

## *A Note From Mary Heathman*



Dear Friend of WGA,

Every year the WGA staff reviews the previous year's activities and sets goals for the coming year. During this two-day planning session we go through the list of objectives we set the year before, celebrating what was accomplished, analyzing the reasons for those we planned on, but didn't get done. We also marvel over all the surprises—the numerous challenges we hadn't anticipated but managed to conquer, live through, or at least didn't allow to de-rail us!

I always leave these meetings satisfied, refreshed, challenged, and a bit overwhelmed:

- Satisfied because it is good to see how much has been accomplished
- Refreshed because the two days with the staff, away from the daily ministry responsibilities, is both energizing and relaxing
- Challenged because, as we look ahead at the coming year we have set goals that stretch us, and I look forward to working with the staff to accomplish those things set before us.
- A bit overwhelmed because, as I look beyond the structure of WGA at the state of our society and within our own churches regarding sexual sin and its consequences, I am full of urgency over what yet needs to be done, and our smallness in the face of that need.

It is my hope that, as you look at what WGA has done in the past year, that you will catch a vision for how God is working in the area of sexual sin and its consequences. Celebrate with us for all that has been accomplished. And we do covet your prayers for the coming year.

Thank you so much for your interest in the mission of Where Grace Abounds. It is the faithful service of volunteers, generous giving of our supporters, and unceasing prayers of those who intercede for us that sustains us personally and corporately. We are so grateful for your partnership in ministry in all these ways!

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Heathman".

Mary Heathman  
Executive Director

## *Thank You from a WGA Board Member*

"A great big Thank You to all the donors to WGA. Words alone can not express our appreciation for you sacrificial giving. More than that, the ministry of WGA depends upon your gifts; we could not exist without your prayers and financial support. We urge you to continue your support and, if possible, even dare we to ask an increase in your gifts. Please know that the dedicated staff of Where Grace Abounds is greatly underpaid. Yet, their enthusiasm and commitment to this Kingdom Ministry remains unparalleled. Prayerfully, urgently, and boldly we implore your continued prayer and financial support for WGA."

Roger J. Posthumus  
Board Member

## Why Where Grace Abounds?

Where Grace Abounds offers an environment to experience rather than a program to work. For the one who needs our services and for the greater Body of Christ we hope to be as the Holy Spirit is described – a paraklete, one who comes alongside to help.

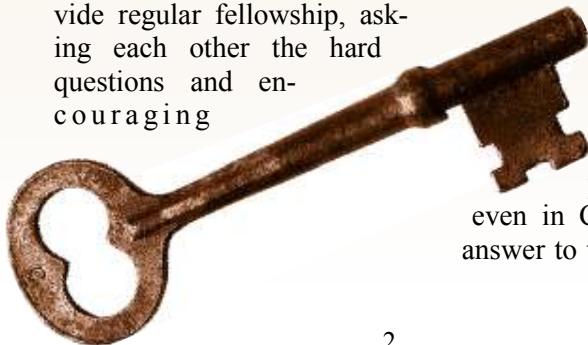
There are many approaches to ministry among organizations that share similar purposes as does WGA:

One ministry offers a twelve-step program as a way to heal. Another provides professional counseling and group therapy as the solution to broken sexuality. With a focus on deliverance, one leader guides his group members through intense intercessory prayer, focusing on warfare against the enemy of our souls. Another prayer ministry focuses on healing of memories and soaking prayer as the primary way to heal. Accountability groups provide regular fellowship, asking each other the hard questions and encouraging

and exhorting one another to righteous living. Live-in programs provide an intense season of work within a supportive community of peers. Educational conferences provide a focused time of teaching Biblical truth and vision for healthy sexuality.

To all of these approaches, Where Grace Abounds says, “Yes, yes, and yes.” Healing and recovery from sexual brokenness, resolution of conflicts brought on as consequences of sexual sin in one’s own or another’s life, must be addressed in all these ways. (And research must continue to gain more understanding regarding sexual and relational issues.) It is WGA’s vision to provide many of the elements mentioned above within the context of a loving community, and to offer resources and referrals to programs, services, and resources from other agencies as well. WGA hopes to minister to the whole person.

