



WE HAVE A PATHWAY OUT OF POVERTY FOR THE WORKING POOR.

It takes an amazing amount of grit to overcome poverty.

We don't want anyone to have to do it alone.



AT A GLANCE

THE MISSION

MISSION

Elevate Lives™ ends poverty one family at a time. We lead the working poor to become thriving, contributing members of society through a faith-centered approach and transformational community.

THE "1 IN 1,000" WE SERVE

Low to extremely low income families;
30-50% AMI

Single Moms

Married with kids

Single Dads

Individuals & Couples

GIVING A HAND UP

HOUSING

Quality, adjusted rate housing for the 1 in 1,000 ready to change

EQUIPPING

Individual and group coaching; 7 key areas; healthy extended family atmosphere

MENTORING

Accountability; healthy, supportive, encouraging relationships

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Opening doors to relationships with key professionals

IMPACT WE SEE ON FAMILIES

- Stability and security
- Self-confidence
- Increased credit scores
- Debt paid off
- Moving into leadership roles
- Planning for the future
- Families reunited
- Purchasing a home
- Child success in the classroom
- Healthy relational patterns established

Generations Changed!

THE ELEVATE LIVES IMPACT IN SPRINGFIELD, MO

2013

Elevate Lives founder works with Convoy of Hope to develop city wide initiatives in on-going care for the poor.

2013

First neighborhood party hosted at a SGF middle school.

2014

Neighborhood partner church collaborative began.

A VISION FOR THRIVING

THE NEED

While **millions** are in poverty, *not all are ready for change*. We serve the 1 in 1,000 family who has experienced a momentous change in mindset, realizing their strategies for life weren't working. Elevate Lives™ comes in with the next steps, providing hope and a Pathway out of Poverty™.

- **POVERTY IS MORE COMPREHENSIVE THAN A LACK OF MONEY**
- **POVERTY IS NOT ONE SIZE FITS ALL**
- **POVERTY ALLEVIATION CANNOT BE ADDRESSED WITH A SINGLE APPROACH**



A BRIDGE IS NEEDED TO A LIFE OF FLOURISHING.



THIS IS WHERE WE STEP IN -
THE CRITICAL GROWTH PHASE



"God wants far more for the poor. He desires nothing less than the recovery of all that was lost in the Fall"

- Amy L. Sherman, Senior Fellow at the Sagamore Institute.

ELEVATE LIVES HELPS MAKE THIS DREAM A REALITY

2014

University engages freshman in neighborhood work.

2015

Second city wide neighborhood church collaborative event.

2015

14,500 people served through Elevate Lives partners and initiatives.

ABOUT US

THE TEAM



RUSS GOSSELIN | FOUNDER/CEO

Russ spent his early years in California where he met and married his wife Sharon. They adopted two children and moved to Colorado Springs where he found his passion as a serial entrepreneur both in business and high-impact community initiatives. His work amongst the poor sparked the interest of Convoy of Hope who brought him on staff to work nationwide equipping churches and government agencies in going beyond relief efforts to strategically partner with schools and low income neighborhoods, meeting the needs of those in poverty.

Russ began to envision an organization where low-income people who had a deep desire to change could connect with those who had learned how to live life well. He longed to bring deep, impactful change to individuals and families. This vision is at the foundation of Elevate Lives™. Russ has two adult children, and two grandsons. He enjoys camping, hiking and flying.

WENDY BOULAIS | DIRECTOR

Wendy brings with her a rich history of over 30 years of diverse leadership roles. She is passionate about helping remove the obstacles that keep people from a full and meaningful life. Her experience includes creating culture, infrastructure, and establishing leadership in areas including care & recovery ministries, practical discipleship, worship ministry, mentorship, preschool students, and people on the autism spectrum. She has created training, been a keynote speaker, raised up leaders, and mobilized hundreds of volunteers for service.

Wendy began working with Elevate Lives in early 2021. She meets regularly with each Pathway™ participant to ensure needs are being met, and appropriate goals are being set and achieved. Her leadership, administrative and organizational skills are helping to create greater infrastructure to facilitate growth.



2016

Elevate Lives founder appointed to City Engagement Committee by Mayor (Zone 1 Blitz).

2016

Record breaking 85 churches and 210 pastors and volunteers in attendance for Zone 1 Blitz vision casting.

2016

Hundreds attend 4 neighborhood block parties.

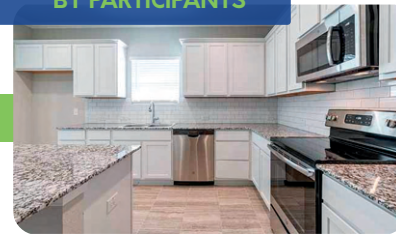
HOW WE DO IT

THE WORK

Pathway out of Poverty™ integrates equipping, goal setting, accountability, and encouragement with a growing relationship with God, resulting in a unique Pathway™ for each situation.

