



ANNUAL REPORT // 2016-2017



Dear Church,

The past year has been a season of transitions for Southeast Christian Church. Just like in our personal lives, transitions for church families can be difficult and painful, because change is usually hard in any setting. However, in spite of a tumultuous year, the ministries and mission of Southeast have had significant impact on our church, our community, and the world. In these pages, you will get a glimpse of the scope of that impact. I hope you will take some time to envision the lives that turn statistics into stories of God's grace and love.

Of the many things I love about our church, one of the very best is the loving generosity of so many of you who have given many hours to help us accomplish our mission to Love Like Jesus Where We Live. Some of you greeted guests, sang in the choir or passed communion trays along the rows, while others rocked babies and taught the Bible to children of all ages, sizes and needs. So many of you have served in countless ways in our community as we reached out to care for the underserved, homeless, families with special needs, and so many others.

So many of you also gave generously of your financial resources to help us accomplish our mission. Because of your gifts, we have not only met needs here in Parker and across Colorado; we have also been able to contribute to mission organizations across the globe who are sharing the gospel, providing medical care, education, food and other needs. Most recently, your generosity enabled us to provide free or low-cost enrollment in the Financial Peace course for many individuals and couples in our local area, giving them the tools they need to permanently eliminate debt from their lives.

We treat your financial gifts as an investment in our mission, and every effort is made to use those funds carefully, wisely, and with accountability. If you are not yet a regular giver to Southeast, we invite you to consider creating a giving plan through a visit to our web site, southeastcc.org/give, or a phone call to our office.

Through this year of many transitions, the mission of Southeast Christian Church has not changed: we start where you are, grow together as daily disciples, and love like Jesus where we live! If you are new to Southeast, I hope you'll decide to join us on this journey. We are excited about what God has for us in 2018 and anticipate a great year of God's direction and blessing as we all seek to grow together as daily disciples.

Following Jesus,

Phil Vaughan // Lead Teaching Pastor

At Southeast we start where you are,
grow together as daily disciples, and
love like Jesus where we live.

**start.
grow.
love.**

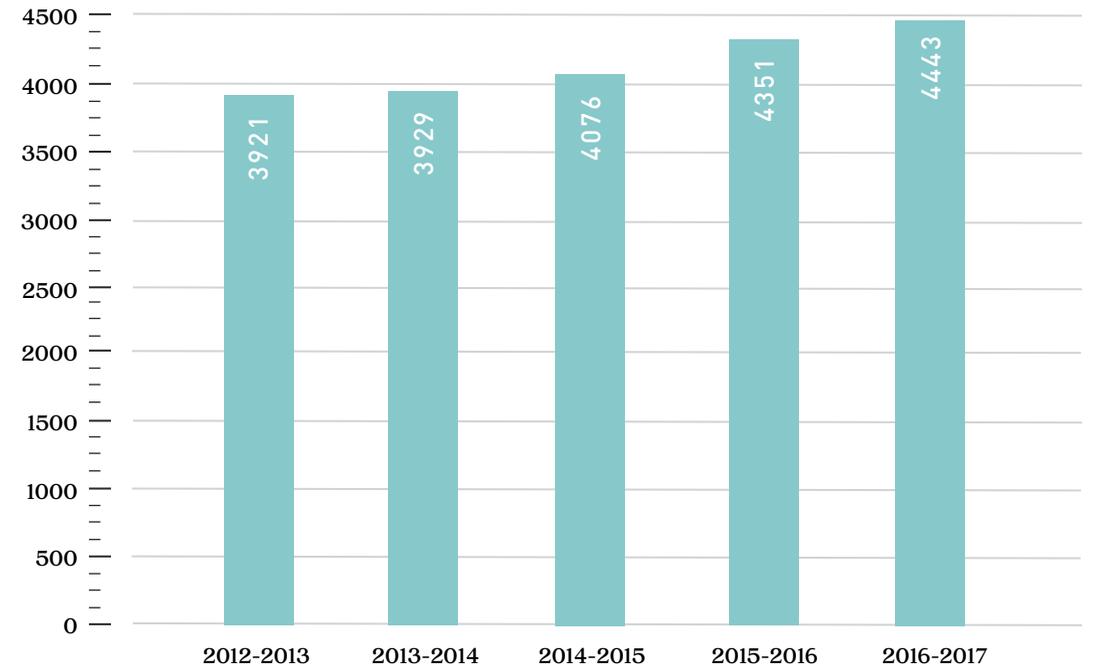
Section
01

The Numbers

Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their numbers.
—Acts 5:14 (NIV)

attendance

HISTORICAL AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE



southeast kids & students

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ATTENDING ON WEEKEND SERVICES