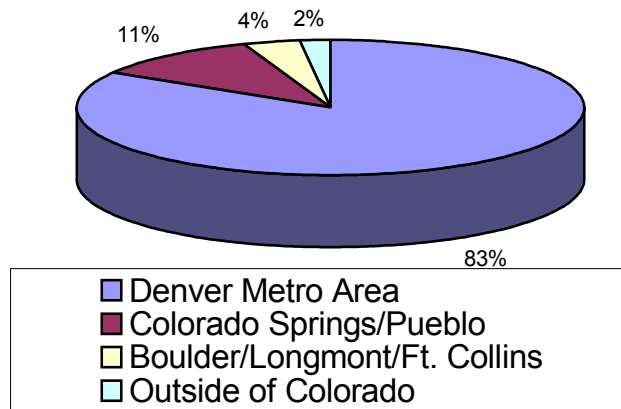
One might wonder, “Why is WGA’s vision so broad when it seems that specialization is the approach most favored even in Christian circles? The answer to that question is simple:



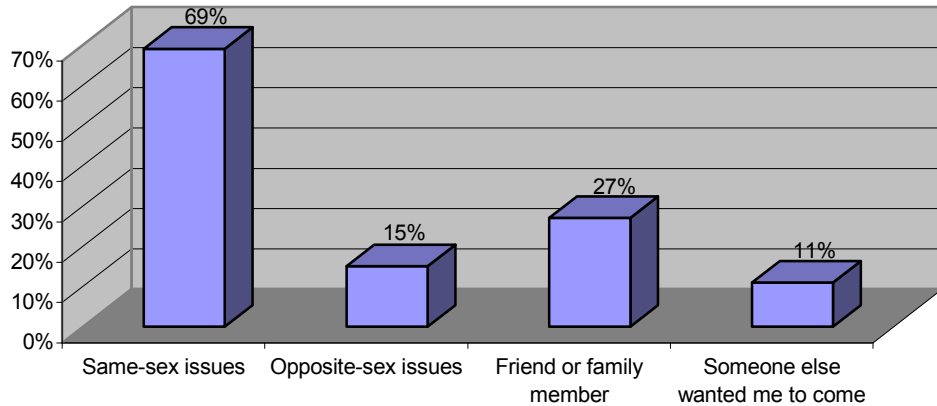
## 2002 Donating Churches and Organizations

Amerivision Communications, Inc.  
Arvada Covenant Church  
Bear Creek Evangelical Presbyterian  
Blue Springs Freewill Baptist  
Calvary Church  
Cherry Creek Presbyterian  
Church of the Resurrection  
Corona Presbyterian  
Corona Presbyterian Women  
Denver Friends Women  
Evangelical Friends Church  
Family Harvest Church  
First Assembly of God, Bentonville  
First Baptist Church  
First Christian Reformed Church  
First Denver Friends  
First Friends Church  
Galilee Baptist  
Heart of West Michigan United Way  
Malone College  
The Next Level Church  
Northwest Friends Church  
Paonia Friends Church  
R. M. Yearly Meeting Friends Church  
South Evangelical Presbyterian Fellowship  
Trinity Presbyterian  
TyL Foundation  
Youth Net Work

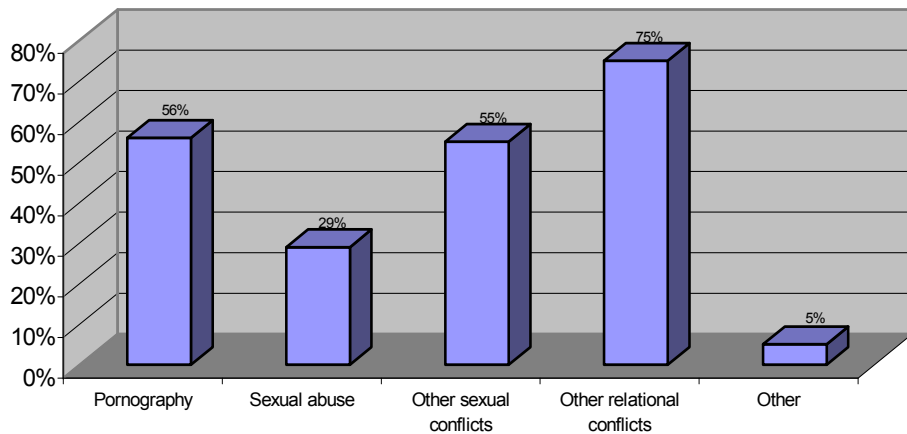
### Where Group Members Live



### Why Group Members Initially Came to WGA



### Other Issues Group Members Have Experienced



People don't heal emotionally and spiritually in one area of their lives at a time. A person may need a season of the structure of a 12-step group, another season may call for a series of healing prayer ministry. Another facet of a man or woman's spiritual growth will include learning about and applying the principles of spiritual warfare. Maturing emotionally often requires learning interpersonal relationship skills and practicing them in small group experiences.

