

TALLAHASSEE JACKSONVILLE PANAMA CITY ORLANDO FT. LAUDERDALE

25th

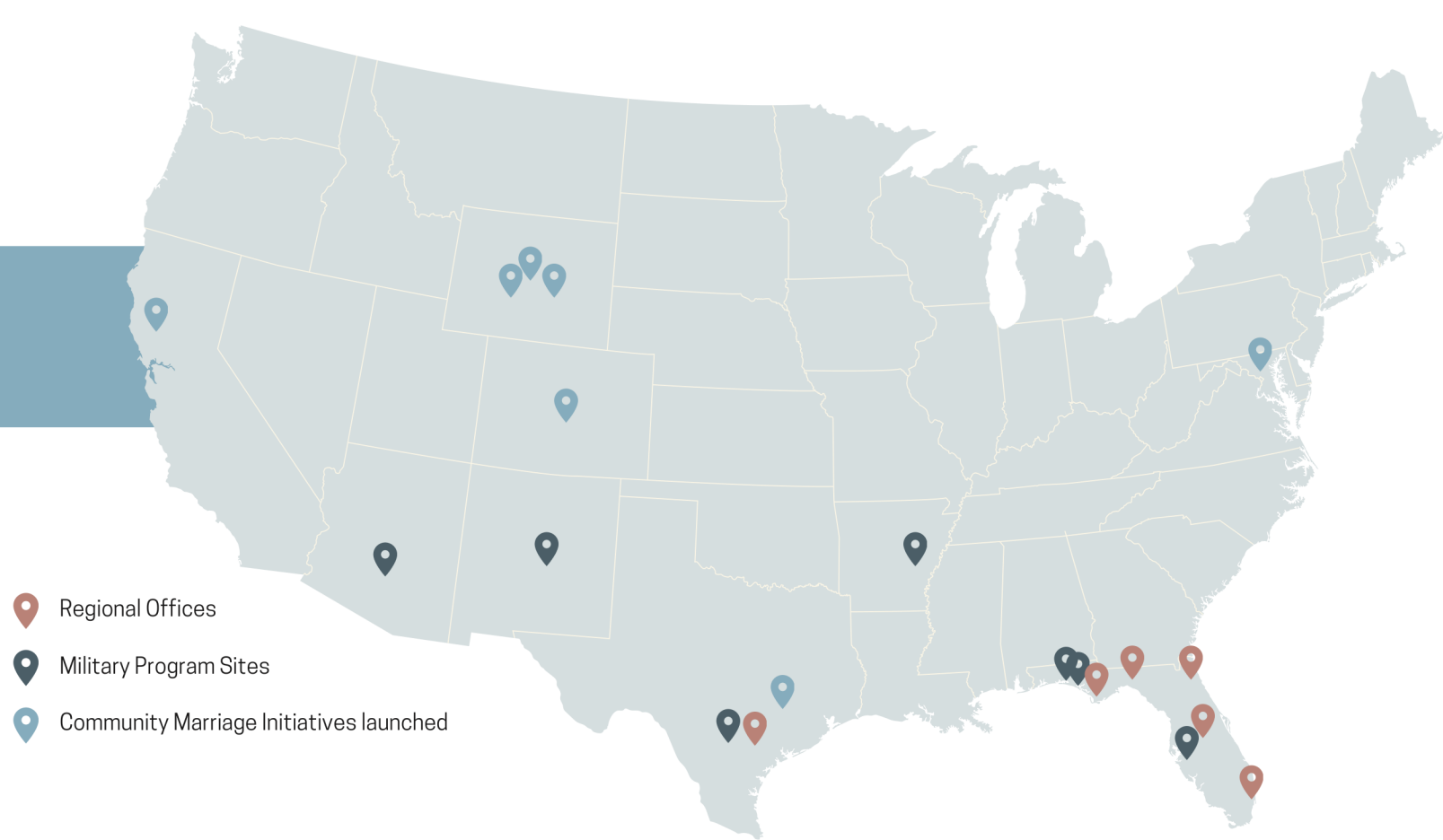
ANNIVERSARY

LIVE THE LIFE

STRENGTHENING MARRIAGES AND FAMILIES SINCE 1998

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





2023 BY THE NUMBERS

6,554 Adult Relationship Education Graduates

Student Relationship Education Graduates **3,736**

583 Marriages saved

Cost savings to taxpayers* **\$23,320,000**

2,404 Military Program Graduates

12,694 TOTAL Program Graduates

*Cost-savings estimate based on work by Dr. David G. Schramm, "Individual and Social Costs of Divorce in Utah", Journal of Family and Economic Issues, Vol. 27, Number 1, April 2006, pp 133-151. DOI: 10.1007/s10834-005-9005-4, and adjusted for inflation at the NARME annual Summit in 2022



Our corporate team helped launch a Community Marriage Initiative in Helena, Montana

MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

Elizabeth and I started Live the Life out of the dysfunction and hardship that came from our own marriage. The photo to the right comes from the famous marriage class where Elizabeth told me our marriage only scored a “2 out of 10!” This led to us doing some serious work to figure out what it takes to build a successful marriage, and kindled our burning passion to share what we learned with couples everywhere.



“

Today I stand in awe of all the Lord has done through Live the Life. Our relationship and marriage education work has travelled to 33 states and 15 different countries to date. Only the Lord knows how far this journey will go over the next 25 years.

Live the Life started as a one-man show in our home town and now we have offices across Florida and continue to launch and support marriage initiatives around the country.

Our 25th year was also one for the books. Our staff inducted us into the Marriage Hall of Fame, we expanded our military programs, and opened a new office in Orlando, Florida. It is truly humbling that there is hardly a week that goes by without some new partner organization reaching out to us wanting to offer our programs. God is so good!

Richard Albertson
Founding President



ADVENTURES IN MARRIAGE



Our flagship program has been described by researchers as “one of the most effective marriage programs in the country!”