\$6,500

**AVERAGE AMOUNT
OF DEBT PAID OFF
BY PARTICIPANTS**



HOUSING

Homes with a Purpose™ brings new life to neighborhoods through renovating homes. In turn, these homes provide secure, quality housing at an adjusted rate for those actively engaged in the Pathway out of Poverty™.

Caring community members, contractors and organizations donate and volunteer to help underwrite home renovations, helping to reduce rent.

Participation in Pathway out of Poverty™ does not require use of this housing.

EQUIPPING

We impart practical knowledge and wisdom for life, which includes an emphasis on discovering and addressing the underlying issues that have prevented the person from thriving in the past.

We believe internal transformation and healing makes room for long term, outward success.

One-on-one and group settings provide individualization, accountability, and encouragement on the Pathway out of Poverty™. We're not satisfied with anything less than each Pathway™ participant learning how to live life well, and help others do the same!



100% OF PARTICIPANTS ARE
OPERATING ON A BUDGET
AND SETTING WEEKLY GOALS

Equipping Topics

- Value and Purpose
- Engaged Parenting
- Financial Management
- Spiritual Connection
- Strong Integrity
- Healthy Boundaries
- Wisdom for Life
- Relational Leadership

2016

256 people in need are connected with local churches.

2016

Elevate Lives co-founded Jobs for Life in an at-risk neighborhood.

2016

Seventy-five churches attend city wide pastor's summit on poverty.

HOW WE DO IT

CONT.

Families learn to thrive from the inside out with the integration of truth and strong relational connections.

MENTORING

Encouraging relationships are critical.

Connecting our participants to healthy, supportive relationships leads to changed lives in the present and for generations to come.

Those who have experience navigating God's Pathway for life are an encouragement and additional guide on the journey.



100% RESTORED RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN.

ALL FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS SERVED ARE LOW TO EXTREMELY LOW INCOME; 30-50% AMI



90 INDIVIDUALS SERVED THROUGH HOUSING OFFERED TO PARTNERING RECOVERY MINISTRIES.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Relationships and quality connections are essential to become thriving, contributing members of the community.

We go the extra mile to introduce Elevate Lives™ participants to community members who want to advance the working poor through their area of professional expertise.

Sometimes it makes the most sense to help by "doing what you do best." If you've wanted to help those in poverty through your profession, gifts or abilities, but weren't sure how to invest wisely, we've got just the people for you!

→ 600,000 volunteer hours

2017

7,500 volunteer hours given to help SGF neighbors in need.

2017

Four semi-truck loads of product + 6,000 pairs of shoes distributed to families in need.

2017

School volunteer training and initiative began.

IMPACT ON GENERATIONS

THE RESULTS

Being a part of the Pathway out of Poverty™ is like being adopted into a healthy, interactive, extended family.

100%

OF THE FAMILIES HAVE
IMPROVED HOUSING
CONDITIONS



"When I was introduced to Elevate Lives™, my kids and I were coming out of a domestic violence shelter — I felt like our lives were ruined. I have never lived in a place that the kids and I could be proud of, but we now have a beautiful home where we host groups and neighborhood gatherings!"

On top of that, they help us prepare to meet our family goals. I get to participate in life-skills training, as well as meet with a mentor and a budget coach to keep me on track to buy a house within the year! The team at Elevate Lives™ works hard to meet the specific needs of our family and strengthen our connection to God! They have really allowed us to hope again!"

- Annalise, Pathway™ Participant

\$5,033

AVERAGE
SAVINGS
INCREASE

2017

First home was donated to Elevate Lives™.

2018

Ready-Set-Supply launched with Springfield Public Schools.

2018 Two more homes acquired

2018

1,242 Homes impacted through Neighbors helping Neighbors home and yard clean ups.

IMPACT ON GENERATIONS

THE RESULTS

Notable Quotes

"I am now able to maintain stable housing for me and my children. I would not have been able to do it without the skills and support I have received through Elevate Lives."

"We have really thought through what we spend our money on, how we give back, and the purpose of our finances. It has helped us to see the bigger picture instead of just looking at the here and now."

"I am able to look at money differently after my involvement with Elevate Lives. We realize God wants us to use money as a tool to save and make decisions that make our family more secure and to benefit others."

"Before entering into Elevate Lives I was walking around without understanding how to get out of poverty and Elevate Lives is really helping me see and understand how to think properly to be able to live in a way that glorifies God."



95% OF PARTICIPANTS BEGIN EARNING PROMOTIONS AND ACCOMPANYING PAY RAISES WITHIN 4 MONTHS.



2018

Strategic partnerships take greater shape.

2018

100 churches continue to engage Elevate Lives™.

