## 2024 **SMILE** Annual Report

#### SMILE 2024 = GROWTH



# Message from the | Executive Director

We praise God for each of you and your part in helping us to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 3:18). A summary of Ephesians 4:15-16 reminds us to speak the truth in love ... to grow up into Christ ... that we are to work together being equipped to do what God has designed for us to do so that we can build up one another in love. You have been a part of helping us all to grow together. We saw growth in the lives of those we serve, the Biblical Counseling and Soul Care program, the ministry, and in the grace and knowledge of the Lord.

GROWTH IN THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE we are serving through MOMS2MOMS and Biblical Counseling. The moms are growing in loving the Lord and their families. The MOMS2MOMS groups have been learning family values and how to apply them in their families.

Through Biblical Counseling the counselees are learning how to find their peace in God. Isaiah 40:31, says, "but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." They are learning that even through the difficult times in their lives they can walk with the Lord and not grow weary or faint.

GROWTH IN BIBLICAL COUNSELING AND SOUL CARE PROGRAM as we work with people, churches, and added counselors. In counseling we have three co-counselors and several advocates who meet with those we are counseling. Churches have reached out for resources and have joined us for various training opportunities in the last year. We are seeing growth in the lives of those we serve, churches we partner with, and the selors we are adding to our team.

GROWTH IN THE MINISTRY AS A WHOLE — new location, expanding to more counties, and expanding in volunteers and support staff. In January 2024, SMILE moved their office to the Woden Christian Reformed Church. After having a one-year lease, our new lease is for five years. In the fall of 2024, we added a lease for the parsonage and barn. Renovations have begun and we are looking forward to being able to use it for 3-day intensive counseling and housing therapy animals.

We are now serving individuals, families, and churches in Winnebago, Hancock, Worth, and Kossuth counties. We also had the opportunity to expand to Carroll County when one of our moms moved.

This expansion has also meant adding people as volunteers in various areas. Some of the biggest additions are co-counselors, advocates, and other volunteer positions. We still have the need for more volunteers and board members.

GROWTH IN GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE — As we grow in grace and knowledge through continued study of the Word and trainings, we are given the opportunity to help others grow in grace and knowledge. We offer programs that help others grow. We also offer training opportunities that help others grow in their ministry positions at their churches, in the community, and as part of SMILE.

Thank you for your partnership through prayers and financial support as we serve the Lord and the families in our community.

Juanita Stevens, Executive Director

Board of Directors: Sherry Becker, Lea Calvert, and Jason Semans

Want to Volunteer or support us? Here are some ways that are available. Have any other skills that might be helpful give us a call.

Requires Training

No Training Required

Financial - donations

Childcare providers Prayer

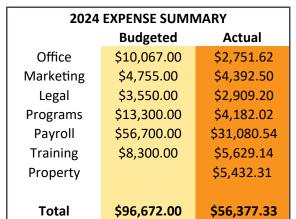
Host Families Help with newsletters — stuffing envelopes

Advocates Physical donations to the ministry

Board of Directors Food donations for fundraisers, conferences, etc.

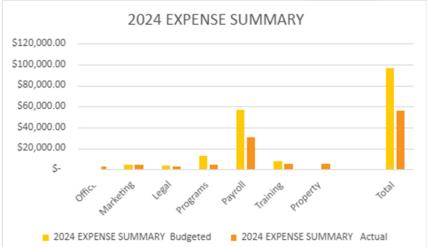
Drivers
Help with fundraisers
Hostess-serving MOMS2MOMS
Help at the fair booths

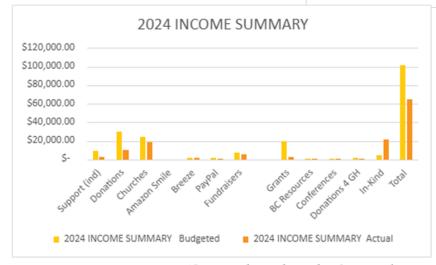






### **Financial Updates**



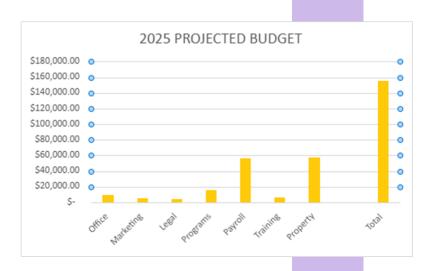


*Donated	goods	and vo	lunteer	hours
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2024 INCOME SUMMARY				
	Budgeted	Actual		
Support (ind)	\$9,600.00	\$2,675.00		
Donations	\$30,000.00	\$10,611.66		
Churches	\$24,000.00	\$18,560.19		
Amazon Smile	\$-			
Breeze	\$1,500.00	\$1,278.35		
PayPal	\$1,500.00	\$249.01		
Fundraisers	\$7,500.00	\$5,742.57		
Grants	\$20,000.00	\$2,600.00		
BC Resources	\$500.00	\$147.09		
Conferences	\$150.00	\$285.00		
Donations 4 GH	\$2,000.00	\$994.42		
In-Kind*	\$5,000.00	\$21,328.10		
Total	\$101,750.00	\$64,471.39		

If you have any questions about any of this information it can be directed to Juanita Stevens.

