

TEEN  LIFE

Annual Report

2025-2026 School Year



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Director's Report



To our extraordinary donors, volunteers, school partners, and community champions – thank you. Because of your belief that no teen deserves to feel alone, Teen Life has completed another year of meaningful impact across the Dallas–Fort Worth metroplex. This year, we saw firsthand what happens when a community rallies around its young people: students who once sat in silence found their voices, and teenagers who had no one to turn to found trusted adults who cared. As you read through this report, know that behind every number is a facilitator who showed up – not with all the answers, but with presence – and that presence changed lives.

We also remained committed to strong financial stewardship, with 78% of every dollar going directly toward program delivery – empowering students, equipping volunteers, elevating school staff, and encouraging parents. We are especially grateful for the continued growth of our monthly supporters, whose consistent generosity helps sustain this mission year-round.

As we look ahead, we do so with bold vision and deep hope. Our 5th-grade curriculum continues to expand in public schools, while our faith-based curriculum is growing in churches and private schools. The need among teens and pre-teens has never been greater, and Teen Life is positioned to meet it with connection, support, and hope. Thank you for helping us prove – one support group, one campus, one teenager at a time – that no one has to face life alone.

Grace, mercy, and peace,

Nino Elliott

Executive Director

The Overview

Founded in 2008, Teen Life is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that originally launched as a teen parent program through The Hills Church. Teen Life quickly expanded to provide free Support Groups for students on school campuses.

Teen Life Support Groups began in 2009 to address students' daily challenges by providing a safe space to share experiences, receive guidance from trained volunteers, and develop essential life skills for managing stress, relationships, and academic pressures.

Vision & Mission



Mission

We connect every teenager with trusted adults and resources because no teen deserves to feel alone.

Vision

Empower

Empower students by giving 5th-12th graders a safe place to connect through Support Groups.

Elevate

Elevate schools by offering, training, support and resources to counselors and school staffs.

Encourage

Encourage parents by providing content and guidance for parents through our blog, podcast, and social media.

Equip

Equip volunteers by training community members to facilitate Support Groups and better connect with students.

Meet Our Team

Meet the team that organizes the magic behind Support Groups. While our amazing facilitators lead the way in empowering teens, each member of the Teen Life staff and board plays a unique role in making this an incredible organization.



Nino Elliott

Executive Director



Priscilla Morrison

Development + Operations
Director



Tobin Hodges

Program Director



Karlie Duke

Communications Director



Holly Nickle

Executive Admin Assistant



Kelly Fann

Digital Media Manager



Katie Mahany

Operations Specialist



Stacie Hatchett

Program Specialist

Board of Directors

Dr. Brenda McAdoo (Board Chair) - Program Director, Professor, Abilene Christian University

Sarah Brooks (Vice Chair) - Speaker, Writer, Community Volunteer

David Garza (Secretary) - Partner, Bonds Ellis Eppich Schafer Jones, LLP

Brad Little, CFP (Treasurer) - Managing Partner, TL Private Wealth

Tara Goodwin - Human Capital Management Consultant, PwC

Anne Street - CEO, Echo Production; Community Volunteer

Brandon Thomas - Assistant Principal, Byron Nelson High School

Program Overview



Support Groups

Teen Life Support Groups provide students with a safe, trusted space to process life's challenges, build healthy coping skills, and experience meaningful connection with peers and caring adults. Hosted directly on school campuses and in community settings, these groups meet teens where they are before crisis hits.

Each group is led by trained adult facilitators who create an environment where students feel seen, heard, and valued. Through curious questions, interactive activities, and research-informed curriculum, students are equipped to navigate topics such as relationships, identity, stress, self-worth, and resilience.

Teen Life's approach is relational and preventative. Students are reminded they are not alone and are connected with a healthy community, encouragement, and hope.

By partnering with schools, churches, and community volunteers, Teen Life Support Groups create a ripple effect of support that strengthens not only students, but also campuses, families, and the broader community.

Teen Life

Support Groups



Since 2008, Teen Life (formerly Teen Lifeline) has been providing Support Groups on school campuses and in partnership with churches and community organizations. Now serving 5th - 12th graders, these Support Groups equip trained community volunteers to walk alongside teens, connecting them with trusted adults, meaningful support, and valuable resources.