If a plethora of specialized ministries was doing the job well for everyone, then WGA would not need to offer its broad approach. But for many people, the journey from one healing environment to another, (hoping each one will be THE one, only to be disappointed and move on to the next approach) has been an immense hindrance to healing. Sexual problems are relational problems—they can't be completely resolved unless addressed within the context of healthy relationships. People with sexual sin in their lives need a community within which to settle, to become rooted and

grounded in love, to be known and know others on many levels, thus providing a natural accountability that arises from this deep knowledge of one another. Within this sort of environment, people grow up and become healthy emotionally and spiritually.

God provided the design for this community—it is called the Body of Christ. At Where Grace Abounds, we function as an intensive care unit within the Body of Christ to care for those who have deep wounds and need special care. (1Corin. 12:22-27)



## Meet the WGA Staff

### Mary Heathman Executive Director

Mary is one of the founders of Where Grace Abounds and has served as Executive Director since its inception in July, 1986. She also has served as the Chair of the Board of Directors of Exodus International, is a member of the Exodus Speakers' Bureau, and speaks and teaches at churches and conferences across the country. Mary's favorite ministry roles are discipleship counseling, group facilitation, and leadership development.



Mary often characterizes herself as "a seeker of truth" and has a long-standing fascination with human behavior and motivation. Her education consists of lay and discipleship counseling, independent study regarding the integration of psychology and theology, counseling, and human sexuality. She also holds a BS degree in Human Services from Regis University.



### Scott Kingry Program Director

A staff member since June of 1992, Scott is a key player in the WGA discipleship ministry. He plans, organizes, and implements every aspect of the Thursday night support group. In addition to counseling group participants and training leaders, Scott maintains personal contact with many group members and is thereby often a catalyst for healing. It is to Scott's credit that many group members feel personally welcomed and cared for, and loved.

He has served as an elder of the Corona Presbyterian Church and serves as an advisory board member and speaker for One By One, a Presbyterian denominational outreach regarding sexual issues.

Although he holds a degree in graphic arts, he attributes his ministry qualifications to the "school of hard knocks." Its curriculum included five years in the homosexual lifestyle, which he left in 1987. God's abundant grace continues to be the instrument of change in his life, and he desires to be firmly grounded in the forgiveness and freedom of relationship with Jesus Christ.

Our grant proposal with the State Historical Fund was denied again last October. This is the third time it has been denied for different reasons each time. We re-wrote it, and hired a grant-writer to polish it for us and resubmitted at the end of March. In August, we received notification that our proposal had been accepted and that we would be receiving a grant for \$99,700! We are responsible for \$33,300 in matching funds, which brings the project total to \$133,000. At long last, we will be able to address some ongoing problems with our building, such as a leaky roof and some dangerous stairs on the exterior of our offices.

In 2001-2002, we were wrestling with our perennial cash flow problems, needing an additional \$5,000 per month to make expenses. This year we have cut that deficit to \$2,200 needed more each month. We have added a new volunteer staff person, Sheila Knudtsen, who is working on developing our relationships with local pastors and leaders.

**Current Projects:** We are currently working with a small group of men in the northern part of the state who are putting together a video introducing reparative therapy concepts to use with high school counselors. A parent in another school district has asked us to provide witness to the veracity of healing when she goes to talk with her school board regarding a policy statement they are currently writing. These projects are exciting to us because they will affect far more people than we could on our own. These relationships with school professionals, therapists, and parents active in their school system are bearing much fruit as they use what they have learned from WGA and put it in practice in their own school systems. The result can only be more salt and light in our public schools systems!

On April 2nd of 2004, we will host our fourth Sexuality and the Church seminar which is intended to educate pastors and ministry leaders in areas of sexuality and relationship. This year, we will be combining Sexuality and the Church with a seminar open to the public as well. This seminar will be Friday night the 2nd and all day on Saturday the 3rd. Our keynote speaker will be Sy Rogers, an internationally known speaker in the area of sexuality and relationship.

Plans are also underway for a retreat the weekend of June 25th-27th. This retreat is for family members and friends of those struggling with sexual and relation issues. Please pray for us as we continue with these preparations.

