Breakdown

Youth Programs**
 13.3%

Mentoring
 35.8%

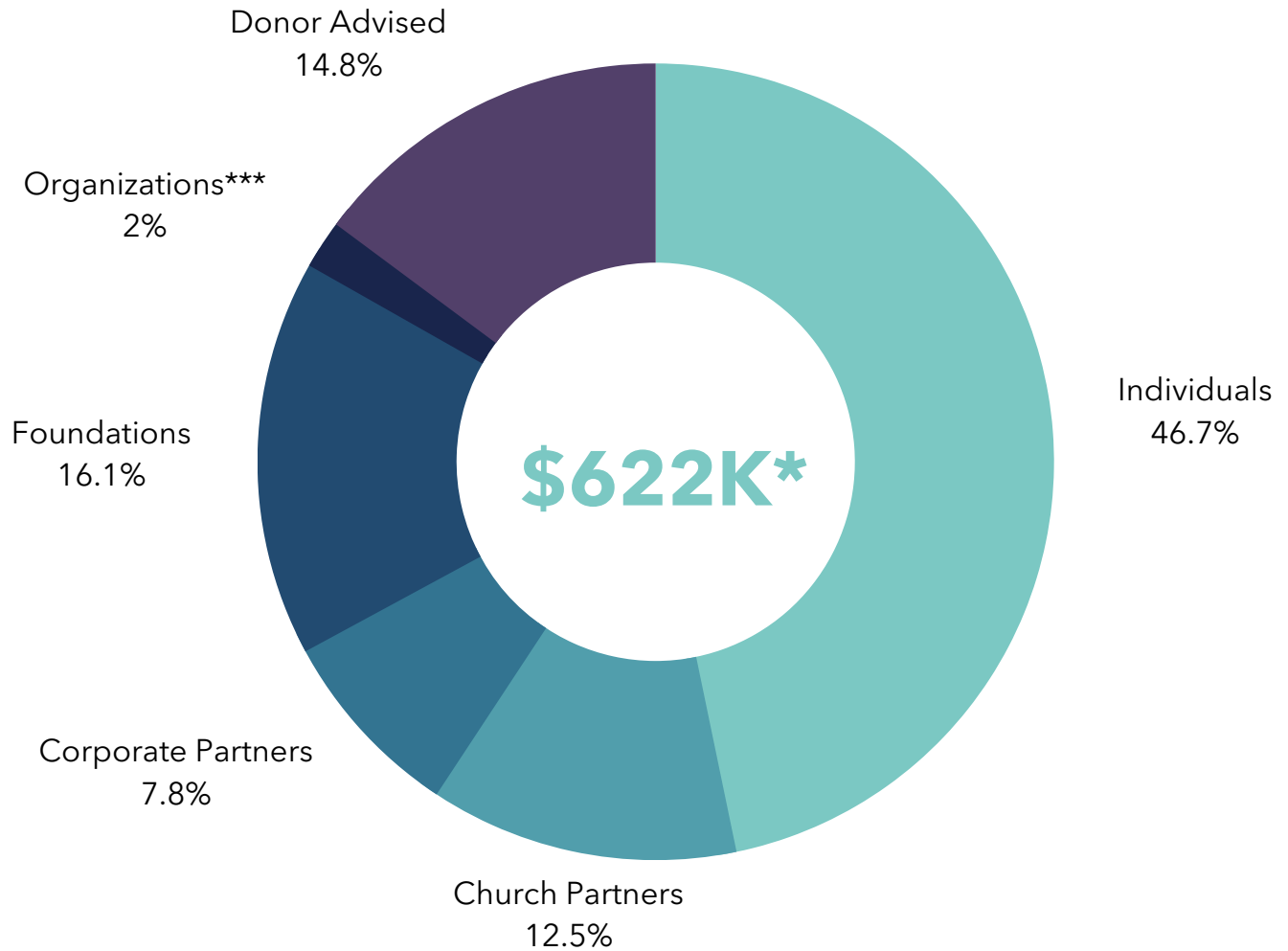
After-School
 51%



*All Numbers are accurate as of December 31, 2022

**Youth Programs include EZE NextGen & EZE Farms Programs

Sources of Funding Breakdown



Average Donation: \$258.86
Number of 2022 Gifts: 2,825
Number of New Donors: 135
Number of Monthly Givers: 205

*All income numbers are accurate as of December 31, 2022
***Organizations include Ministries, Nonprofits, and Service Organizations

Community & Financial Partners

Ezekiel Ministries is only able to participate in the life-changing work of mentoring happening in the Midlands because of our generous community partners, listed in the following pages.

After-School Site Partners

Grace Church of Columbia

Grace Church, one of Ezekiel's first partners, has provided a space for our downtown Columbia after-school program for 8 years.

Because of faithful partners like Grace Church of Columbia, Ezekiel Ministries has been able to serve dozens of families in the Midlands.

Radius Church

Radius Church supported a renovation project in the Gates Neighborhood in 2009 that eventually became Ezekiel Ministries and the "EZE Center."

5 years later, Radius invited Ezekiel to use their space to provide After-School programming to kids from hard places in Lexington, SC. Radius currently hosts 2 EZE After-School programs.

Community Partners

USC Palmetto Fellows Program

Fellows from the Palmetto Fellows Program serve as volunteers and assist teachers at our After-School programs.

Senior Resources

Senior Resources provides volunteers on a weekly basis at our After-School programs.

Bethel Christian Camp

Bethel Christian Camp provides scholarships for students to attend summer camp.

Other Enrichment Partners

First Tee and Beechcreek Farms have partnered with Ezekiel to provide enrichments for our After-School students.

Other Community Partners

FCA, Canoeing 4 Kids, and The Town Theatre have generously provided experiences and discounts for our students!

2022 Church Financial Partners

Our church partners unite around the common goal of supporting mentoring, directly impacting the lives of youth in our community and helping them beat the odds.

**Aberdeen
Bible Church**



**Shining Star
Baptist Church**

**Tabernacle of Praise
Christian Fellowship**



Want more information about
becoming a church partner?

2022 Corporate Partners

Our corporate partnerships are essential in supporting mentoring in the Midlands!
We are thankful for these partnerships.

Ahh Sugar Sugar



CBRE



Midlands Landscape & Lawns, Inc.

First Reliance Bank

Ascent PT

Scooters Coffee

Burris Ridgeway Injury Lawyers



2022 Foundation & Non-Profit Partners

Thank you to the following foundations and organizations for their partnership in supporting mentoring in 2022!



CENTRAL CAROLINA
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



**Lipscomb Family
Foundation**

**Parrish Family
Foundation**



SISTERS of CHARITY
FOUNDATION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**You Can
Mentor.**

Want more information about
[becoming a community partner?](#)



What's Next?



Donate

God calls us to give generously and cheerfully.

We hope you'll pray and give according to how God leads you!



Volunteer

Spending one hour of your time per week mentoring a child can change their life!



Pray

Sign up to be a prayer partner on our website!

New prayer calendars are mailed out each month.



Mentoring...how every child can beat the odds!



**Thank you for your continued support of
kids from hard places by supporting Ezekiel
Ministries.**

This annual report is up to date as of
December 31, 2022.



Contact Us

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EZEKIEL MINISTRIES
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