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Adventures in Marriage (AIM) is internationally recognized as one of the very best relationship education programs in the field. Most couples do not know “how” to be married. They never learned the right way to build a strong marriage that will last. Instead they grew up watching unhealthy relationships and then assumed their own marriage would somehow turn out differently.

AIM helps couples discover better ways to meet one another’s needs, communicate, resolve conflicts, express anger, avoid dirty fighting, and understand how their personality styles impact relationships for better or worse.

AIM is a highly interactive program that teaches couples the practical “hands on” skills essential to build a healthy, thriving marriage that can go the distance.

Fun, practical, and easy to learn, Adventures in Marriage is appropriate for couples at any age or stage.

Designed to reach couples across the spectrum – it helps couples with good marriages discover how to have a great marriage, and it helps distressed marriages reboot and learn a much better way.





"This weekend probably saved our marriage - a game changer"

Chelsea

"After all these years of marriage, I never thought we could make this much forward progress in just 2 days"

Brian

*all photos on this page are real couples who went through Adventures in Marriage



HOPE WEEKEND



For more than 20 years, an average of 85% of couples in crisis and headed for divorce have come out of Hope Weekends healed, reconciled, and whole.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Hope Weekends provide specific, practical, attainable skills to help couples:

- Reconnect and develop/restore trust
- Promote a greater sense of "Us" and oneness
- Experience deeper levels of intimacy, knowledge, and understanding of one another
- Learn the essential relationship skills required to develop, maintain, and sustain a deeply bonded and connected relationship
- Strengthen core communication skills
- Learn proven conflict resolution skills that work through problems without tearing one another apart

- Develop emotional regulation and increased EQ (Emotional Intelligence)
- Heal from accumulated relational pain

Did you know the average cost of a divorce is over \$20,000?

We ask couples on the verge of divorce to block out 3 days of their life and go "all in" and work hard to get the breakthrough they desperately want and need from a Hope Weekend experience.

