



**ATLAS: LINCOLN  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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**2021**

**WWW.ATLASLINCOLN.ORG**

# ATLAS: LINCOLN 2021 PERSONNEL

## Board of Directors in 2021

Jamie Peer - Chair

Amy Pfingsten - Secretary

Dennis Coudriet - Treasurer

Gabriel Tufts - Board Member

Dan Waters - Board Member

## Atlas Staff in 2021

Brody Van Roekel

Alex Rousseau

Sage Peterson

Sonya Turco

Hollie Sell



*The staff of Atlas: Lincoln*

## OUR MISSION

*Atlas exists to serve the people of Lincoln through local, intentional, and relational Christ-based peer-support*

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR AND TABLE OF CONTENTS

How blessed was 2021. There were many things to celebrate last year. Atlas added 4 new staff people and moved into a new office space in the heart of our neighborhood. We began hosting Mentor Training Workshops again for the first time in 18 months. Our events were varied and well-attended. Our leadership prayerfully set the vision and direction for the next 3 years of ministry. Throughout the year, I was consistently and absolutely humbled by all the amazing support we received from so many different people. 2022 holds even more opportunities for celebration and we're so excited to continue sharing Jesus' love with the people of our neighborhood and city.

Peace, & and above all, Grace,



Brody M. Van Roekel  
Executive Director, Atlas: Lincoln



*Brody M. Van Roekel, Executive Director*



*Our new office space*

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*The people that make Atlas happen*

## THE POWER OF AN HOUR TOGETHER: SHOWING JESUS' LOVE ONE HOUR AT A TIME

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Last year, I shared the story of two of our neighbors involved in a uniquely dark day in Lincoln history. Not since 1976 had there been two homicides in Lincoln on the same day. In the summer of 2020, Lincoln experienced another such day. Though the cases were entirely unrelated, they occurred only 5 blocks apart. Moreover, I had a personal connection with each of the individuals arrested and charged in the cases.

I shared last year that if we believe every person is made in the image of God, that if we believe every person has an inherent value, then we need to check our hearts, standing against judgments we may hold against people in these cases like these. We need to strive for a willingness to allow others the opportunity for redemption and restoration. Indeed, no heart is irredeemable and we must seek to imitate Jesus, viewing those around us as our neighbors and as Beloved. How, though, do we tangibly imitate Jesus in situations like these and in any situation when people who are hurting cross our paths?

In the nearly two years both young men have been incarcerated, I've had the privilege of visiting them most weeks for one hour. It's not much time in the grand scheme of a week and the hour always passes quickly. Nonetheless, we get a chance to speak on matters pertaining to their cases, their families, and their lives – anything they want to talk about, really.

Often, when I leave our visits, I feel helpless. There is not much I can do for either guy. Their situations are beyond anything I can advise or provide help. Moreover, the regret and anxiety they feel due to their situations are heavy burdens they carry. An hour never

feels like enough time to really support and encourage them in the midst of their respective circumstances.

A few months back, one of the young men shared that after every time we chat, he goes back to his cell and reflects on our conversations. He also mentioned that right as he was having a particularly difficult time, he heard an interview we did about Atlas on a local Christian radio station. A couple weeks ago, the other young man expressed his appreciation for our friendship. He's never had someone in his life that he could trust and count on. He's never really had someone who's there for him.

I ask the question again: how do we tangibly imitate Jesus for the hurting people in our lives?

The most important thing we can provide for people is our **presence** and our **time**.

Even though an hour a week doesn't feel like much, time intentionally spent with someone is so important. Sometimes there is nothing we can "do" to help people, but we can always "be" there with them. What an amazing gift it is to be present with those who are hurting. What a blessing it is to walk with folks who are struggling, showing them the love of Jesus through our presence. All it takes is one hour a week.



