



# 2021 Annual Report

CONNECTING LEADERS, CHANGING CITIES

 TRELLIS

## Dear Friends of Trellis,

"Beyond" was our theme for 2021. In the "Loving Our City Celebration" in March, illusionist/magician and inspirational speaker, Harris III, helped us all imagine more of what could be if we believe. It helped set the tone in the first quarter for what unfolded throughout the year!

This year has seen three new team members step into roles to help advance the prayer initiative, neighboring initiative and the "Community Impact Team" in the homeless initiative. Young, high caliber leaders with the potential to not only advance our work in Costa Mesa, but encourage leaders in other cities, they are taking things beyond what we imagined was possible.

As we look at our metrics, we have gone beyond where we were last year in terms of people in our city engaging in prayer, neighboring, education, and homelessness. Love Costa Mesa Day doubled its engagement, every school in the city was touched at our second annual Love Our Schools Week, every single school staff member in the city was practically encouraged at the end of a very tough year dealing with COVID and the Community Impact team was rebooted after COVID, involving 80 plus of our homeless in this transitional work program.

This year has seen us be able to coalesce 11 lead pastors to move beyond mere participation in our city efforts to become a team that is working together to give the leadership direction to all our efforts in Costa Mesa. This new team, and all we do in Costa Mesa, will now be run under the banner of "Love Costa Mesa" supported by Trellis.

"Beyond" has also led us this last year to do all we can to help encourage, empower, and equip catalysts in other cities to facilitate more collaboration in their contexts. We led a cohort of 7 other leaders throughout this year and we were able to help launch "Love Irvine Day" and a "Love Irvine" movement. We are helping "Love Orange" take their next steps and are seeing movement in Huntington Beach and Newport Beach. At our City on a Hill Leaders roundtables event, we had 125 leaders representing 14 different cities. God is clearly using us to stimulate movements beyond Costa Mesa now and our vision is expanding throughout the county.

Trellis has created a basic structure in Costa Mesa that has helped and allowed others to work together well. We work with pastors, city leaders, school district leaders, non-profit leaders, and neighbors to create a collaborative approach to making a difference in our city. As a result, the number of families and individuals practically impacted exponentially grows over time, as you will see in this report. Trellis is increasing the likelihood of collaboration and working together in a city, which enables the practical, relational, and spiritual issues to be addressed and the results to become evident.

As you will see throughout the pages of our Annual Report, our approach to facilitating collaboration in a city is yielding transformational results. We are grateful for each of our partner churches, businesses, and volunteers who through their investment of time, talent and treasure are helping us create a more collective and collaborative approach to address a city's challenges. As we continue to go "beyond" what we can think or even imagine, with God's help, it will be exciting to see where He leads us together.

In His strength,

*Ian Stevenson*

Ian Stevenson



# 2021 IMPACT

## Prayer:

- **20+ churches** engaged in city prayer
- **12 weeks of a Prayer Tent** uniting churches across the county. *(led by Floodways)*
- Prayer Network has grown to **200+ people**

## Education:

- Initiative Team grew to **8 people representing 7 churches**
- **700+ volunteers** from 18 different churches support students, school staff and parents throughout the year.
- Provided **1411 staff appreciation boxes** to each school staff person at all Costa Mesa public schools.
- Love Our Schools Week had prayer at **all 20 schools in Costa Mesa** and 15 other projects to support the students, staff and facilities of our Costa Mesa schools.

## Neighboring:

- "Intentional Neighboring Network" has grown to **192 people in Costa Mesa**
- **Over 1000 people** participated in 50 projects on Love Costa Mesa Day
- **100 people** took the "I'm Glad You're My Neighbor" Pledge and got to know 10 neighbors by name
- **Supported 3 city serve days** outside of Costa Mesa: Love Newport Beach, Love Orange & Love Irvine

## Homelessness:

- **170 total** Community Impact Team members
- **210 projects completed** by the Community Impact Team
- **2700 volunteer hours** by members of the Community Impact Team
- **4 housing insecure individuals** were hired to full-time work In 2021



# STORIES



## PRAYER

A highlight in the Prayer Initiative was the November City Leaders Gathering. We filled every seat, prayed for our chief of Police, and inspired people around the idea of a movement built on the foundation of prayer. Chief Lawrence shared how his team are peace officers and we joined with him to pray for the peace of the city. We talked about how our goal is not simply to see people with folded hands mumbling reverent phrases, but actually catalyze a city-wide culture that prioritizes prayer as a regular part of everyday life.



## EDUCATION

The Trellis Education Team had the idea of putting together boxes filled with goodies not only for teachers, but for all the school staff in every Costa Mesa school for Teacher Appreciation Week. With 1,411 school staff in the city, this was a God-sized goal. As we got the word out to our churches and others in the community, people in the city stepped up! No one person or church or nonprofit could have pulled this off, but working together, all of us doing a little, we were able to make it happen! Almost 350 volunteers participated including 2 businesses, 14 churches, 3 small groups, students from Vanguard and 20 other individuals. We received several thank you notes from teachers, but one response really highlighted the value in doing these boxes for ALL school staff. She said that Teacher Appreciation Week is hard for a lot of the auxiliary teachers because, usually, it is only the classroom teachers that receive any love during this week. She said that when she received her box, she felt "seen" and appreciated and was so thankful that the community acknowledged her role and commitment to her students.