The stakes are too high for us to give up on a single struggling marriage!





DATE NIGHT

On the other side of the spectrum from Hope Weekends is Date Nights - a fun, non-threatening way to invest in your relationship.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Every couple needs to take time out to invest in “US”!

In today's busy world it's not easy to put intentional, uninterrupted time on the schedule for our spouse. Even so, it's so important to make your marriage a priority, and we're here to help!

Live the Life hosts multiple Date Nights filled with fun, laughter, and connection.



START SMART



Trained mentors lead dating and engaged couples through a comprehensive premarital experience that includes focused conversations on more than 100 critical topics, learning essential communication and conflict resolution skills development, and helping couples manage expectations

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Couples go through an in-depth, premarital inventory driven by current research that provides a unique profile of a couple's relationship, measuring their strengths and growth areas in 13 critical categories needed for a successful marriage.

The couple can use our list of trained coaches to identify a mentor couple to go through up to five mentoring sessions to process Start Smart inventory answers and workbook exercises through targeted discussion.

Couples receive a printed workbook packed with innovative exercises and meaningful content regarding expectations, finances, personalities and perspectives, sexuality and intimacy, communication, and conflict resolution.

About 15-20% of couples who go through Start Smart break up - we believe it is far better to have a broken engagement than a broken marriage with children down the road.





“It made us really have deep conversations about topics that matter”

Derrick

“I feel equipped to handle any challenges that marriage throws our way. I am so grateful for our mentors who answered all of our questions”

Ashley

*all photos on this page are real couples who went through Start Smart



FAMILY FRONTIERS



This program gets the whole family involved! With parents and children (over the age of 7) going through this program together, everyone has a voice and a chance to learn and grow.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Family Frontiers isn't just a program; it's a dynamic experience adaptable to the needs of modern families. Developed by our Founder, Richard Albertson, this program has become a staple at military retreats since 2016, garnering praise for its effectiveness as both a 2-parent and single-parent program.

Family Frontiers helps adults “parent toward the goal,” navigate through the 4 seasons of parenting, and lead healthy, thriving families in a diverse and constantly evolving culture.

The FF program isn't just about information—it's about interaction. Families collaborate to develop Emotional

Intelligence (EQ), sharpen parenting skills, solve problems, strengthen family bonds, and develop stronger communication and conflict resolution skills. It helps parents learn how to discuss difficult topics with their teenagers including sexuality and healthy life choices.

Family Frontiers by the numbers:

- **123%** increase in parents stating they have the knowledge and skills to communicate well
- **143%** boost in confidence for healthy conflict resolution
- **94%** drop in parents lacking confidence in their parenting abilities
- **87%** decrease in loneliness among participating parents





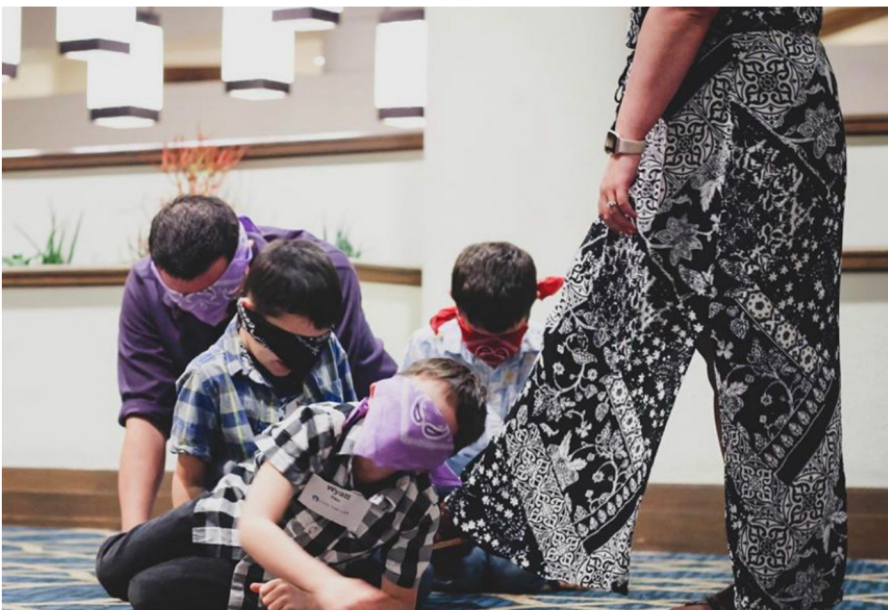
"It allowed my children to finally speak up and say how they felt in a healthy way."