All-Time Numbers

14,929
Students Served

41
School Districts

183
School Campuses

2025-2026 School Year

82
Support Groups

806
Students Served

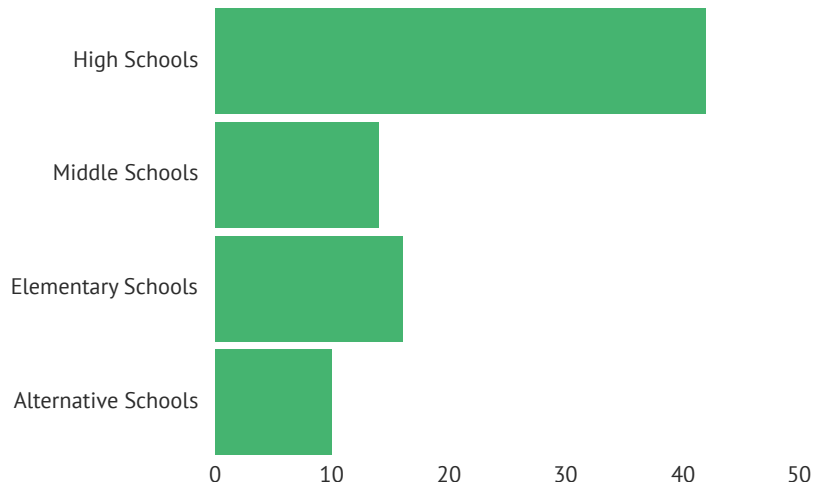
14
School Districts

44
School Campuses

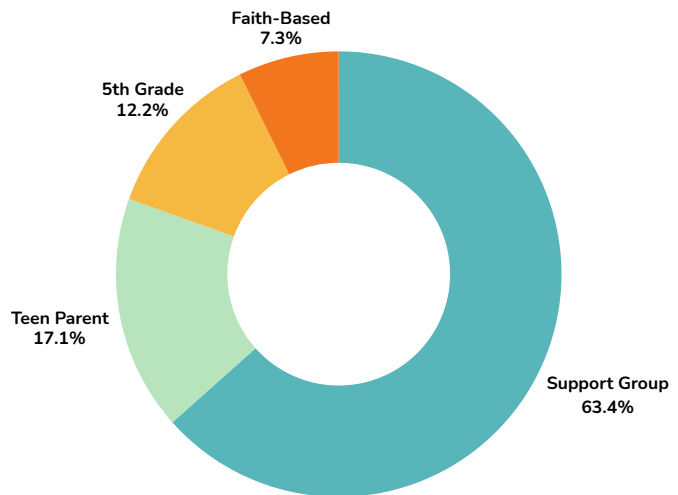
48
Volunteer Facilitators

32
Trained Adults

Where We Served



Curriculum Used



Every number represents a student connected to trusted adults, support, and hope.

Program Impact

After participating in Teen Life groups, students reported stronger friendships, increased confidence, and healthier emotional responses, while students in faith-based groups also reported a deeper connection with God.



Students Reported Growth In:

- Emotional regulation
- Friendship & belonging
- Confidence
- Anxiety management
- Conflict resolution
- Faith & identity
- Healthy communication

Here is what some of our students said:

- “Hard things are less hard.”
- “I am thinking before I speak.”
- “I have learned how to calm myself down when I am anxious.”
- “I share better connections with some people in my grade, and I am also having less temper issues at home.”

Event

Highlights



Target Circle

April 1st - June 30th, 2025, Teen Life was part of Target Circle's Community Giving Program. Shoppers used their points in the app to vote for Teen Life. We received \$2,554 from this effort.



Volunteer Appreciation

On May 8, 2025, we celebrated an incredible school year with our volunteer facilitators. We had the best time sharing good food and stories.



North Texas Giving Day

Our team celebrated North Texas Giving Day at Mod Pizza on September 18, 2024. It was fun to catch up with friends over pizza!