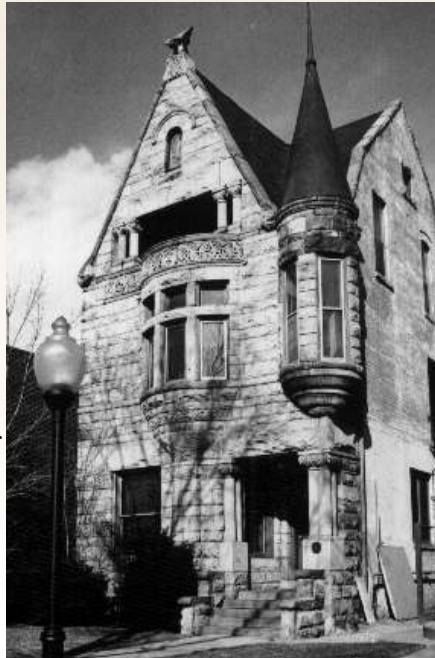
## Departmental Updates

**Program:** Attendance at our various groups and activities averages around 45-50 men and women weekly. Add to this number several contacts our staff makes with group members by phone and/or email and we easily affect 70-80 people weekly. These numbers primarily represent men and women who want help addressing unwanted sexual feelings and/or behavior, difficulty yet desire to establish and sustain long-term intimacy in relationship with God, self and others. We also have a core group of a dozen or so family members of people dealing with sexual and relational difficulties. Two of our married leaders became proud parents the past year, one for the second time!

**Education:** This past year, our Education Director, Karen Wood, has begun a small group study called *Going Deeper With God*, based on materials she has written. The group is small, but attendees testify to a deepening of their relationship with God through the study and fellowship offered.

At our annual Pastors/Christian Leaders event, held last month, 32 pastors attended workshops (Sex Education: *Whose Job Is It?*; Addiction, Attachment and Grace; and Male and Female Homosexuality: *Similarities and Differences*) and listened to former WGA staff member, now professional therapist, Janelle Hallman speak on the state of our society regarding sexual issues.

**Operations:** Last year proved to be a difficult year for our Operations Director, Roger Jones. Last November, a pipe burst in the basement, and spewed steam continuously for several days before it was discovered. Our insurance covered the damage, but the staff had to operate with space heaters during a very cold spell! The repairs were made and we are back to normal with our boiler (just in time for summer.)



**Karen Wood**  
**Education Director**

Karen, who joined the staff of WGA in June, 1995, has a desire to put her learning to good use by working on educational material that can help others. Karen received her college degree in Psychology/Theatre. She also has learned much through independent reading and life experience to aid her growth as a person and to provide tools for helping others.

Karen has spent focused time considering the needs of women. One of her first projects when she joined the staff was to begin publishing *Open Line*, a journal for women. This quarterly publication is designed to encourage honest dialog among women who deal with difficult issues in their lives. Karen also works with women in support groups, workshops, and through ongoing curriculum development. Karen's hope is that women will feel cared for, come to grips with their issues, and grow in their walk with God and neighbor.

Karen grew up in India, the daughter of American Baptist missionaries. When she began her personal exploration of truth and reality, her search took her into Eastern and Western religious thought, and into homosexual and straight communities. She tried to solve life's equation, only to find that God alone could hold that solution. In drawing closer to God with not only her mind, but also her heart, she found, not only more answers, but also a Heart infinitely worth knowing.

**Roger Jones**  
**Operations Director**  
**Assistant Program Director**



Roger joined WGA as the Assistant Office Manager in October, 1996. Over time, his administrative responsibilities grew, and he became the Operations Director in December, 1999. As the Operations Director, Roger has responsibilities which include responding to new inquiries, publishing *A Measure of Grace* (the monthly newsletter of WGA), and supervising an administrative assistant. He also recruits and trains the WGA volunteers. His duties as Assistant Program Director include helping with the planning of weekly group meetings, discipleship counseling and the day-to-day needs that arise with group members. Roger attends The Next Level Church.

His struggle with homosexuality led Roger to begin looking for answers. While he pursued a degree in music business, his search led him to Denver. In 1995, he moved from Texas to participate in WGA, where he found hope for change and a community that accepted him.

**Sheila Knudtsen**

**Development Director (part time)**



Sheila joined Where Grace Abounds in March of 2003 to help foster WGA's existing relationships with churches and other organizations and to build new relationships with those who aren't as familiar with WGA's ministry.

Sheila came to WGA as a group member in 1997 and has appreciated the ongoing healing and deeper relationship with God that resulted from her involvement at WGA. In her role as development director, Sheila brings the experience she gained from her career in marketing and from her undergraduate degree in business management.