Thomas

"This has made me realize that I need to make some changes on the way I communicate with my children, and also has been beneficial for my teenage son to feel free to speak up and be open about his feelings"

Jada

*all photos on this page are real families who went through FF



TRUE NORTH PROJECT

We teach students ages 10-19 how to develop healthy relationships and avoid risky sexual behaviors that lead to teen pregnancy and STIs.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Researchers have found that we can reduce their risk of poverty by realigning marriage and parenthood and putting them back in the proper order by promoting the "success sequence" which is:

- 1) get educated
- 2) get a job
- 3) get married
- 4) then have children

Census data show that if all Americans followed the success sequence at the same rate as Americans had in 1970, the poverty rate would be cut by around 70% — without additional government spending. No welfare program, however amply funded, could ever hope for anything approaching such success.

Research tells us when students KNOW better, they DO better. The True North Project helps students make better decisions that lead to better life outcomes including:

- Decreased risk behaviors including drug abuse, alcohol abuse
- Avoiding teen pregnancy
- Graduating from High school
- Making better grades
- Establishing healthy boundaries that lead to stronger relationships
- The do's and don'ts regarding social media usage
- Identifying Relationship "Red Flags" and developing healthy dating strategies and ideas for staying connected with good friends
- Planning for and achieving the future they want
- Sex in the context of love and its effect on whole person health





“The decisions you make as a teenager will impact the rest of your life. This is your life, and you get to live it.”

Lily

“Thank you for sharing the Live the Life lessons with our class. The presentation was very inspiring, to say the least! The sessions that you covered with our class were life altering.”

Maurice

*all photos on this page are real students who went through a TNP program



OUR GROWTH

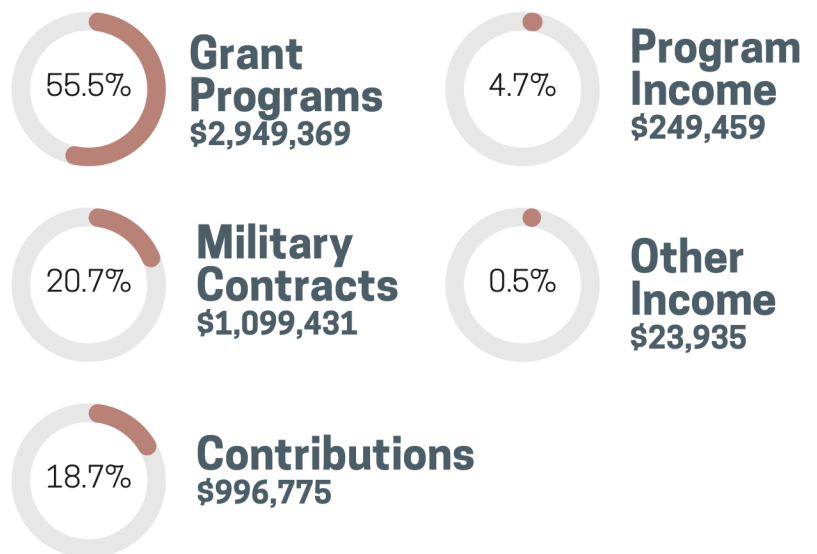
Over the past 25 years Live the Life has seen unprecedented growth! We started in 1998 with a budget of \$58,000 and one employee. Two and a half decades later, our annual budget is over \$5 million, with multiple offices across Florida and over 30 employees!