500

BABY DEDICATIONS

49

CHILD BAPTISMS

60

AVERAGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ATTENDING ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

220

STUDENT BAPTISMS

20

STUDENT SMALL GROUPS

32

132 Baptisms

IN 2017



Repent and be baptized,
every one of you, in the
name of Jesus Christ
for the forgiveness of
your sins.

- Acts 2:38

We Are Better Together.

PEOPLE WHO WENT
TO FIRST STEP

345

PEOPLE IN
GROUPS

2,050

PEOPLE WHO
SERVED

2,415

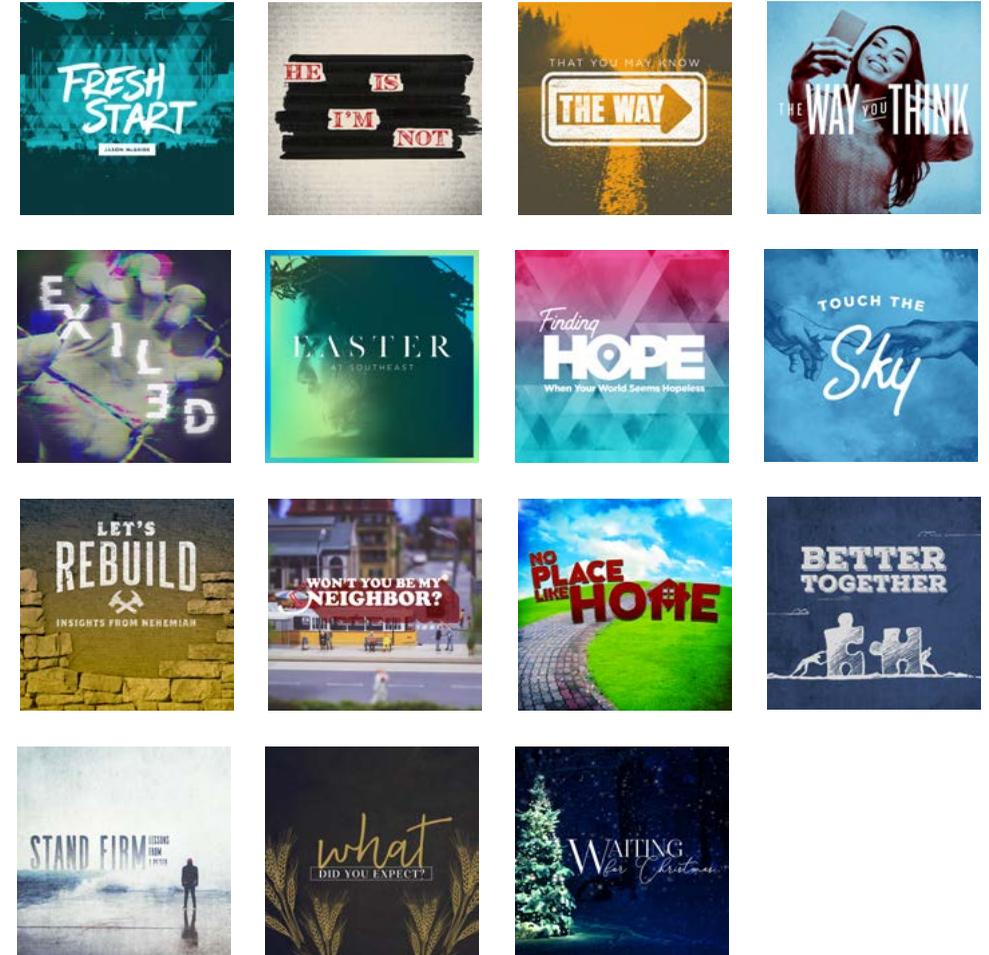


Section
02

History

I in them and you in me, all being perfected into one—so that the world will know you sent me and will understand that you love them as much as you love me. —John 17:23 (TLB)

message series



Our Story.