## NEIGHBORING

Westside Nights have quickly become a staple in our community where we gather once a month for a dinner party and invite our neighbors to come. This planning team comprises of 5 churches all working together to reach our Westside Costa Mesa neighbors. During these dinner parties, kids are bouncing away, tacos are being made, live music is playing in the background, and new friendships are being formed with neighbors. Our hope is to see Westside Nights become a network of small-business owners who have a desire to see their business thrive and need a little extra help financially to get it going and keep it sustainable. As we look to 2022, we hope to meet small business owners who would like to receive mentorship & coaching, become regular vendors at Westside Nights to have sustainable income, and form a cohort to bring support & community to them. As we see churches working together to improve our neighborhoods, "What If" more churches came together in their neighborhoods to uplift their neighbors?



## HOMELESSNESS

One man who joined the Community Impact Team had become homeless because of breakdowns in his relationships. He believed that he had to solve all of his problems by himself and that burden weighed heavily on him. After joining the Community Impact Team he started to see the value of teamwork and relying on others instead of trying to do everything on his own. He started to ask for and accept help and being part of a team gave him a sense of connection and community that he hadn't had for quite some time. As a result of these relationships, he has taken steps forward to ending his homelessness.



# VISION 2022

In 2022 you will notice that everything being done in Costa Mesa will be under the banner of "Love Costa Mesa" supported by Trellis. You will also notice that Trellis will be working to encourage, empower and equip other cities to also develop more collaboration within them.



## You can expect to see:

- Continued growth and development of the "Love Costa Mesa Pastors Lead Team"
- More people praying strategically in and for our city
- The Neighboring Network in Costa Mesa to grow and establish Westside, Eastside and Northside breakouts
- The School Connect model of community engagement taking hold within the NMUSD
- Within the homeless initiative:
  - a new Point in Time Count for homelessness
  - growing engagement at the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter, the Check-In Center, and with the Community Impact Team
  - continued work with the city to pursue housing options
- Pastors' networks emerging, and or, developing in surrounding cities
- A growing cohort of city leaders throughout Orange County

## Looking at the national headlines and available statistics, there are three trends we believe God has called us to be a part of reversing.

1. The Church is in decline.
2. The Church is more divided than ever.
3. The Church is impotent in regard to having much of a loving, lasting impact in our cities.

*We believe as we work to facilitate more collaboration in our cities, starting with our pastors praying and working better together, that more relationships with leaders, more creativity, innovation, and movement will happen.*

Eleven Lead Pastors working together in the context of, and for, the benefit of their city? Yes, it's true and it is happening in Costa Mesa! This past year, 11 Lead Pastors agreed to form a team to give leadership and direction to our initiative leaders. Each of them has a specific area of focus: gathering pastors together, prayer, neighboring, education, and homelessness. They each made a 2-year commitment to try and figure this team thing out and they're learning how to lean into this broader vision in the midst of their other leadership responsibilities for their family and congregations. This is an amazing group of leaders! We are humbled by their selflessness, encouraged and challenged by their insights and inspired by their willingness to set aside differences to work better together so that more of our city can come to know how much they matter to God. We are honored to work with and introduce you to the leaders of "Love Costa Mesa" supported by Trellis:

**Ben Applebee** - Watermark OC Church  
**Christine Brooks-Nolf** - Redemption  
**Andrew Brownback** - The Crossing  
**Dave White** - New Song Worship Center

**Dave Gundlach** - Grace Fellowship  
**Josh Harrison** - Canopy  
**Chris Kretzu** - South Hills  
**Christian Parra** - Iglesia Harbor

**Drew Ross** - Christ Lutheran  
**Jesse Skinner** - Presence OC  
**Eric Wayman** - Lighthouse Community

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## CHURCH PARTNERS

Newport Mesa Church  
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St James Anglican Church  
New Song Worship Center Church  
Friendship Church  
Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

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Ralph & Sharon Hulett  
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Mesa Verde United Methodist Church  
Christ Lutheran Church  
Palm Harvest Church  
The Garden 'Canopy' Church  
The Crossing Church  
Rock Harbor Church  
Lighthouse Community Church

Watermark OC Church  
St. Andrews Church  
Viewpoint Church  
Chinese Christian Herald Crusades  
Rise OC Church  
Irvine Chinese Bible Church  
Pacific Point Church



# OUR FINANCIALS

## Statement of Financial Position

### ASSETS

Total Assets: \$220,816.45

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities: \$2,106.34

Long-Term Liabilities: \$51,500.00

Total Liabilities: \$53,606.34

Equity: \$168,402.02

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### Revenue for 2021

1000 Individual Donors: 327,996.83

1100 Business: 68,362.25

1200 Church: 124,097.00

1400 Grants: 54,985.35

1500 Personal Fundraising: 42,761.94

2000 In-Kind Donations: 38,092.00

Other Revenue: 12,878.97

Total Revenue: 696,674.34

### EXPENDITURES FOR 2021

Operations Expenses: 286,488.26

Program Expenses: 391,027.91

Total Expenditures: \$677,516.17

Net Revenue: \$19,158.17

