

# CAMPUS COLLECTIVE

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

BE KNOWN • EXPERIENCE JESUS • DISCOVER PURPOSE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

2022-23 was a year of growth, development, and fruitfulness from seeds planted over the past three to four years! We began this year by adding three new staff to our state-wide team —two of which are serving in their first year in full-time ministry. Nonetheless, each stepped up to the plate of college ministry and crushed it throughout the course of the year. There were certainly some learning curves, and some natural ups and downs, but I could not be more proud of how our staff honed into real vulnerable community with one another and the students we served throughout the course of this year! There is no doubt in my mind that our staff are our greatest assets when it comes to our ability to execute ministry on college campuses for students across the state. The staff God has provided in this season of ministry are well equipped and have made a tremendous Kingdom impact on the three campuses we serve.

Coming into the year it was our collective desire to see students who were far from God be given the opportunity to come near once again or maybe for the first time. The stories in this report give testimony to the growth we have made as a ministry in making space for these students to be known and loved in our community and experience the love of God through us. This is an area we hope to continue to excel in well into the future!

Finally, this year was also a year of harvest. We graduated one of the largest classes of student from our ministry to date - 47 students! These students represent a season of dedicated discipleship on behalf of our staff teams where we are celebrating the growth and transformation we have been so privileged to witness over the course of the past three to four years with them! God is good, and we head into this year praying that God would continue to grow and expand us by filling these freshly graduated spots with new first years, and growing our upper classes with new stories of healing, encounter, and transformation that only God can bring!

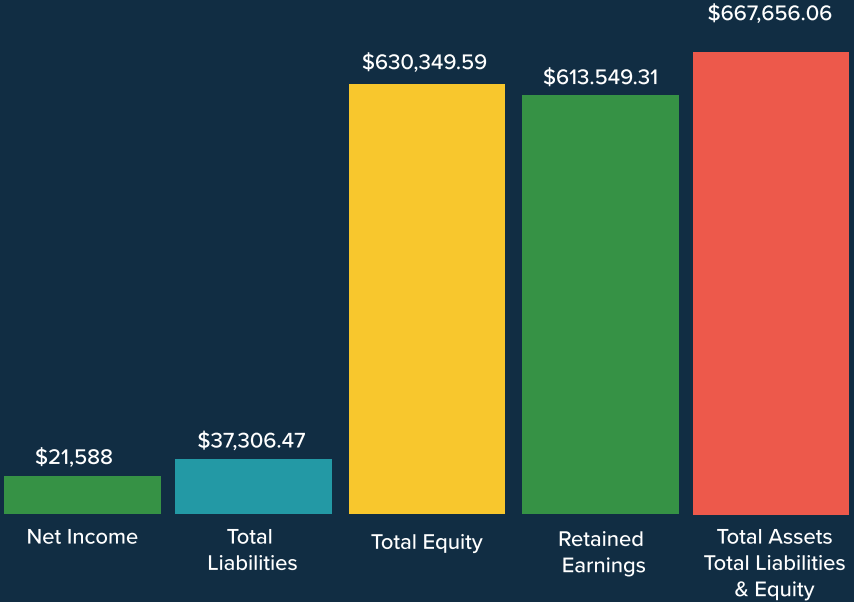
Justin Burge  
Executive Director

← BAPTISM

51  
TOOK ACTIVE STEPS  
IN FAITH JOURNEY

139  
STUDENTS IMPACTED

# 22-23 FINANCIALS



# 22-23 STAFF



**Josh Didier**  
UW MADISON LEAD CAMPUS  
MINISTER



**Aaron Preston**  
UW OSHKOSH LEAD CAMPUS  
MINISTER



**Jeremy Young**  
UW OSHKOSH CAMPUS  
MINISTER



**Luke Hatfield**  
RIPON COLLEGE LEAD CAMPUS  
MINISTER



**Emma Lurvey**  
RIPON COLLEGE CAMPUS  
MINISTER



**Trisha Clark**  
OFFICE & HOUSING  
ADMINISTRATOR



**Crystal Patt**  
SENIOR FINANCIAL  
ADMINISTRATOR



**Justin Burge**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# RIPON COLLEGE

Campus Collective has significantly impacted my life by connecting me to God's people in one of the most seemingly-unlikely places of all: a college campus. God showed up in my life when I arrived at Ripon and used Campus Collective from the very start of my college journey as a freshman to show me my spiritual gifts and change the course of my life forever. I needed a place where I could feel welcomed, loved, and a true sense of belonging and Campus Collective is that place for me. As a student leader for Campus Collective at Ripon College some people have told me this semester about how grateful they are for what I have done for our community. But the truth is, I think that Campus Collective has done so much more for me than what I have done for them, and the impact on my life has been immense. In my four years as a student committed to the community here at Campus Collective God has allowed me the opportunity to grow so much in my faith and relationship with Him! Over the course of my college career I got to go on two international mission trips, make friends with other students and believers across the state, attend annual retreats, be personally discipled into the deepest relationship with God that I never could have imagined on my own, be invested in as a student leader, and follow Jesus into baptism at Devil's Lake! My time in Campus Collective has no doubt changed my life by giving me friends throughout college, people to turn to

when I couldn't rely on anyone else, and an accepting place to be myself. Campus Collective was some of my most well-spent time throughout college serving, learning, and growing. I have been given so much in these 4 years, and it was all thanks to God, who had a plan for my life from the very moment I stepped foot here in Ripon.



