THE FACE of MINISTRY IN 2020

TEXAS BAPTISTS
COOPERATIVE
PROGRAM
Annual Report



2020 CP ANNUAL REPORT

"TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE BECAUSE THEY HAVE A GOOD REWARD FOR THEIR EFFORTS."

– Ecclesiastes 4:9

Since "two are better than one," permit me to introduce our new Associate Director of Cooperative program, Ralph S. Emerson. And, since we can do more together than we can alone, imagine the good reward when over 5,300 churches cooperate to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

This 2020 Annual Report recaps the many spiritual achievements we celebrate because you, as Texas Baptists, gave faithfully to the Cooperative Program. These statistics and stories only begin to provide you a glimpse of the many things the Lord has done through Texas Baptists because of our collaborative work for the Gospel.



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WHERE DOES IT GO?



MISSIONS (37%)

3,000+ Worldwide Missionaries 240 BSM Missionaries on 130 Campuses River Ministry/Mexico Texas Baptists Missionaries 410 Go Now Missionaries Texas Baptist Men Bounce (Student Disaster Recovery) Hispanic Ministries African American Ministries Intercultural Ministries Church Starting

EDUCATION & HUMAN CARE MINISTRIES (28%)

13 Texas Baptists Universities and Schools 7 Baptist Hospitals & Health Foundations 4 Child/Elder Care Ministries

COMMUNICATION (4%)

News & Media Design & Print Web & Marketing

MINISTRIES (16%)

Evangelism Discipleship Bible Study Music & Worship Church Architecture Student Ministry Interim Church Services 1,000+ Endorsed Chaplains Counseling

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION (3%)

Ethics & Justice Social Issues Advocacy Public Policy Hunger & Community Care

ADMINISTRATION (12%)

Accounting Technology Human Resources





303 professions of faith

() 63,336 volunteer hours served



meals distributed to unemployed Texans during COVID-19 shutdown

19,651

meals provided during the busiest hurricane season on record

people now have access to clean water through 17 wells drilled in 5 countries

EQUIPPING BELIEVERS THROUGH APOLOGETICS

Eric Hernandez, Apologetics Lead & Millennial specialist, has stayed busy during the COVID-19 pandemic, equipping believers to articulate and defend their faith. He hosted many online Zoom apologetic conferences in 2020, including a weekly workshop for believers in the Philippines.

Hernandez explained that hosting the conferences online provides the opportunity for people from around the world to join.

"Because of the pandemic, training has moved mostly online. That has opened up more opportunities for people to watch trainings without committing to driving there and allows a sense of intimacy that might not be there when I'm in front of a group on stage," he said.

Hernandez has observed people feel more comfortable asking questions in the online format than they do in person because he is in the same position as them, as opposed to being elevated on a stage. Apologetics have become increasingly important as people have increasingly turned to the Internet to answer their large questions about life and faith. The Truth is now at war with all of the false information available online, Hernandez explained, so it is important to have confidence in answering the hard questions from a biblical perspective.

"As Christians and believers, we know that nothing that is true is going to contradict the Word of God. But it's important to have responses to these untrue things," he said.

TEAM STATS

- **104,519** ministers and lay-leaders were trained through special events, consultations and speaking engagements including:
 - 1.523 trained through Discipleship Events
- 100.246 trained through Evangelism Events
- 2,750 trained through Music & Worship Events
- 2.023 participated in 4XFour Trainings
- **1,500** participated in the Resourcing Worship Virtual Conference



SPOTLIGHT



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A FEW RESULTS FROM CP INVESTMENT OF:

\$1.96 MILLION

Within the Great Commission team, the Texas Baptists Evangelism Team works to equip churches with tools and resources to reach their communities with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

ERIC HERNANDEZ Apologetics Lead & Millennial Specialist, Evangelism

ROPING, RIDING AND SHARING THE GOSPEL

When the first cowboy churches were planted in Texas, they sought to reach out to a unique group of people who might not feel comfortable walking in the doors of a traditional church building. Boots, hats and spurs were welcomed. Greeters could be found riding horses outside the church building to welcome guests. Baptisms were often held in horse troughs.

Since that first church was planted, more than \$6 million of Cooperative Program funding has been used to expand this ministry, 191 churches have been started and thousands have come to faith in Christ. God has done amazing work through the Western Heritage movement. From thriving established churches to new church plants, the momentum has continued to move forward.