1972

Southeast Christian Church's story began at a dining room table, through the vision of a small community of young families: "Let's plant a church." These five families united their forces, their resources, and their prayers, and they set out to find a brave pastor who would lead them in planting a church in the area southeast of Denver.

Meanwhile, in a small town in Julesburg, Colorado, Russ and Bev McCracken were asking God to lead and guide them. They were content in their ministry to the rural, small town community, but they sought God's best for them. As they knelt together in prayer, the phone rang. A representative from the search committee had called to ask: "Have you ever thought of planting a church? Would you be interested in joining us?"

The timing was astonishing. Russ and Bev's conversation with the Lord was—quite literally—interrupted with an answer. Young and spry, prayerful and equipped, the McCrackens said yes. They stepped out of their small town and into the land unknown: ministry in 'the city.'

july

With a congregation of 25 people, including all the children, Southeast Christian Church began to meet in a small chapel on the campus of the University of Denver. With almost no money in the bank and no profound strategy, there were plenty of reasons to doubt.

But our church had faith, dedication, and a vision: by God's grace, we can become a church of 1,000. The women took turns teaching Sunday school, and the men pooled their leadership skills and gifts. Believing in what we could not see, this church family served one day at a time. Hand in hand, we took risks for the mission we believed in: "Reaching the lost, and building up the saints."

october

Three months after the first Sunday, the fledgling church community moved into Walnut Hills Elementary School, near Arapahoe and I-25. There was no rent to pay, just the promise to clean up every Sunday. With a congregation of 40-50, everyone did their part. Families loaded the trunks of their cars with the items necessary for Sunday morning: hymnals, communion elements, and nursery toys. Pastor Russ preached under the basketball hoop in the gymnasium, and each week, a team of volunteers set up and tore down the nuts and bolts of the church.

Walnut Hills Elementary School became the church's home for 2 ½ years, and the community grew in love and relationships: the foundation of Southeast Christian Church. Southeast hosted a Vacation Bible School for more than 200 children in the community, and the church leaders visited more than 2,000 homes, door to door. Home visits fostered trust and friendships, and the congregation began to grow.

1975 ● We built our building on Dayton Street in 1975, and moved in with an average attendance of 92 people. The church expanded its staff and services; we added a youth pastor and a church secretary, and we offered multiple service times on Sunday mornings.

1993 ● By 1993, Southeast was a greenhouse of growth and change. We had chosen and elected an elder board, a framework of leadership that would continue. We had launched the first preschool, demonstrating our values for education and ministry to the young families of the community. We had initiated the church's outreach ministry that would later grow into SECOR.

After three building programs, remodels, and transitions, the church was land-locked once again. With an attendance of nearly 450, we prepared to relocate.

1998 ● After selling the Dayton Street property, the church community returned to its roots of Sunday morning manual labor; week after week, the congregation of 600 people cooperated to set up and tear down.

On Groundbreaking Day in November, they moved cattle aside to drive the shovel into the ground! After 25 years in the Dayton Street location, the 15 acres near Challenger Park would be the new home for Southeast Christian Church.

2001 ● In 2001, Southeast expanded by opening the North Wing, the home for children's Christian education. Jordan Road Christian School began meeting in that space, which is now Southeast Christian School.

2002 ● In 2002, Southeast's congregation met the vision of the earliest founding families: we had become a church of 1,000. Russ McCracken, the church's shepherding pastor, chose to step down from his role as lead pastor, choosing instead to lean into his relational gifts.

Todd Hudson moved his family across the country to Colorado, and he became Southeast's new lead pastor. With strategy born from his experience with a large church, Todd committed to lead Southeast Christian Church in the next steps of our journey, all for the glory of God.

2005 ● For years, the community of Southeast met in a tent on Easter morning. But, invariably, snow arrived on Easter morning! So in March 2005, we celebrated Easter morning in the new worship center where the congregation now gathers every weekend.

2011 ● When Todd Hudson left to pursue a new calling, Phil Vaughan left his staff role of Pastor of Spiritual Formation and stepped in to lead and serve as our new Lead Pastor.

