



The Forgotten Initiative

→ *annual report*
2025

2025 was a year marked by unexpected change with the birth of my son and a season of maternity leave. Even so, our team grew in clarity—clarity around the outcomes we are pursuing for caseworkers and clarity in how we communicate with those we serve. We also experienced meaningful growth within our leadership team, including the addition of a new Operations Director.

I am deeply grateful for your faithful generosity and commitment to TFI. As a steward of this organization, I am continually aware of my need for Jesus and others. I am thankful for the team, and the many counselors God has graciously surrounded me with. By His grace, I remain committed to leading with humility, conviction, and integrity. Thank you for your trust and support.

Gratefully,



JAMI KAEB
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Every foster care caseworker
supported by local churches, faithfully
reflecting the redemptive love of Christ.**

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THE PROBLEM

Foster care caseworkers are burning out—often misunderstood, under-supported, and overlooked by their own communities. Without support, burnout often leads to two harmful outcomes:

→ *workers stay—but their well-being declines*

Children feel less seen, less known, and less cared for.

→ *workers leave*

Children experience longer stays in foster care, increased instability, and broken trust.

Burnout doesn't only affect caseworkers. It changes the experience of the children they serve.

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OUR MISSION

The Forgotten Initiative helps churches support foster care caseworkers through awareness, encouragement, and advocacy.



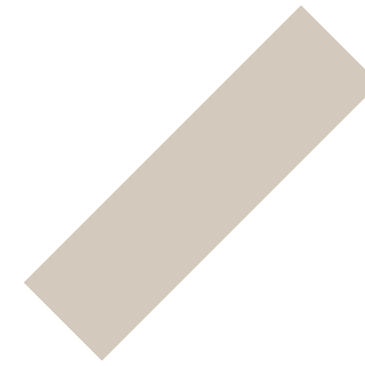
AWARENESS

Church Resources

Grandparents of fostering families often play a significant role—but they rarely receive training as their family steps into foster care. One of our TFI Advocates shared **The Forgotten Podcast** with a new foster grandmother, and she dove in—listening daily.

One episode in particular, featuring a foster mother and a birth mother sharing their stories together, deeply shifted her perspective. She began to see her foster grandson's biological mother with greater compassion and understanding.

The Lord softened her heart toward every part of the foster care community—not only the children, but the adults as well. Today, she is actively serving alongside our Advocate.



ENCOURAGEMENT

Caseworker Resources



Over the past few years working in my role at the church, my agency contact had been a bit standoffish. But this year, as we consistently used TFI's tools and approach, she became much more open. Now other social workers are reaching out to me because of her recommendation—and she is eager to partner with the church.

- *TFI Advocate*



ADVOCACY

Trained and Equipped Advocates

Two churches reached out to an Advocate wanting to support their local foster care agency. Around the same time, the agency needed a location to host an all-staff training day.

One church, located just across the street from the agency, gladly opened their doors, unaware of how close the need had been all along.

Another group from a second church, women ranging from their teens to forties, prepared and served lunch for 30 workers. As they listened to the realities caseworkers face, they were deeply moved. They prayed over the workers and have continued to seek ways to stay involved.

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WHAT WE'RE SEEING

Through The Forgotten Initiative, caseworkers experience dignity, community, and renewed hope as the Church grows in compassionate understanding and consistent engagement.

Dignity

When the Church grows in understanding, people are no longer overlooked

One of our Advocates invited two women from her church to drop off items for their local agency. What felt routine to the Advocate was anything but routine for them.

As they stepped inside, they saw the visitation rooms, the faces of children waiting for placement, and heard firsthand about the needs of both workers and families. They were moved to tears.

In simply being present, they began to see differently. That experience gave them language, compassion, and confidence to share with others—opening the door for their church to engage more meaningfully.

Community

Small acts of care remind caseworkers they are not alone.

An Advocate stopped by an agency with notes and snacks for the staff. As she walked through the building, she ran into a worker who jokingly asked if the snacks were for her.

The Advocate smiled and told her yes, they were!

The worker's response was immediate. She lit up with gratitude. In that small moment, she felt seen and remembered.

Someone cared. She wasn't alone.