-Mikayla Barnes '23



There was never a day where I woke up and decided that God was no longer for me, it was a steady decline. Once that chart hit bottom, spirituality never crossed my mind again for years. If I were asked whether I believed in a God, the answer would have been a firm “no.” I would not have cared enough about the question to even justify my answer. That was until I went on a mission trip in spring of 2023 with Campus Collective. The

intimidation of going on a mission trip with a Christian group was significant. Prior to going I even asked the president of Campus Collective if it was even okay that I (a non-religious person) could go. His answer was so incredibly warm and welcoming that I was immediately reassured. I learned more about what religion looks like from the Campus Collective members I met for just a few days than I did during the years I spent growing up Catholic. It was no secret that I was a non-religious person on the trip. Yet it was through this lens I got to see what it looked like to have a relationship with your faith. It was okay to ask questions, it was okay to have doubts, and it was okay to not exactly be okay. There was an endless amount of support for everyone that was from everyone. I had found a key to the door I had desperately needed, and I was caught completely off guard. Although I was not “converted” or have any type of “spiritual awakening” on the trip my perspective of religion did a complete 180. Coming back, I was nervous that the friends I made during the mission trip were temporary. I was unsure whether the home I built with them in Kentucky would travel back to campus with us. Boy, was that a silly thought. Despite knowing my beliefs, I had multiple people, even the ones I did not connect as well with, heavily encouraged me to join Tuesday night worships with Campus Collective. And the rest is history. Joining a Christian Ministries club my freshman year of college is probably the last thing either myself or anyone who knows me would have expected. Yet here I am. I hardly miss a Tuesday worship night. I will admit, I do not attend to build a relationship with God. I still do not know where I am with that quite yet. Today if anyone were to ask me whether I believed in God, my answer would be, “I don’t know.” But this time I would justify my answer, because I genuinely care about the question. I go to Tuesday night worship to see the strangers that I met on a mission trip I made an impulse decision to go on. We went on that mission trip to help build houses for people who lost theirs in a tornado. While I was there, I also built a home for myself in a community I never thought I would be welcomed to. I am always and forever grateful I can call those strangers my friends today.

UW OSHKOSH

-Kylee Noshush '26

## UW MADISON

In a year of rebuilding and welcoming Josh Didier to our team as the new Lead Campus Minister at UW Madison we began handing out free cups of coffee to students and faculty on campus to make their day and help them to know someone saw them and cared about them. I still remember our fifth week when students began to recognize, “Hey, you guys are here every week.” It was an exercise in trust building with students who are incredibly suspicious of Christian and faith-based groups, but over time trust and curiosity were built. Eventually students started to stop by saying, “I have seen you all year; I just had to see what this was all about.” We tell students we do it to make their day. We tell them we are a campus ministry wanting to show them love and that we are with them in all the hard work they do week in and week out. By the end of the year, we had 30 students, staff, and faculty that had become our “regulars” we could talk with about their week and their life. One person we talked with at the end of the year said, “I am not an organized religious person, but I have a deep personal faith. I am grateful for you and how you show up each week to engage myself and campus. I am grateful that I can come out here and talk to you about anything, especially things I don’t feel like I can talk to anyone else about. Over this year I have felt more connected to my faith and you guys have been a part of that.” What we learned this year is that showing up every week matters to people. We learned that a



simple exchange of humanity and an earnest gift with no agenda outside of genuine presence can change a person’s day, and maybe even their life. For some of the students we saw each week we wondered, “Were we the only people in their lives that knew what they were facing in life?” Maybe we were, maybe we were not, but we were there, and we cared, and it made a difference in students’ lives.

## SPRING BREAK SPAIN

This year God created a partnership with Campus Collective and En Vivo, a campus ministry of a similar ethos in Valencia, Spain. Over Spring Break, we were able to take 15 students from Ripon College to experience faith in a new and international context. Of the 15 students we brought, 10 were students looking to reengage a faith that they had either walked away from or had allowed to go dormant over the course of the past few years. Because of this we prayed deeply for God to show up in the lives of our students on this trip and He did! For many students God addressed fears that they had been carrying for far too long. For others they were deeply moved through experiencing God again in their lives on a different continent, blown away by God's faithfulness to His people across both time and cultures. We look forward to continuing to grow our relationship with En Vivo and seeing students' lives transformed as we share our faith from one continent to another!



## 2023-24 VISION

### **Be Known. Be Healed. Become.**

The vision for 2023-24 focuses on going deeper in creating spaces for students to encounter the love, healing, and grace that only God can provide. The reality is that doctors are unable to heal their patients, as they can only provide the most optimal environment for the mystery of healing to occur. Just as this is true in the physical world, we also believe this to be true in the spiritual world. It is our hope over the course of this year to lead our ministries in such a way that they provide the most optimal environments for our students to experience the deep and restorative healing that only our God can provide. In an attempt to grow in this, we are shifting our focus to being spiritual practitioners and guides to our students by modeling a life of spiritual practice and vulnerability that invites and teaches how to create the space necessary in their lives for spiritual healing, transformation, and restoration to occur. We believe this begins with students opening up and experiencing the gift of being truly known. For many of our students the idea of being truly known is both their deepest desire and their greatest fear. We know it is here where the greatest amount of healing can also begin to occur. We ask that you would come beside us in this season and lift up our staff and students continually as we seek to make God's power, grace, and love known to the world around us through college students across the state of Wisconsin!



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COLLECTIVE**  
CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

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