2014 ● Southeast Christian Church donated an undeveloped portion of our property, on the northwest corner of Jordan and Pine, to the Solomon Foundation, in return for unlimited future use (into perpetuity) of parking spaces on the paved lot for our weekend services, and a low-cost lease of offices for our 45-person staff as well as meeting facilities for our student ministry events and other large group ministry environments.

2017

Southeast has become known for the values expressed on the large banners displayed on the side walls of our worship center:

- **We Start Where You Are** – whether you are seeking to learn about Jesus or have been a follower of Christ for many years.
- **We Grow Together as Daily Disciples** – growing in relationship, friendship and in community with each other.
- **We Love Like Jesus, Where We Live** – we want to show the love of Jesus through our lives to our neighbors, whether they are nearby or around the world.

media stats

115,487 WEBSITE VIEWS ON NEW SITE

5,747 FACEBOOK FANS

1,363 INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

2,265 SERMON LISTENS/VIEWS

Section
03

Stories

*Come and hear, all of you who fear God;
let me tell you what He has done for me.
—Psalm 66:16 (NIV)*

Susan

Susan may look familiar, as most weekends you will find her greeting guests or singing with the choir. She always has a joyful smile on her face. However, Susan's journey has not always been one of joy. She has dealt with heartache, loss and addiction. Fortunately, her story also is one of triumphs as well.

Susan found Southeast when she was looking for an AA meeting and found that Southeast hosts AA. She grew up knowing Jesus, so decided to check out a service. She was overwhelmed initially, feeling like she was at a mall. But once the music started playing, Susan knew she was home. She attended a First Step, met Pastor Phil and suddenly it didn't feel so big anymore.

Susan joined the choir, began serving with the greeting ministry, and now feels that she has a family here. "I was so lonely and I am not anymore. I love being here." Susan enjoys serving and has also served by leading a team for Night to Shine and acting as a client advocate with Covered in Feathers, an anti-trafficking ministry.

"I think that one of the biggest reasons I like to serve others is that it gets me out of my own head and no matter what I am going through I can help others. It's my joy to serve others and show God I love Him by doing it. Serving quiets the lies I believe about myself. It tells me that I am a beautiful, worthy child of God...".





Nathan

I grew up attending church with my family where I was taught to fear God. God watches and knows everything, so you'd better be good.

As I became a rebellious teenager, I began to test the limits of what I knew about God. I would sneak around, lie to my parents, really do anything that would defy what I was taught. I thought that if God really knew what I was doing he would try to stop me or tell my parents, but that didn't happen. I continued this well into my late 20's; partying, drinking, pushing the boundaries as far as I could with no regrets.

My world came crashing down when I was 27. I lost my mom, my best friend, my rock. It was a very difficult time. I put on a façade that I was strong, I didn't need anyone and I could do this alone. I pushed everyone away. I was so mad at God. How could he take away the one person who loved me and accepted me for who I really am? Why did he do this? I began partying and drinking more to numb the pain, but I was dying inside. My resentment towards God grew. I would laugh at family members and friends who pointed me to God. My life was slipping into a deep dark hole with no end in sight. I no longer had a job, my bills were not being paid, and I would drink from sun up to sun down.

After five months of this lifestyle, my wakeup call came when I woke up in jail. I had no idea how I got there or what had happened. I found out that I had been arrested for drunk driving and causing an accident. I began to cry, wondering how I had done this. I was sentenced to 6 months of jail time for my crime. I was angry and hurt, but most of all I was broken. It was in this dark place where I finally found God. One night I was yelling at God in my jail cell, asking him why he let this happen, why he caused all this pain, why he didn't fix it, I broke down crying, and cried for several hours. As I tossed and turned

throughout the night, I kept hearing "I am here." The next morning, I noticed a group of men reading the Bible. I was angry inside and laughed at them, but I went over and joined them anyway. I began to listen. I was astonished at the love these men had for God and Jesus Christ despite the battles they were facing. I didn't understand it, but I wanted it. Something made me hungry to know more of God and Jesus; I began to attend Bible study daily. As time passed so did the anger and pain. All I wanted was the love of God and the gift of grace and forgiveness He gave us through Jesus Christ.