Hope

Hope often arrives through presence in the hardest moments.

A TFI Advocate who co-leads foster parent training shared that her co-leader, a social worker, had reached a point of questioning if she could continue. That week had been especially heavy; filled with emotional goodbyes, strained visits, and the weight of complex decisions.

As the Advocate listened, she was reminded that these workers are not only professionals—they are people carrying deep grief. She paused and prayed with her.

Later, she asked if a church leader could come to the office to offer encouragement. The answer was immediate: yes.

Because a church partnership was already in place, that support came quickly. On a particularly hard day, workers were met with prayer, care, and encouragement—one by one.

↑ **Growth** *More people are beginning to see—and respond.*

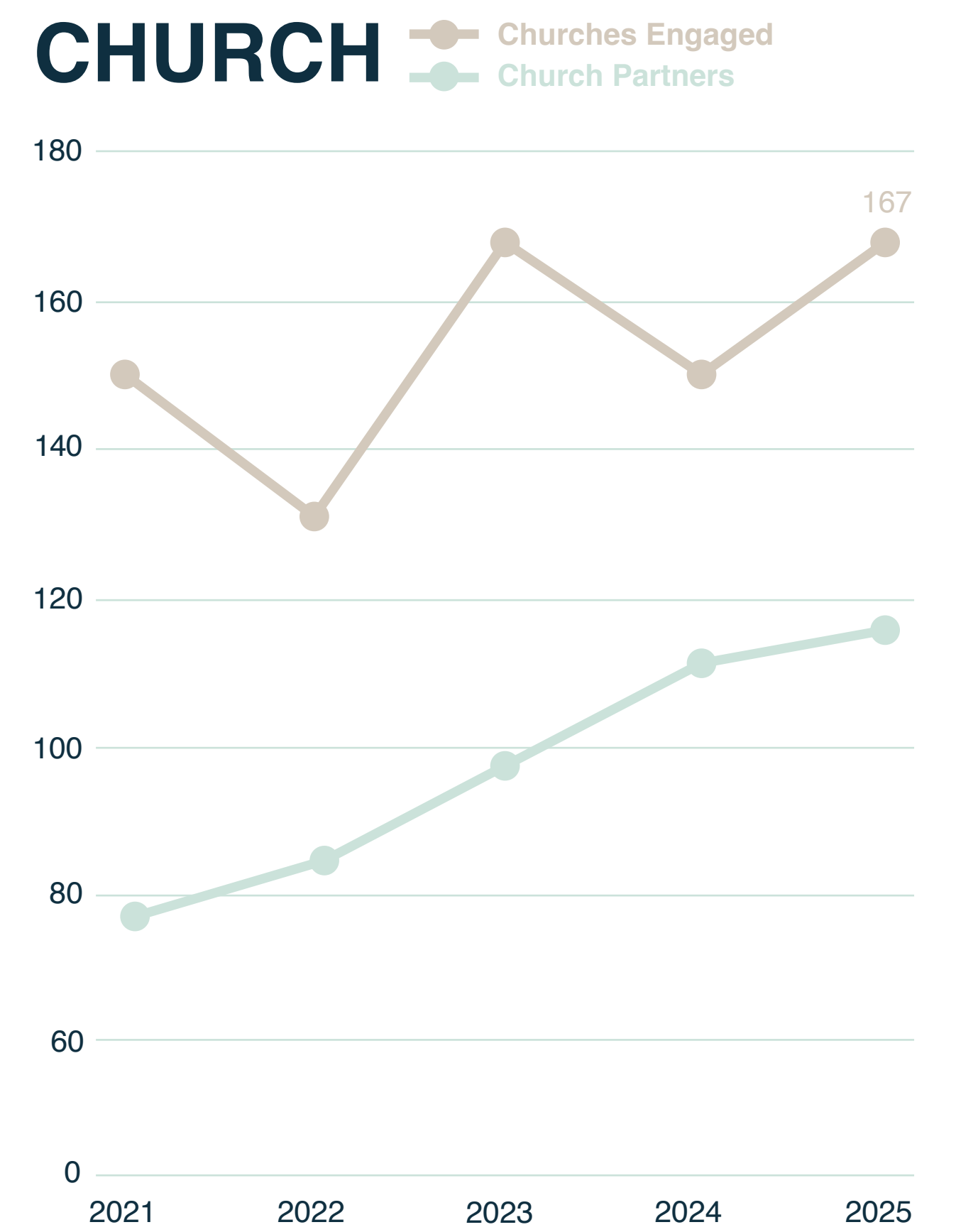
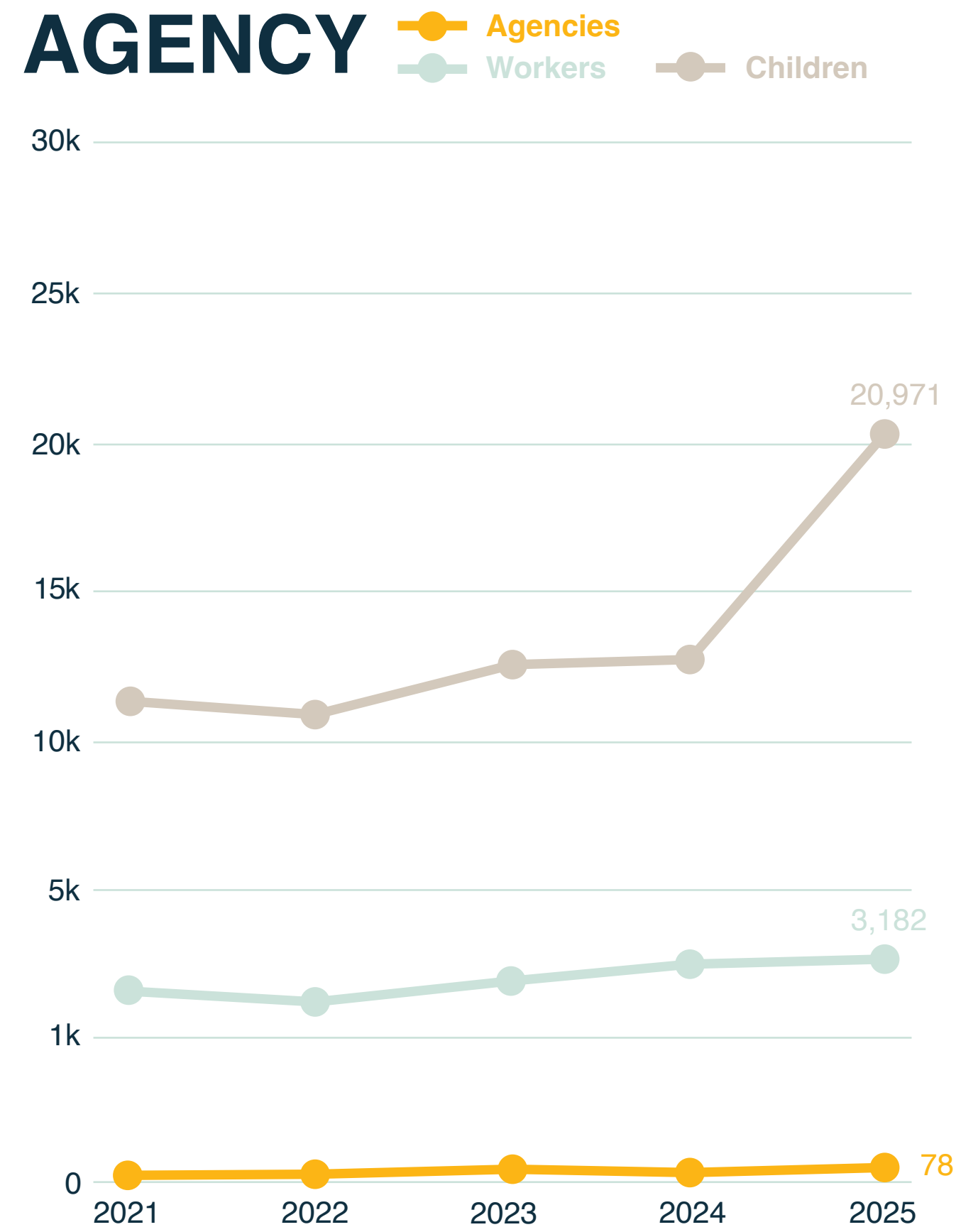
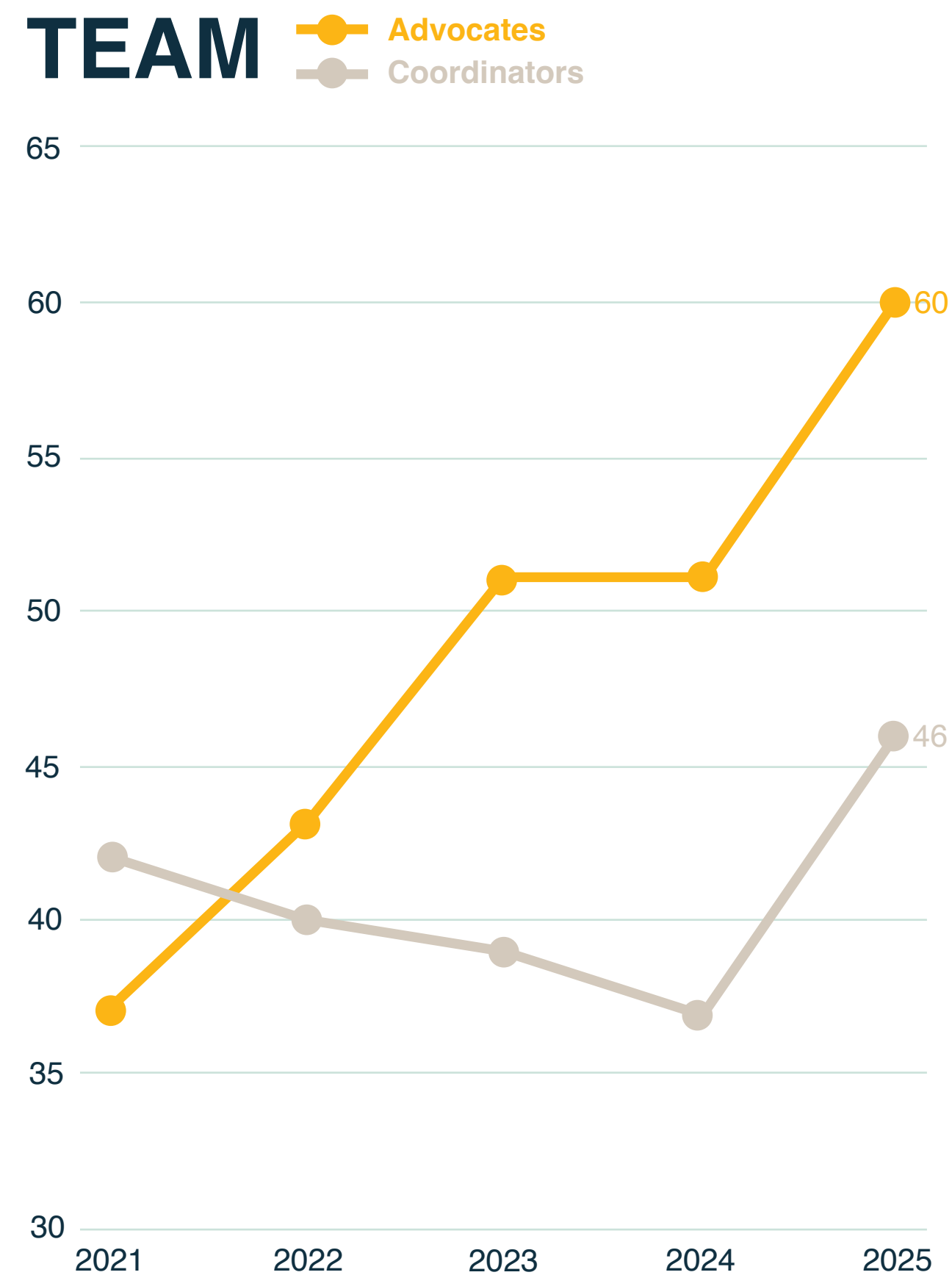
This work continues to grow—not only in reach, but in awareness.