Cowboy Church of Ellis County (CCEC), founded through a partnership with Texas Baptists in 2000, was one of Western Heritage Ministries' first church plants, in Waxahachie. Now led by Pastor Gary Morgan, CCEC has faithfully partnered with Texas Baptists for the past 20 years.

Like many cowboy churches, CCEC cultivates a church culture that is different from the traditional model in order to better reach cowboys, with ministries like Arena Church, held every week in a fully-functional, on-campus rodeo arena, and Buck Out, an amateur bull-riding ministry geared toward reaching youth.

"Our motto is 'come as you are, but leave changed.' If you are in trouble, we will accept you. If you are unsure, we will pray with you. If you are searching, we will teach you," said Morgan. "We don't believe in trying to clean people up before they accept Christ. How can anyone become clean before they receive Jesus and the Holy Spirit enters their heart? That is putting the cart before the horse."

TEAM STATS

- 9,500+ contacts made by Area Representatives
 - 80 minister families assisted with counseling
 - **600+** bivocational pastors contacted and encouraged
 - 825 Cowboy Church leaders connected through Western Heritage Ministries

- **117** pastorless churches assisted through the Office of Interim Church Services
- \$55,000 in Minister's Financial Health Grants were awarded and \$70,000 in low-interest loans made to pastors/ministers
 - 60 pastors connected through Barnabas Network Groups



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A FEW RESULTS FROM CP INVESTMENT OF:

\$1.46 MILLION

The Connections Team connects pastors and churches with resources and ministries available through Texas Baptists.



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GARY MORGAN Senior Pastor The Cowboy Church of Ellis County

THE UNT BSM AT WORK IN CHANGING TIMES

The Baptist Student Ministry (BSM) at the University of North Texas (UNT) did not stop reaching out to students during the COVID-19 pandemic. They have learned to achieve their mission despite the obstacles. In some cases, God has used the obstacles to open doors for ministry.

In the fall of 2020, Campus Missionary Intern Mary Taylor explained that they could not set out a table or talk to students on campus the way they would normally do. So, they started visiting an Instagram page where students go to connect with other students. They messaged students and invited them to sign up for a connect group, a weekly small-group gathering where students worship, listen to a message and have a discussion.

"It's amazing how many people responded," Taylor said. "One girl even signed up for a Connection meeting. These meetings give us a chance to share the Gospel and see how they want to be involved."

The girl told Taylor that she was agnostic and did not have any interest in religion, but she decided to join a Connect Group anyway because she wanted to make some friends.

The girl has been faithfully attending meetings and has even started reading a Christian book with one of the BSM staff members.

TEAM STATS

138,402 students reached on 130 campuses

7.774 students involved weekly in BSM

27.723 spiritual conversations

- **2,185** people involved in missions
- 374 short-term Go Now missionaries
- 439 NEW BELIEVERS



SPOTLIGHT COLLEGIATE ...MINISTRY...

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A FEW RESULTS FROM CP INVESTMENT OF:

\$3.98 MILLION

The Collegiate Ministry engages college students to follow Christ and transform the world.

MARY TAYLOR Campus Missionary Intern UNT BSM LIN T

"Land"

BAPTIST FOOTPRINT ACROSS TEXAS

Your cooperative dollars make it possible to cover the state with Health & Human Care, Baptist Student Ministries, River Ministry, new churches, and countless other efforts to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our growing state.

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Institution Key

- + HEALTH & HUMAN CARE
- ★ EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS
- BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRY
- RIVER MINISTRY
- O NEW CHURCHES PLANTED

\$993 MILLION of your Texas Baptists

Cooperative Program giving was used to support these outstanding ministries. Their work in Christian education, health, and human care reached more than 2,000,000 Texans in 2020.



*Although not funded directly by CP, these visionary ministries are supported through the work of Texas Baptists.

** Proceeds from the Mary Hill Davis Offering provide the budget for WMU

Partner Ministries*

The Baptist Standard

BCLC Church Lending

Baptist Credit Union HighGround

Advisors

Stark College & Seminary

WMU of Texas**

Education

Baptist University of the Américas

Baylor University

Dallas Baptist University

East Texas Baptist Universitv

Hardin-Simmons University

Houston Baptist University

Howard Payne University

Logsdon Seminary

San Marcos Academy

Truett Seminary

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

Valley Baptist Missions **Education Center**

Wayland Baptist University

Health and Human Care

Baptist Community Services

Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas

Baptist Memorials Ministries

Baylor Scott & White Health

Baylor Scott & White Medical Center-Hillcrest

Buckner International

Children At Heart Ministries

Hendrick Health System

STCH Ministries

Valley Baptist Health System

MISSIONS TEAM

NEW CHURCHES FOR GROWING COMMUNITIES

Texas is rapidly growing and diversifying, and new churches are being started to meet that need.