Upon my release I continued growing my relationship with God and at 31 years old I rededicated my life to God and accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I have learned a lot. I am not alone, God is always with me. He loves me and accepts me as his child. He is the one who whispered into my darkness "I am here." He has blessed me with a new job where I found a "big sister," Lisa Parker.

Some people you meet in life can just light up a room with love and joy; that is Lisa! She would come into work humming and smiling, so one day I asked about the song. She shared that she was in her church choir and it was new song they had learned. I told her I was looking for a church where I can grow and belong. She invited me to a night of worship at Southeast Christian Church. I am so thankful I went, because since that night, I can say I have found a home! Pastor Phil and all the people are awesome. I feel like I am part of the family and am embraced for who I am. Each day is a struggle, but with God as your ultimate guide, all things are made possible.

As I reflect on my life, I am thankful for where I am today; knowing that I am never alone because God is always with me.

Audrey

Audrey had heard about short-term mission trips but never thought that she was qualified to go on one. She knew it would be an amazing experience and could feel a stirring in her heart to go. One weekend she learned about a mission trip to Panama. She and her husband decided that this would be a safe first missions trip for her to take.

“Going to Panama opened up something inside of me, witnessing what Christ means to people in other countries. It helped me see that we live a very comfortable life. I came back and I was restless...”

After a successful and life-changing trip to Panama, Audrey felt called to go on another missions trip: this time Nepal! She had been working out and loving it, but often wondered what she was exercising for, why the drive? Upon arriving in Nepal, she realized why she needed so much physical strength. This trip was more strenuous with hiking and lifting. She needed the endurance she had gained from working out.

Nepal is dark, steeped in alternative religions with less than 1% being Christians. They are stifling the word of the Lord. “When you talk to someone who has never even heard the name of Jesus, you realize how big the task is, how important the Great Commission is. It breaks your heart for what breaks God's heart. It only takes one person to explain who Jesus is, but that doesn't happen if someone doesn't go do it.”

“There is something valuable about trusting God in directing you where to go. God isn't saying “wait until you are prepared and then go. He is saying, “GO!” I didn't know the Bible, I didn't think I was prepared, but He still said “GO!”

Audrey is very passionate about missions now. She has led a team to Nepal, helps teams prepare to go on trips and feels compelled to do what Jesus said to do: go into all the world. She is a wife and a mom, a daughter and a friend, just an ordinary person. But as Audrey says, “I think God can take an ordinary person and put her in extraordinary circumstances for His good.”



Beyond Southeast

Give thanks to the Lord,
call on His name, make known
among the nations what He has
done. —Psalm 105:1 (GW)

partnerships

As Southeast has grown, so has our ability to make an impact in our city and around the world. Below are some of the organizations we were blessed to partner with and serve during 2017.

LOCAL

Campus Life
Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Open Door Ministries
Alternatives Pregnancy Center
SECOR
Inside Out
Whiz Kids

GLOBAL

e3 Partners
Central India Christian Mission
Petros Network
MBI
Restoration House
The Footstool Project
Mountain Child

TOTAL OUTREACH
VOLUNTEERS

3,208

DOLLARS GIVEN TO
LOCAL NON-PROFITS

\$92,000

DOLLARS SPENT TO
BENEFIT THE LOCAL
COMMUNITY

\$160,778

PEOPLE WHO SERVED
ON A GLOBAL MISSION
TEAM

132

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES
SERVED IN 2017

12

local & global reach

Denver Metro Area

- 500 backpacks of school supplies to kids in need.
- 30,698 meals packed for people locally & globally.
- Medical supplies packed and shipped to 15,000 people in developing countries.
- 344 care packages prepared for people experiencing homelessness
- Funded the remodel for Elevation Christian Church's food bank.
- Provided 495 meals for hungry football players at local high schools.
- 6,403 shoe boxes collected for Operation Christmas Child.
- 220 women served through the Changing Room.

When Hurricane Harvey hit, Southeast's disaster relief sent over \$18,000 to help the city of Houston.

* In India, we partner with Central India Christian Missions. In 2017, we gave them \$72,000 and to date they have seen 464,010 salvation decisions and have planted 2,560 churches.

* In Nepal, we partner with Footstool Project. In 2017, we gave them \$50,400 and to date they have seen 200 salvation decisions and have planted 5 churches.