**As one Advocate shared, “I was with a group of agency workers recently, and many said, ‘I had no idea the church cared.’”
This is beginning to change.**

We envision a future where every foster care caseworker is supported by local churches, faithfully reflecting the redemptive love of Christ.

5 YEAR MINISTRY SNAPSHOT

TFI ADVOCATES 60 +62% since 2021	AGENCY WORKERS SUPPORTED 3,182 +46% since 2021	CHILDREN IMPACTED 20,971 +77% since 2021	CHURCH PARTNERS 117 +54% since 2021
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/ 04 **Progress**

2025 GOALS

Train 25 new Advocates

While we did not reach our goal of training 25 new Advocates, we trained 16—launching 13 new ministries and supporting 3 leadership transitions.

Clarify and communicate our mission and vision

We made significant progress through social media, conferences, and messaging alignment. Website and video updates are now scheduled for early 2026.

Hire a Business Operations Director

This key role was successfully filled in May, strengthening our internal infrastructure.

2025 SNAPSHOT

+ New Advocates Trained: 16

167 Churches Engaged

States Represented: 25

Caseworkers Supported 3,182

Total Advocates 60

Children Reached 20,971

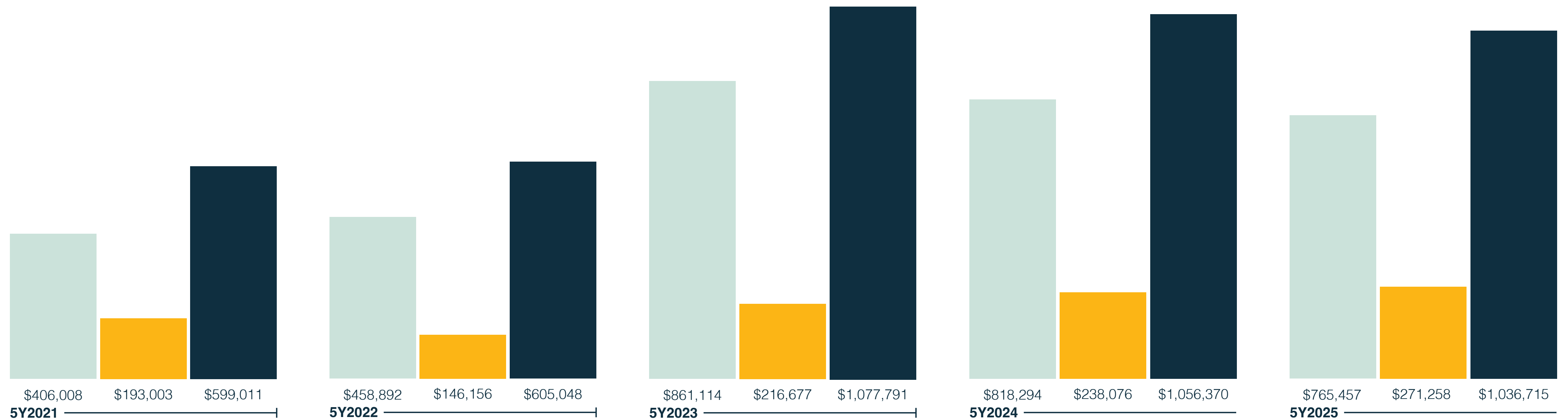
Agencies Partnered with: 78

/ 05 Financials

We are committed to stewarding the resources God has entrusted to us with transparency and integrity. Each year, TFI publishes a ministry report and independently audited financial statements so our partners can clearly see how their generosity supports this work.