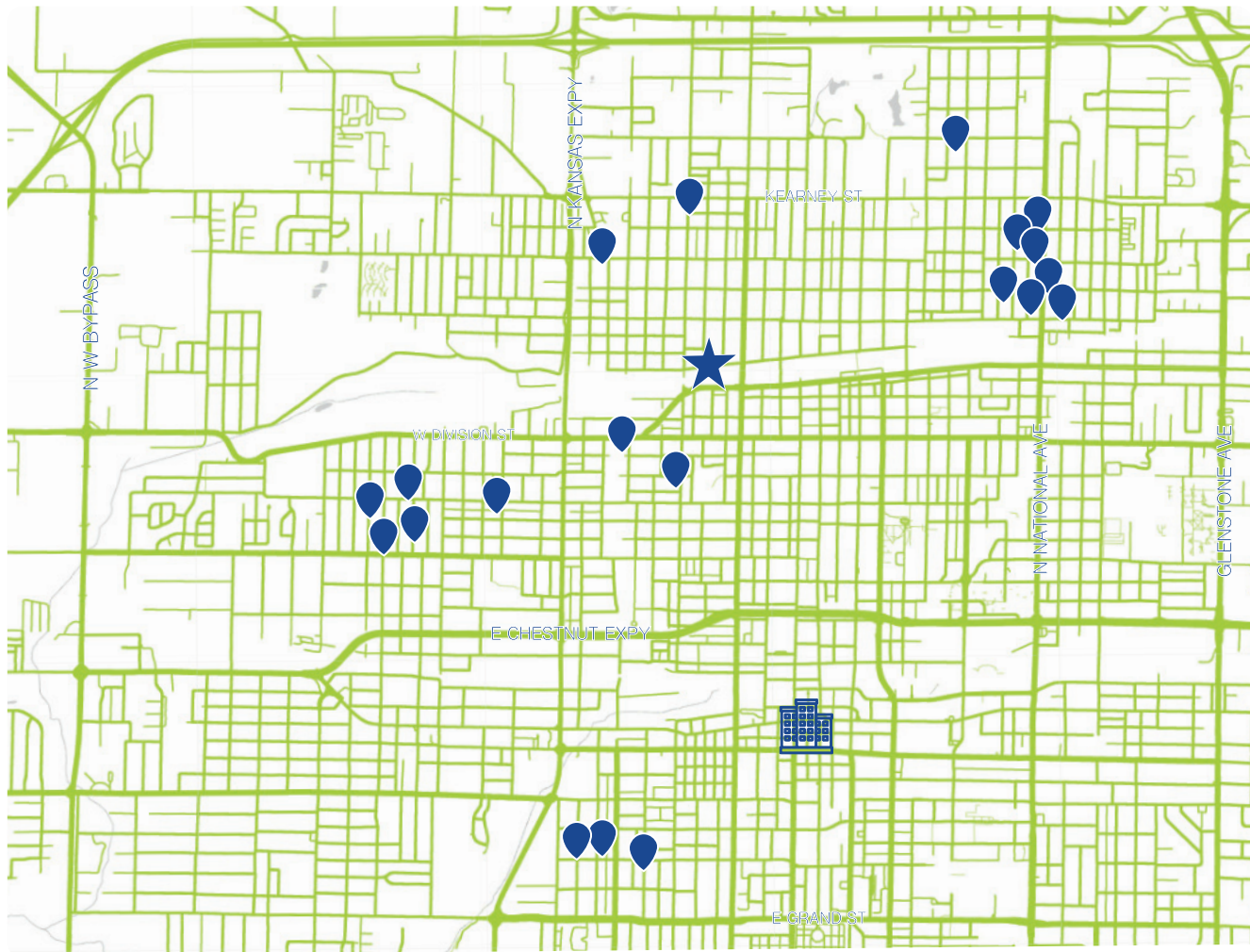
2018

16,000 hours of volunteer impact tallied.

LOOKING FORWARD

THE FUTURE

CURRENT ELEVATE LIVES HOMES



Through 2022 40 family members have been served through Homes with a Purpose™ and Pathway out of Poverty™ .

2019

Two homes are acquired for families.

2020

Elevate Lives™ responds to the food crisis with 50,000 meals.

2020 Two more homes acquired

2020

Home renovations continued.

PATHWAY TO PARTNERSHIP

GET INVOLVED

Vision at a Glance

- **COMPLETE CURRENT HOME RENOVATIONS**
- **ACQUIRE APARTMENTS AND FAMILY CENTER**
- **INCREASE STAFFING**



83 AVERAGE CREDIT
POINTS SCORE INCREASE

GET INVOLVED

With help from people like you, we will continue to see change take place that will multiply and impact generations to come!

2021

Equipping Center, warehouse and office space was acquired on C-Street.

2021

Federal Home Loan Bank grant allows purchase of 12 more homes.

2021 Sixteen more homes acquired

2021

Family Equipping gatherings begin; Pathway out of Poverty was born.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

THE BUDGET

Pathway out of Poverty

OVER THE NEXT 3 YEARS

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
PROGRAM	\$310,000	\$420,000	\$480,000
CAPITAL INITIATIVES	HOME RENOVATIONS \$90,000	MULTIFAMILY HOUSING \$2,700,000	TRAINING FACILITIES \$215,000
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$1,190,000		
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$2,970,000		
TOTAL	\$4,160,000		



LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER!



2022

Milestone of 40th family member placed in housing through Pathway out of Poverty.

2022

Resource Center on C-Street began construction.

TODAY

The possibilities are endless...

ELEVATE LIVES *Sponsors*



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