FINANCE REPORT (2023) *All numbers are preliminary*



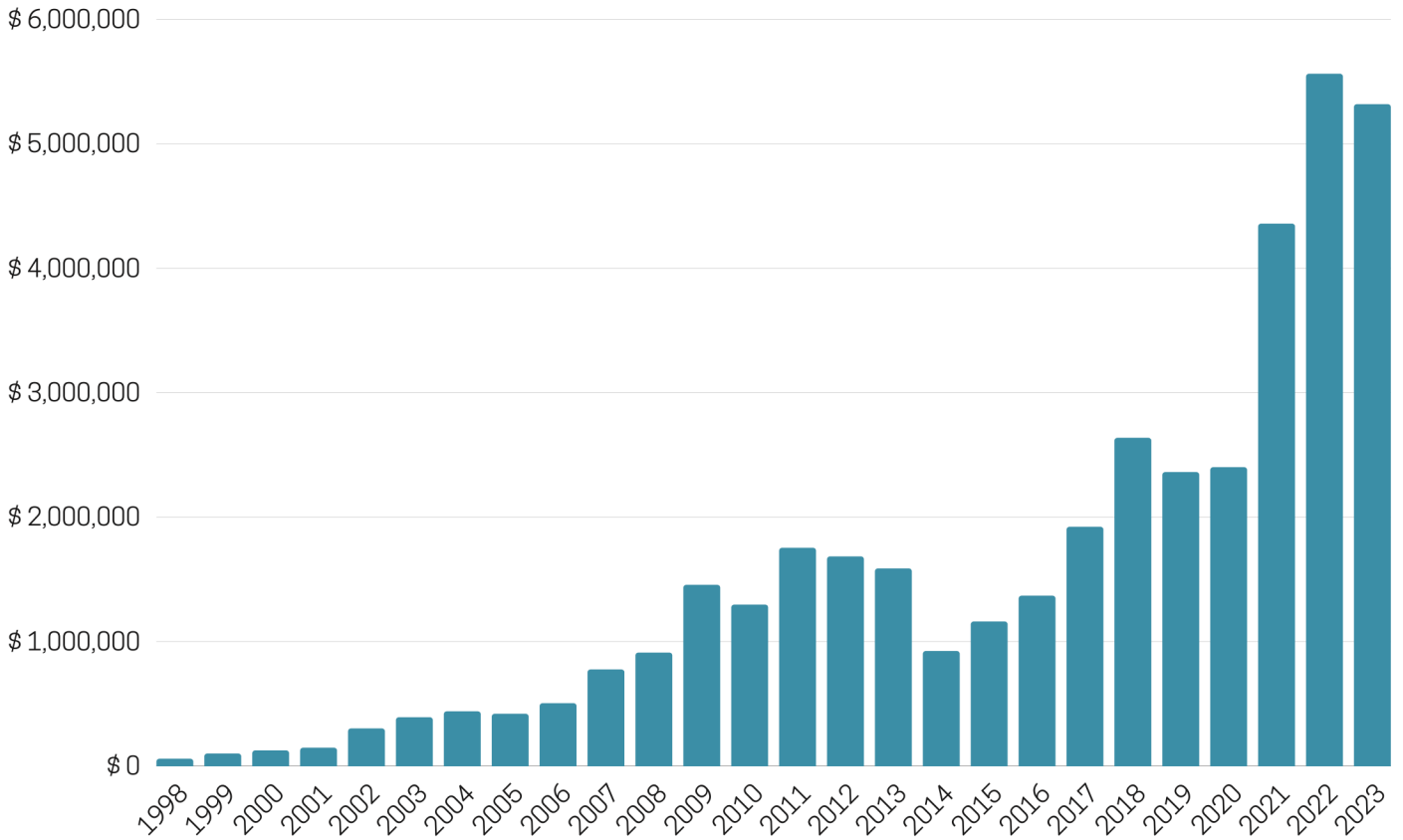
INCOME



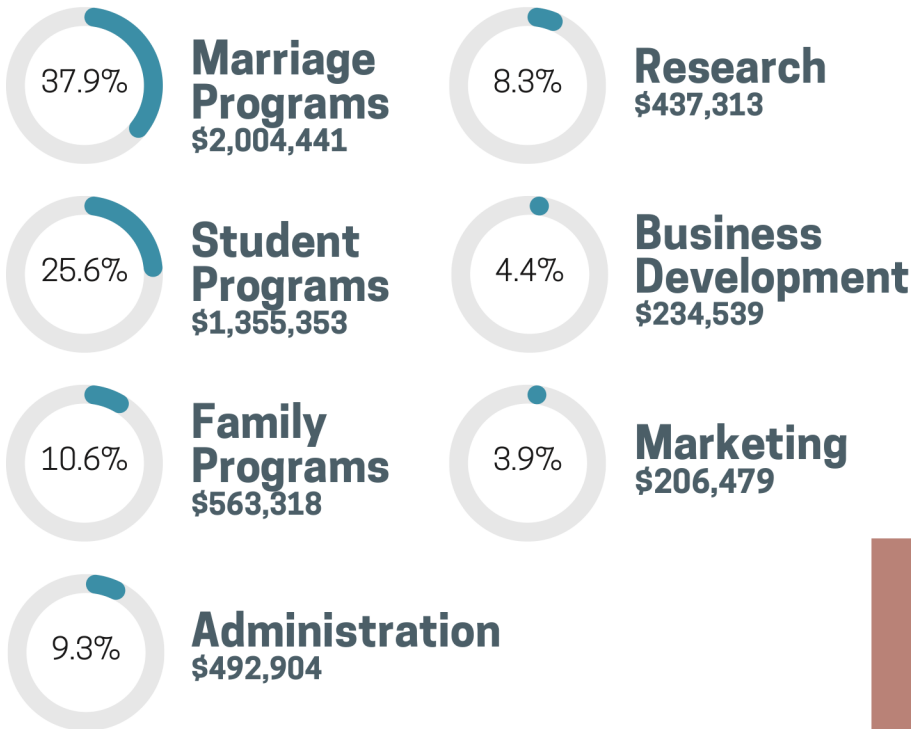
TOTAL INCOME: \$5,318,971.71



LIVE THE LIFE ANNUAL INCOME GROWTH



EXPENSES



TOTAL EXPENSES: \$5,294,350.60



STORIES OF **IMPACT**



DEKKAR AND HANNAH

We're so thankful for Adventures in Marriage (AIM) coming to us at such a tumultuous and chaotic point in our lives. My wife and I had so much negativity and conflict throughout our entire marriage that felt insurmountable once we became new parents. We had gotten to what seemed our final breaking point when our daughter was about eight months old. We had become resolved to give up navigating our years of toxicity and simply co-parent for her sake. We had heard about AIM and decided to give our marriage one last shot.

Because of the skills we've learned and implemented, we've seen healing and hope return. Most importantly, we've gained stability in our relationship and given stability to our daughter. After going through this class, my wife and I decided that we wanted to share this same message of hope with others and began to take the steps to become coaches. We are grateful for what Live the Life has done for our family and look forward to sharing that message with others.

RICK AND STEPHANY

We were offered a Hope Weekend through a friend who had already purchased it for us so out of obligation we went. I am so glad that we did because it totally transformed our marriage. We had love and we had God, but we didn't know how to communicate and meet each other's needs. Through the Hope Weekend, we learned tools and skills to get us on the same page and to actually listen.

The Hope Weekend saved a marriage we didn't even know was in crisis. On the outside we looked good and like we were fine but we were dying a slow, lonely death of isolation and miscommunication. I am so thankful for the Live the Life team and this incredible transformative program.