Carol Gulley has volunteered at the WGA offices in various roles for over fifteen years. She has consistently made WGA a priority in her week as she has helped us over the years serving as the receptionist, typing articles, and collating mailings. She comes in looking "put together" (I should take a lesson!) and adds a lightness to the office with her presence. She has taken time off only briefly, for an occasional trip, an operation, a death.

Carol had a son that died of AIDS. His wife is still a part of Carol's family, although they had not been married long before he died. Carol was hit with her son's disease and came to Where Grace Abound's Family and Friends group to deal with her grief and confusion. After she received help in her time of crisis, she began to consider how to help others that might find themselves facing similar crises. She has been a support to others in the Family and Friends group, given of her financial resources, and volunteered her time at WGA. We consider her "part of the family" of Where Grace Abounds. Carol recently "retired" from volunteering; we will miss seeing her bright smile and being around her positive nature on a weekly basis!



*The Where Grace Abounds  
Board of Directors*

**President:**

Roderick Knoll - Real Estate Analyst

**Vice President:**

Roger Posthumus - High School Teacher

**Secretary/Treasurer:**

Tom Draayer - Christian Reform Pastor

**Other Board Members:**

Beth Posthumus - Insurance Agent

Jack Rickard - Business Executive

"It is God's deep desire that each of His children becomes the whole person that He designed him or her to be. As President of the WGA Board of Directors, it is an honor to participate in what God is doing in the lives of so many who are touched by the ministry of Where Grace Abounds."

Roderick Knoll, President



*Upcoming Events in 2004*

**Sexuality and the Church**

When: The morning of April 2, 2004

Who should attend: This event is intended for those desiring to learn how to minister to the sexually and relationally broken.

**WGA Seminar**

When: April 2-3, 2004.

Seminar Info: Guest speaker Sy Rogers will be the keynote speaker.

**Family & Friends Retreat**

When: June 25-27, 2004

Who should attend: This retreat is a time of support, education, and fellowship for the loved ones of those struggling with sexual and relational issues.

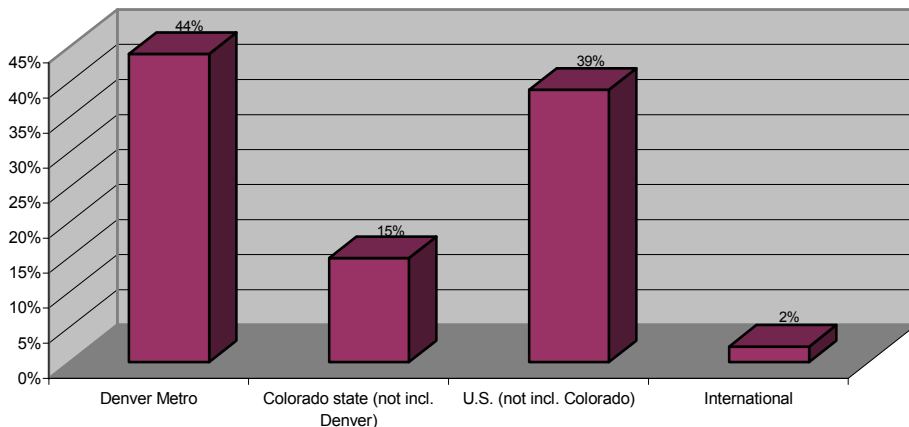
## 2003 Year-to-Date Financial Position

As our financial statement on the previous page indicates, WGA's income was higher than expenses in 2002. As of July 31, 2003, our year-to-date income has been \$10,812 below budget and our expenses have exceeded our projections by \$4,770. This left us with a general fund deficit of \$15,582. Consequently, we have been using up our reserve fund at the rate of about \$2,200 per month.

In August we were awarded a grant from the Colorado Historical Society to restore and repair our historic office building. The entire project is estimated to cost \$133,000, of which we are required to pay 25% (approx. \$33,300) in matching funds. We received a generous donation of \$25,000 which has been designated to cover our "matching funds" portion of the grant contract. We will need an additional \$8,300 to cover the remaining balance. Praise be to God that our leaky roof is going to be fixed and our dangerous exterior stairs will be repaired!

Historically, our general fund income increases in the last quarter of the year; thus, it is our prayer that this year will find us ending the year with our general fund budget fully funded.

**Geographic Reach of the WGA Newsletter**



## What a Local Pastor Says About Wga...

"Our church has enjoyed our partnership with Where Grace Abounds for years. We are pleased to be able to refer to them those who need their experience and expertise. As a church, we have nothing comparable to offer.