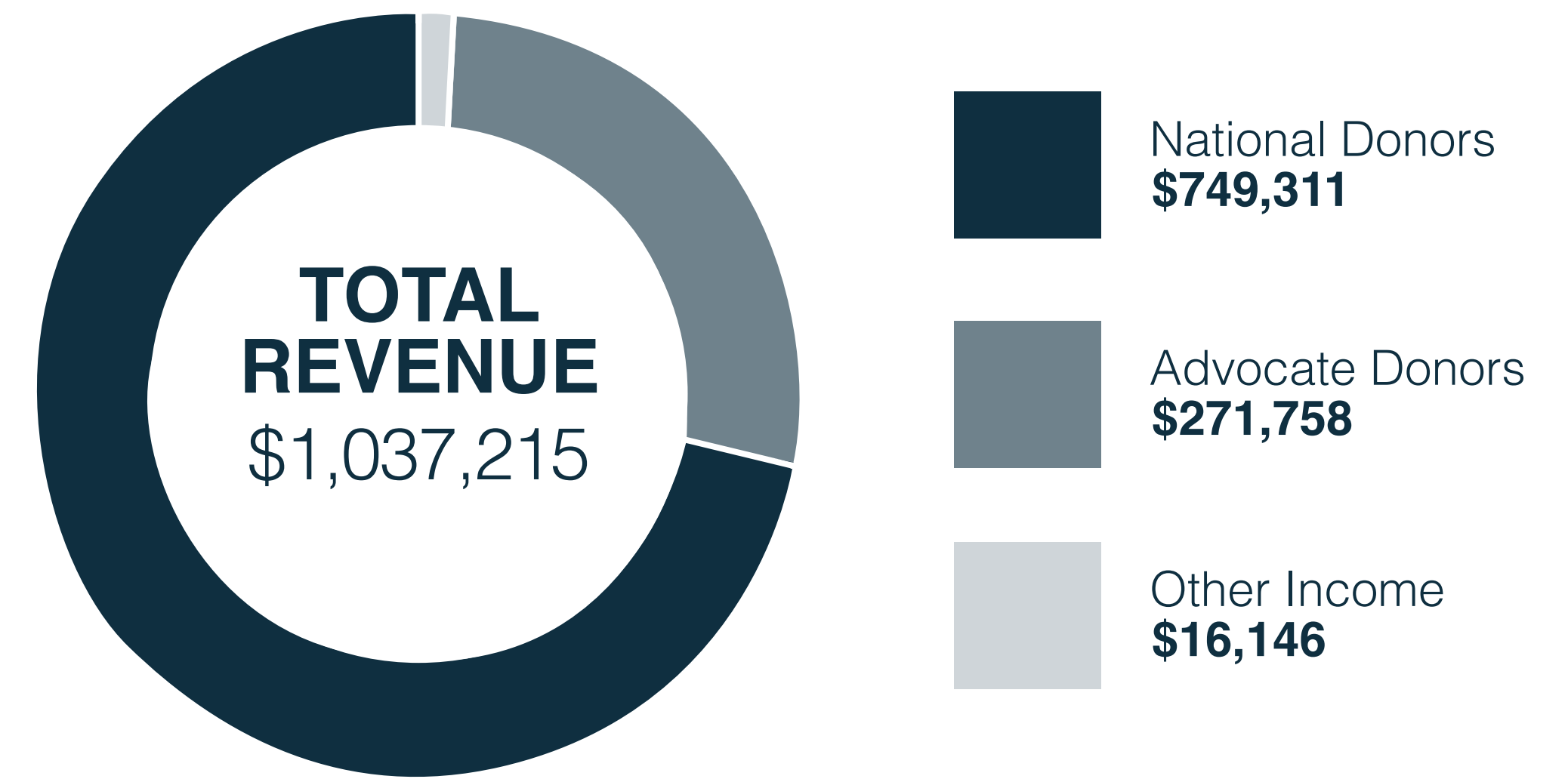
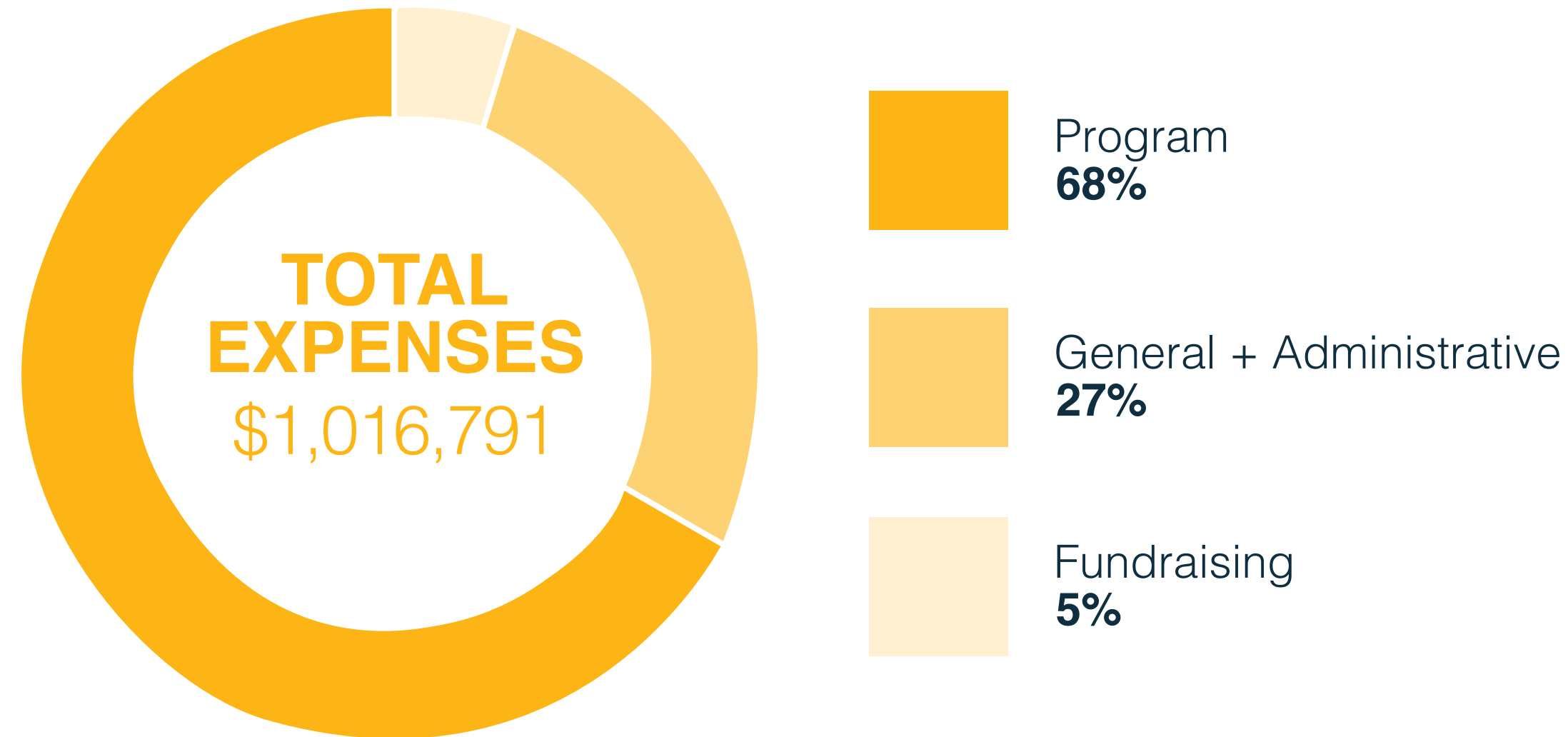
5 YEAR FUNDRAISING ANALYSIS

NATIONAL **ADVOCATES** **TOTAL**



*2023 National includes a one-time building grant of \$200,000

EXPENSES



*The financial information in this report reflects internal records prepared before the completion of our independent audit. Final audited results may vary slightly.

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Looking Ahead

2026 Goals

In 2026, we are focusing on deepening our reach and strengthening how people engage with this work.

MINISTRY FOCUS

- * Strengthen the Just Neighbors podcast as a missional entry point for church leaders
- * Launch a new podcast designed to encourage foster care caseworkers
- * Establish a baseline for consistent, individualized care for caseworkers
- * Expand to 70 Advocates, increasing support across more communities

STRENGTHENING OUR FOUNDATION

- * Add 1–2 new board members
- * Hire support roles for podcast management and creative design

Reflecting on this year leaves me with deep gratitude—first to the Lord for inviting me into this work, and then to you, our faithful partners who make it possible.

Thank you for your prayers, your generosity, and your trust as we continue forward together.

In this together,

Jami Kaeb

**JAMI KAEB
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**