* In Ethiopia & Sudan, we partner with the Petros Network. In 2017, we gave them \$60,000 and to date they have seen 383,545 salvation decisions and have planted 2,563 churches.

* In Burma, we partner with MBI (Myanmar Bible Institute). In 2017, we gave \$78,000 to MBI and to date they have seen 29,995 salvation decisions and have planted 29 churches.

* Southeast invests 5% of our annual budget to funding international mission organizations. These partners empower local leaders to affect positive change in local communities, share the gospel, and plant churches.

Night to Shine

Southeast is proud to be a host church for Night to Shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, a prom for people with special needs. Night to Shine is a celebration of God's love for all people that allows Christ to shine in the lives of our guests, their caregivers and our volunteers. From the red carpet to the crowning, guests are treated like royalty as we pour out the love of God on each and every person in attendance.



SPECIAL GUESTS WHO WERE CROWNED KINGS & QUEENS OF THE PROM:

240

CAREGIVERS WHO WERE PAMPERED & LOVED BY OUR VOLUNTEERS:

150

VOLUNTEERS PREPARING & PLANNING THE NIGHT:

750



Royal Family KIDS Camp & Club

Royal Family KIDS changes the lives of children from the Foster Care System through our camp and club experiences providing dramatic, life-changing, positive memories that bring lasting healing. Kids encounter unconditional love and healthy connections with trained adults during fun-packed days at camp on a university campus. Kids in our club and mentor program develop lasting relationships with adults who pour into them year round.

KIDS FROM FOSTER CARE WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR MONTHLY CLUB

37

KIDS WHO ENJOYED A WEEK OF SWIMMING, STORIES, CRAFTS & FUN AT CAMP

59

MONTHLY VOLUNTEERS FOR THE CLUB & MENTOR PROGRAM

32

VOLUNTEERS WHO SPENT A WEEK AT ROYAL FAMILY KIDS CAMP

74

Winter Shelter Network

Southeast partnered with eight other churches to provide rest, meals and connection for Douglas County women and children experiencing homelessness during the winter months. One night each week, several rooms at Southeast were transformed into a temporary shelter that allowed volunteers and guests to eat, connect and rest inside away from the cold. Working together, the network of eight local churches were able to meet these needs:

BEDS PROVIDED FOR
WOMEN & CHILDREN

1,249

VOLUNTEERS WHO
SERVED IN THE NETWORK

1,210

MEALS SERVED TO
GUESTS

3,747

VOLUNTEER
HOURS

15,362

DOLLAR VALUE OF
SERVICE PROVIDED TO
THE COUNTY

\$490,590

Secor Cares



SECOR CARES provides free groceries to families in need through the Food Market. SECOR also provides financial assistance, food for kids on the weekends and Christmas gifts to hundreds of kids through the Christmas Outreach program. SECOR CARES restores hope and dignity to hundreds of families and individuals each month as they tangibly help fight suburban poverty right here in Douglas County.

FOOD MARKET VISITS

11,630

NEW FAMILIES SERVED

509

TOTAL PEOPLE WHO
RECEIVED FOOD IN 2017

25,452

CHILDREN & SENIORS
WHO RECEIVED GIFTS/
FOOD THROUGH
CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

1,520

CHILDREN WHO
RECEIVED FOOD ON
WEEKENDS THROUGH
FOOD FOR THOUGHT

13,126

Financials

Now you should finish what you started. Let the eagerness you showed in the beginning be matched now by your giving.
—2 Corinthians 8:11 (NLT)

operational expenses

MINISTRY		\$1,856,461
22%	<i>All expenses related to worship, ministries and events for children, youth, women, men, and counselors that happened through Southeast Christian Church ministries.</i>	
STAFFING		\$3,453,625
40%	<i>All expenses related to staff salaries and benefits.</i>	
OPERATIONS		\$534,675
6%	<i>All expenses related to our security, information technology, administrative costs, and the coffee shop and bookstore.</i>	
FACILITIES		\$1,888,359
22%	<i>All expenses related to the mortgage, utilities, maintenance, and general upkeep of our buildings.</i>	
OUTREACH/MISSIONS		\$750,728
9%	<i>All expenses related to our local and global support and initiatives.</i>	
<hr/>		
TOTAL		\$8,483,848