Clay Jacobson, Church Starting strategist, explained that the population of Texas is supposed to double by 2050 and new churches are essential to minister to all those people.

"These are future churches that are going to invest in and support the work that Texas Baptists do. These are future leaders of the convention. I see a lot of our future in these planters," Jacobson said.

One of the church starts that Jacobson connected with is Trailview Church in Crowley. Led by Pastor Derek Kimes, the church strives to reach people in the far south suburbs of Fort Worth.

Kimes explained that the area has seen massive amounts of growth in the past few years. More churches need to be planted as well to keep up with the growing population. Trailview seeks to engage young singles, who make up 18% of the local population, and those with no religious affiliation, who make up 54% of the local population.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the lock-down that followed prevented them from gathering at first, so they held online worship services. Despite never meeting together in person, the church grew from 16 people to a total of 110, including children, in six months. They were able to hold their first in-person service in September 2020.

TEAM STATS

- **529,762** lives impacted through Multihousing/Organic Church Ministries
 - **87** missionaries were supported by MAP (Missionary Adoption Program) in more than 8 countries
 - 83 new churches started
 - 432 students served through BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery Spring Break mission and BOUNCE Back Home Day of Service

- **79,039** people reached by Texas Baptists missionaries
- **42,327** people reached through River Ministry missionaries
 - 15 River Ministry missionaries
 - 5,409 NEW BELIEVERS



spotlight MISSIONS ...TEAM...

MISSIONS TEAM

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A FEW RESULTS FROM CP INVESTMENT OF:

\$1.98 MILLION

Your gifts made it possible for the Missions Team to connect, equip, and mobilize churches for mission opportunities across Texas and around the world.

DEREK KIMES Lead Pastor Trailview Church

MICAH 6:8 CONFERENCE ENCOURAGES LOVE AND UNITY IN DIVISIVE TIMES

On Oct. 26-27, attendees of the Micah 6:8 Conference gathered inperson at Howard Payne University and virtually to learn about engaging with hot-button issues, such as racial inequalities and gender gaps, from a Biblical perspective. The event, sponsored annually by the Christian Life Commission (CLC), is focused on bringing the Old Testament words of Micah 6:8 to life for a new generation.

Speakers included Katie Fruge, director of the Texas Baptists Hunger Offering; Mark Grace, chief of Mission and Ministry at Baylor Scott & White Health; Jeremy Everett, executive director at the Baylor University Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty; Kathryn Freeman, former CLC director of Public Policy; Everett; and Gus Reyes, CLC director.

Gus Reyes, director of the CLC, summarized some of the issues the 87th Texas Legislative Session would address, including COVID-19 policies, payday and auto loans, and race relations. He encouraged those in attendance to seek out their representatives and make their voices heard.

Reyes also urged conference participants to stick to the principles of Micah 6:8 and see beyond politics to the people behind them.

"I hope you will be kind in your heart to people who do not agree with you...Christians don't follow the agenda of the elephant or the donkey, we follow the agenda of the lamb. That agenda instructs me to love my neighbor," Reyes said. "If we're ever going to pull this country together, we're going to need to figure out how to follow Jesus's agenda and love our neighbors."

TEAM STATS

- + Co-sponsored the Texas Rally for Life attended by thousands
- \$142,633 allocated through Community Care Grants
 - 544 professions of faith through CP-supported community outreach programs
- 100,655 individuals served through CP-supported community outreach programs
- **\$427,021** raised by CP-supported staff for the Texas Baptist Hunger Offering
- 1,927,526 individuals served through Texas Baptist Hunger Offering

SPOTLIGHT CHRISTIAN LIFE ...COMMISSION..

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A FEW RESULTS FROM CP INVESTMENT OF:

\$977,000

CLC serves as agents of transformation, speaking to Texas Baptists rather than for them, equipping them to apply their faith to life in Ethical Conduct, Public Policy and Community Ministry from a biblical perspective.