Dinner & Auction

The Annual Dinner & Auction is one of our favorite nights of the year! Joe T. Garcia's provided the perfect atmosphere for us to raise \$137,961 on October 6, 2025. We loved spending this night with sponsors, donors, and community partners!



Pickleball Tournament

We held our 2nd Annual Pickleball Tournament at Chicken N Pickle of Grapevine on February 15, 2026. This was a fun day of playing and laughing together while we raise \$11,900 for Support Groups.



Renew Serve

Each Spring, The Hills Church holds Renew Serve for members to serve their community. We were blessed to go on a prayer walk around a local school and have their help packing goody bags for Support Group students.

Financial Snapshot

2025 was the biggest year of grants revenue for Teen Life. As we look forward, we are excited to gain more monthly donors, increase our fundraising event goals, and continue to connect with Incredible foundations and community partners.

Total Revenue



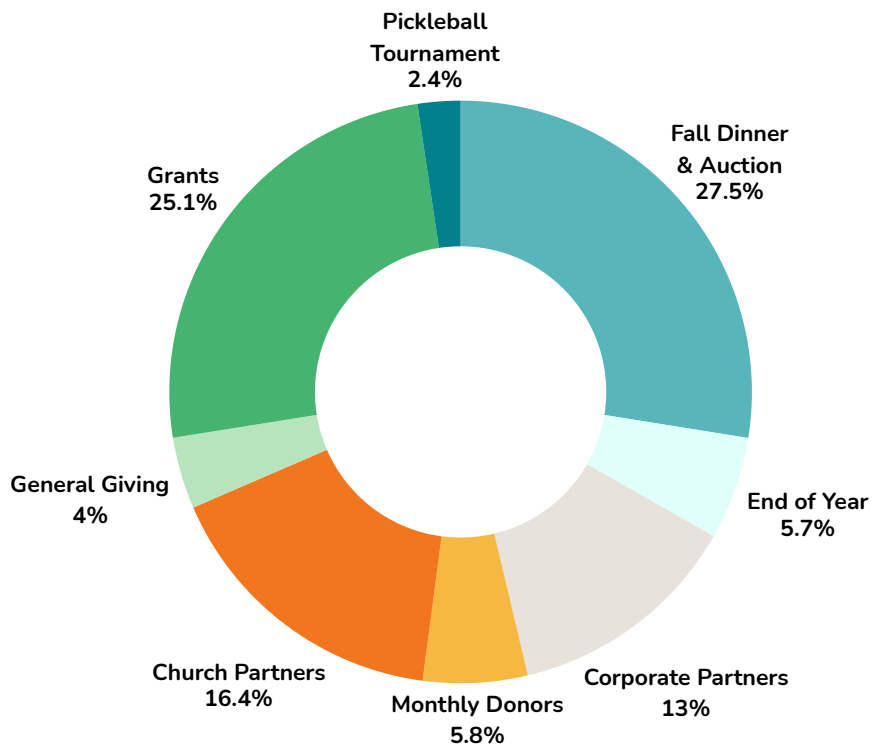
Monthly Donors



Grants Total



Revenue by Source



For every \$100 given to Teen Life, \$78 goes directly to Programs!

Financial Goals and Strategies

As Teen Life looks toward the future, we are focused on building long-term financial sustainability so we can continue meeting students before crisis hits. One key priority is growing our community of monthly donors, creating consistent support that allows us to plan strategically and respond to the increasing mental health needs of teens. We also aim to strengthen partnerships with churches, businesses, and foundations that align with our mission, while expanding grant funding opportunities to support program growth and innovation. Together, these strategies will help ensure that more teenagers feel seen, supported, and connected to trusted adults for years to come.



**Grow
Monthly
Giving**



**Expand
Strategic
Partnerships**



**Increase
Sustainable
Grant Funding**

2025-2026 Annual Report

Thank You

Every story matters. We are honored to partner with dedicated school staff, volunteers, donors, and community organizations to walk alongside teenagers through life's challenges and victories. No matter a student's background or struggle, our hope is that every young person who experiences Teen Life leaves knowing they are not alone and that their life has purpose, value, and hope.

TEEN  LIFE



4200 Keller-Haslet Road, Fort Worth, TX 76244



(817) 281-9900



www.teenlife.ngo