2025 PROJECTED BUDGET				
Office	\$9,500.00			
Marketing	\$5,555.00			
Legal	\$3,900.00			
Programs	\$16,050.00			
Payroll	\$56,700.00			
Training	\$6,635.00			
Property	\$57,270.00			
Total	\$155,610.00			





# DURING 2024 the following impacts happened through SMILE

### Programs Summaries

I Through our Biblical Counseling and Soul Care ministry

this year we have had the opportunity to work with:

7 individuals, 1 couple resulting in 5 families; and have people on a waiting list. We have 3 co-counselors: Pastor Jason Semans (moved recently), Pastor Kenny Olson, Stephanie Sahr (CIT), Scott Fluegel starting in 2025. Together with the advocates over 1000 hours has been spent in counseling. Issues we have been able to work with include: domestic abuse, child abuse, anxiety, deep grief, parenting, LGBTQ issues, discipleship. We have also been working with area churches to get counseling resources.





The need for **Glory House** has been reinforced through interactions at SMILE. The house and barn renovations that will be used for **Glory**House and Biblical Counseling and Soul Care has begun, project costs depend on volunteer and professional services needed, but looking

at a minimum of \$50,000.00

## BIBLICAL COUNSELING AND SOUL CARE TRAININGS

Light in the Darkness Domestic Abuse Training in March - 16 in attendance

BCTC Preconference on Abuse - 8 in attendance

Pastors' Brunch - 10 in attendance

Pastors & churches requesting specific resources - 3





Please keep up the prayers.



Our MOM\$2MOM\$ groups have had a great time this year and in their studies of *Moms Gather-Family Values*. They also spent time making Christmas cookies and enjoying fellowship.

#### MOMS2MOMS 2024-2025 school year

3 Locations – Buffalo Center, Forest City and Britt 6 - moms encouraged

17 - children impacted





Radical Hospitality is about helping someone in need of support of various types. This year we have helped a single mom with car repairs, moved a single mom to a new area with help from a church in that area and had to use multiple safe houses. This ministry can always use help in the following ways.

Financial assistance

Drivers for mom and children to church, doctor appointments, etc.

Childcare for single moms

Food and clothing for families in need





## Programs Summaries Continued

| | Gracious Living Conferences was created in

order to provide parents and families the resources and opportunities to learn more about the importance of Biblical applications in the raising of a Godly Family. Coming up in June will be our first parenting conference geared to help those looking for guidance and the help needed for the transformation of the entire family. The conference is June 27-28, 2025 at the Britt Evangelical Free Church in Britt IA. To register for the conference go to the following:

https://smile.breezechms.com/form/cf3fe5



### OTHER INFORMATION/STATISTICS

#### OF THE YEAR

We had 32 volunteers this year, including board members, co-counselors, advocates, mentor mom, childcare providers, servers for events, mailings, and many more racked up more than 1300 hours of volunteer service for SMILE. On top of that, Juanita spent 12,571 miles on the road putting in close to 1800 hours for the ministry.

#### **FUNDRAISING UPDATE:**

Ladies Tea Fundraiser around \$1500.00

Pampered Chef Fundraiser \$175.29

Donor Dinner \$3286.00



## Take Action

#### **DONATE:** Check out the opportunities here.

Check or money order made out to SMILE or Single Moms in Loving Environment. You can give a one-time gift or become a regular monthly donor.

Online through the website <u>www.smileiowa.org</u> TAKE ACTION Tab

Online donations https://smile.breezechms.com/give/online

Thrivent – Give thanks. Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars. Thrivent Choice can have a tremendous impact on an organization. Eligible Thrivent Financial members: Show your appreciation for Single Moms In Loving Environment by directing Choice Dollars. The individual recommendations you make through Choice Dollars directions can make a profound impact.

Fundraising events: Fairs, Expos, Donor Dinner, Ladies Tea

2 Corinthians 9:7 "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

Please, Pray for the Lord's direction and how you can support SMILE.



#### PRAY:

For God to meet our needs
For dependence on Holy Spirit leading and
directing

Families we are serving
Wisdom in serving God in ministry
For each other
For board members
For unity, wisdom, and discernment.

To join the prayer team email

info@smileiowa.org

#### **VOLUNTEER:**

Pray for God's direction for a way you can volunteer. If you are interested in helping in any way please contact us:

Email <u>info@smileiowa.org</u> or call (641)430-7408

Would you allow God to use you to bless this ministry in some way? Prayerfully consider how God may have you be involved with SMILE, then ACT.

#### **FOLLOW US:**

At our website which continues to be updated www.smileiowa.org

#### 2025 Upcoming events

#### MOM52MOM5

Buffalo Center -2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday afternoons (September to April) Britt - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday evening (September to April) Forest City - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday evening (September to April)

#### **Monthly Prayer Gatherings**

in-person 3rd Monday of the month 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm @ SMILE Office Woden Christian Reformed Church, 205 290th St., Woden, IA May 20 June 10 July 15 August 12 September 16 October 21 November 18 December 16

#### Parenting Conference with Scott O'Malley

Gracious Living Conference (Parenting)

Evangelical Free Church, Britt IA June 27-28, 2025

https://smile.breezechms.com/form/cf3fe5

#### Winnebago County Fair Booth, Thompson, IA

Winnebago County Fairgrounds July 16-20, 2025

#### **Hancock County Fair Booth**

Britt, IA Hancock County Fairgrounds July 22-28, 2025

#### Car Show Fundraiser

**SMILE Office** 

Woden Christian Reformed Church, 205 290th St., Woden, IA September 6, 2025

#### Women of Worth Expo (booth)

Blue Earth, MN November 1, 2025

#### **SMILE Donor Dinner Fundraiser**

**SMILE Office** 

Woden Christian Reformed Church 205 290th St., Woden, IA 50484 November 8, 2025, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

#### **Pampered Chef Fundraiser**

Online- Facebook November, 2025

On Facebook at
@SingleMomsInLovingEvironment
@MOMS2MOMSCommunity or @Moms2moms