KATIE FRUGÉ Director, Texas Baptists Hunger Offering Associate Director, CLC

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCH SERVES LOCAL COMMUNITY

Over two decades ago, Dr. Elmo Johnson, pastor of Rose of Sharon Missionary Baptist Church in Houston, had a vision of restoring Houston's Fourth Ward to a neighborhood of vitality and community. Once an affluent area, unforeseen growth turned the Fourth Ward into one of Houston's most dilapidated neighborhoods, with almost 50% of its residents living below the poverty line in 1980.

For 24 years now, volunteers and corporate sponsors known as "Elmo's Army" have been helping Dr. Johnson revitalize this historic African American neighborhood, providing hope along the way. Rose of Sharon Missionary Baptist Church sits strategically in the middle of the small but mighty Fourth Ward community, and members host a wide variety of public outreach events each year.

These events are aimed at providing much-needed supplies, clothing and food for local residents. For instance, before the 2019 school year began, church members collected and distributed around 200 backpacks to students who otherwise would not have been able to afford them.

Dr. Johnson is one of many Texas Baptists church leaders doing great ministry within the African American community.

TEAM STATS

- + Held a virtual "Camp Exalted" that reached 8.75% more than an in-person camp
- 5 regional consultants enlisted by African American Ministries to serve pastors across Texas
- 8 Intercultural Strategic Partners Projects (ISP) supported overseas by Texas Baptists Intercultural Pastors
- 740 touches of help for Refugee Families by Project: Start Refugee Resource Center
 - + Transitioned the Office of Hispanic Ministries to Texas Baptists en Español
- **35** Webinars hosted by Texas Baptists en Español with 415 attendees from the U.S., 16 countries, 5 conventions/associations and 40 Hispanic Companerismos

SPOTLIGHT



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A FEW RESULTS FROM CP INVESTMENT OF:

\$1.07 MILLION

The Cultural Engagement Team is reaching myriad people groups from around the globe right here in Texas.

ELMO JOHNSON Pastor, Rose of Sharon Missionary Baptist Church



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Through the office of Executive Director David Hardage, we continued to support Disaster Relief through Texas Baptist Men, forge new and stronger relationships with our San Antonio area institutions, and expand awareness of all that can be done through cooperative giving.

A FEW RESULTS FROM **CP INVESTMENT OF:**

^{\$}3.57 MILLION

- 80 linear feet of historical material has been acquired by the Texas Baptist Historical Collection including the personal papers of Bruce Bowles and the records of Highland Park Baptist Church in Dallas.
- 4,735 donors made 24,706 gifts through the Texas Baptist Missions Foundation, which provided \$5,208,819 for current ministry needs and \$8,399,317 for endowments that will provide for future needs

66,000 magazines printed, 25,158 impressions on digital publications earned, 1.9K posts across 5 social media accounts published, 390 email newsletters sent, and 270 stories made available on txb.org, all telling the amazing story of what God is doing in and through Texas Baptist churches, ministry partners and staff

400+ requests for information from churches, individuals, and institutions have been answered



ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

\$ 11.06 MILLION

serve around the world

If your church gives through Texas Baptists CP, you impact millions of lives of all ages and cultures every year through the Office of the Associate Executive Director. One out of every 12 Texans is impacted by our education and human care institutions.

Baptist university students customers using Baptist Way 26,957 1.771 Press literature received \$7.8 million in aid 1,296 ministry students received 456 churches assisted with \$226,750 Ministerial Financial Assistance in grants and loans ^{\$}808,515 lives impacted in Texas through contributed to help ministers 275,350 child and human care institutions save for retirement 1,027 total chaplains endorsed to

A MOVEMENT OF GOD'S PEOPLE TO

SHARE CHRIST SHOW LOVE

5

ALL NEW MINISTRY CENTERS

CENTER for CHURCH HEALTH CENTER for MINISTERIAL HEALTH CENTER for CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER for MISSIONAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER for COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

SEE ALL 5 CENTERS $txb.org/ministries \rightarrow$



In 2020, Texas Baptists churches, through the BGCT, contributed

^{\$}21,432,113

to the SBC to reach the lost around the world for generations to come

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD North American Mission Board

8,873

full and part-time missionaries resulting in roughly

113,610 New Believers

7,433*

future and current ministers training at six SBC seminaries

* Approved CP Funding

Connect with Us

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Social Media

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🈏 @TexasBaptists

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