STORIES OF **IMPACT**



5.0 ★★★★★ 1,039 reviews ⓘ



Megan Cavalie

1 review · 1 photo

★★★★★ a day ago **NEW**

Richard was so informative and just amazing up beat person! I especially enjoyed his life experiences with his family! This really opened my eyes on parenting and bonding with my family! I am leaving today with so much knowledge!! My daughter even learned a lot! Thank you so much, we will be back with my husband because I think it will be a lot easier to answer most of the questions. I highly recommend this course if you really need to build that relationship stronger with your family! Thank again Richard and staff you all were amazing! Many blessings for your future and keep up that beautiful happy marriage together!

SAMPLE OF OUR GOOGLE REVIEWS:

“This organization is the best, They literally saved my marriage from divorce and my family from collapse. I recommend their Adventures in Marriage program and the Family Frontiers program. Every couple should do this.”

“I went online and googled divorce lawyers and Live the Life Hope Weekend came up instead. God doesn’t want us to get a divorce.”

“We are the first ones to be married in 3 generations (because of cohabitation and teen pregnancies), and we are going to make it work.”

“Every courthouse should require a couple to go through Hope Weekend before they are allowed to finalize their divorce.”

“I was thrilled about the whole weekend. It really was not what I had expected, most marriage programs being heavily theory and low on application, AIM was the complete opposite in the best of ways. I loved the minimal, but efficient teaching with the bulk of the time being more hands-on. My wife and I have been married 31 years and while we do a lot of what was taught organically it was very beneficial to do it purposely and focused. It was also great to have people of all different places in their marriage from engaged to Newlyweds to long-timers like ourselves to rub against one another and encourage one another. Everyone I talked to found it incredibly beneficial and I think we would like to see about doing it again in the near future.”

“I have never even entertained being humble in my life, and I have learned more about humility this weekend than ever. I need to humble myself before my wife.”

- From a strong lion personality, former Marine and successful businessman

“Neither of us can quite believe how much has changed in the last month since we’ve been there.”

“We realize that the days ahead will be tough, the devil will try to bother us because he’s very upset right now, and we are laughing at him. But we are reminded that our God is SO much bigger and stronger. We are grateful. Words simply can’t explain our overflowing hearts. However, we plan to tell others, spreading the good news of the recent miracle in our lives.”



OUR TEAM

Florida Regional Offices



Tallahassee Region

Regional Director: Doug Stephens

Sarah Ackerman, Marriage Programs Director
Tank Ackerman, Business Development Director
Angie Cash, Marriage Programs Coordinator
Jimmy Cash, Marriage Programs Coordinator
Abdual Howard, Student Program Coordinator



Panama City Region

Regional Director: Dennis Stoica

Logan Kelly, Marriage Programs Director
Leanne Kirksey, Office Manager
Michelle Wright, Marriage Programs Coordinator
Ken Schaefer, Marriage Programs Coordinator
Maria Schaefer, Marriage Programs Coordinator
Tonya Sheppard, Administrator



Jacksonville Region

Regional Director: David Hudson

Anita Joseph, Student Program Coordinator
Irene Roberson, Office Manager
Sarah Westbrook, Communications Manager



Orlando Region

Regional Director: Kristi Corley

Kaitlyn Corley, Student Program Coordinator
Peyton Tinsley, Program Coordinator
Isabela Selleck, Digital Media Assistant



CORPORATE TEAM



Richard Albertson
Founding President



Ashley Briggs
Director of Business Development



Alphonso Robinson
Communications Manager



Phoebe Williams
Full Charge Bookkeeper



Mariah Jones
Accounting Coordinator



Elizabeth Albertson
Program Support Associate



Carol Adams
Communications Assistant



Debbie Cogland
Grants and Database Coordinator



Sabrina Yvette
Corporate Programs Coordinator



LIVE THE LIFE

STRENGTHENING MARRIAGES AND FAMILIES