People struggling with sexual brokenness need a support group that is understanding, while being an agency of accountability to walking in God's truth. WGA can do that better than our church can.

On the other hand, our church offers a community of worship and ministry in which a WGA participant can find spiritual nurture and loving acceptance in a diverse community of fellow disciples. One's roots can spread with permanence in our church, finding a place one can call 'home'.

Our complementary ministries look to me like the Body of Christ in action."

-- Pastor Chuck Orwiler, First Denver Friends Church

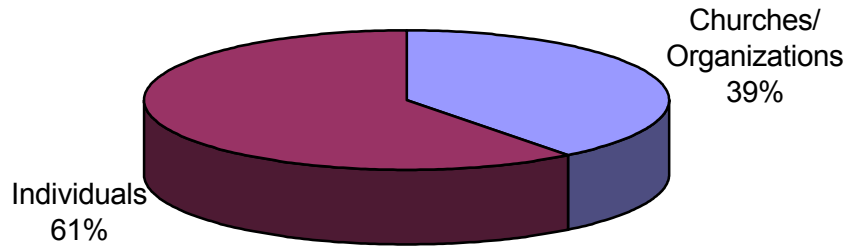
## A Testimony From a Group Member...

"My husband and I felt so alone! Did no one else in the world think as we did? So to find a ministry whose belief was "100% grace, 100% truth" was unbelievable. To have a son say he is homosexual is similar to a death - your hopes and dreams for that child die. What a comfort it was to be able to discuss my feelings with people who really understood that total love for your child did not keep you from knowing that homosexuality is not in God's desire.

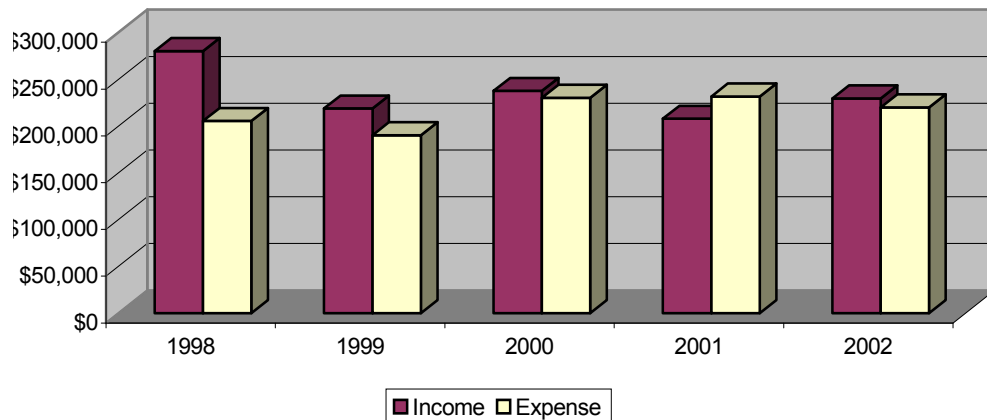
Where Grace Abounds (WGA) helped me get through the first devastating stage, but the benefits did not end there. As I went to meetings, I got acquainted with the "strugglers" and found myself loving them and sympathizing with their battles. The staff at Where Grace Abounds deserves the utmost admiration for giving up recognition and higher paying jobs to follow God's calling. They are constantly trying new ways to help and right now they are starting a new program of finding people who are willing to pray for an individual seeking answers. In my years of volunteering at WGA, there have been successes and failures, but what a joy it is to see a face of despair change to one of hope.

It has been my privilege to be with other mothers who needed to talk or cry with someone who has "been there." In such situations, very deep friendships are made. In the beginning, a friend quoted to me the Bible verse, "We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him" and I didn't see how that could possibly happen. But it has. It is one more proof that our God is an awesome God who is always with us!"

2002 Source of Income



Year-to-Year Income/Expense Comparison



	Jan. – Dec. '02
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Contributions Income	
Staff Support	70,253
Stock Gift	4,333
Undesignated	<u>151,699</u>
Total Contributions Income	226,285
Legacies & Bequests	150
Other Income	1,538
Reimbursed Expenses	<u>1,605</u>
Total Income	229,578
Expense	
Program	
Payroll & Benefits	90,592
Facilities	17,165
Program Expenses	<u>47,192</u>
Total Program Expenses	154,949
Operations	
Payroll & Benefits	44,128
Facilities	3,516
General Operating Expenses	<u>17,344</u>
Total Operations Expenses	<u>64,988</u>
Total Expense	<u>219,937</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>9,641</u>
Net Income	<u><u>9,641</u></u>