# OUR CURRENT STATE

## 9 COMPLETED MENTOR PAIRINGS

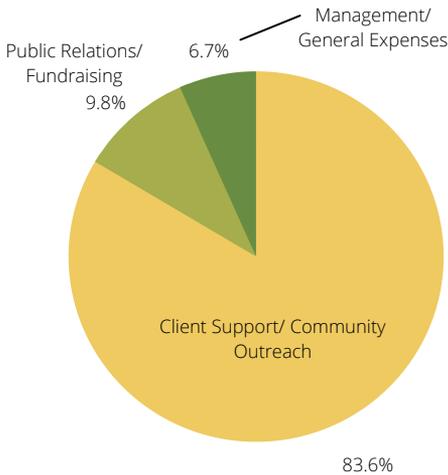
In 2021, we celebrated 9 mentor-mentee relationships that reached the goal of one full year of meeting together every week for one hour. It is a huge commitment and these pairings have achieved something special.

## 743 MENTEE HOURS

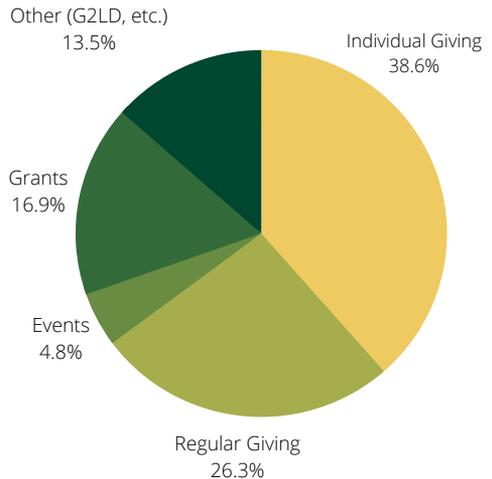
Time together matters. In spite of a year of loneliness and isolation, our staff worked hard to continue meeting with clients. These were hours spent meeting, encouraging, and caring for clients in different ways.

## 9 NEW MENTOR PAIRINGS

We joyfully helped 9 more mentor-mentee relationships begin in the midst of the ongoing pandemic. These mentors and mentees embarked on a journey of growth, intentionality, and accountability together.



Expenses:  
**\$86,944.36**



Revenue:  
**\$82,987.43**

In July 2021, the leadership of Atlas in Lincoln spent a weekend visioning and praying for what God intended for Atlas throughout the next 3 years. You can find and review the product of that intentional time together below, our guiding intents through 2024.

## Strategy Map



## Internal Building Blocks

### Staffing

Seek to recruit, equip, and engage high-quality, committed, and passionate individuals, while supporting these staff people with competitive benefits. Our staff offer the most important resource any of us have to give to our clients: their time

### Diversity and Representation

Strive to be a place of wide, intersectional representation, exemplifying the beautiful diversity of God's Creation, while also maintaining our core value of being inter-denominational

### Annual Productivity

#### Calendar

Produce and maintain an Annual Productivity Calendar detailing a full, fiscal-year's events including but not limited to fundraisers, campaigns, trainings, board meetings and the planning and execution of these events

### Marketing Strategy and Plan

Develop and grow a long-term, strategic Marketing Plan for Atlas: Lincoln, employing various mediums in order to grow the exposure of Atlas to potential clients, volunteers, mentors, and donors.

## 2022 GOALS AND VISION

All of these 2022 Vision goals relate to the three core tenets of Atlas: *to help the hurting, to equip the saints, and to unite the community*. Our continuing goals are **always** to spend more **time with hurting people, train and pair mentors with mentees, and meet our financial budget**. The below vision has been set to help us pursue our ongoing goals.

*Engage 15 new churches in our city.*

Two of the Atlas pillars are "equip the saints" and "unite the community."

Through strategic partnerships with Lincoln churches, we will be able to enact both.

*Average 2-4 new mentor-mentee pairings per month.*

36 new pairings would double the cumulative number of pairings Atlas has made in three and a half years of operations.



*Double monthly giving to \$5000 per month.*

Regular giving is important for organizational planning and sustainability. It would also allow us to continue growing Atlas in years to come.

# OUR VISION

*Creating a community of love throughout Lincoln, so that no one falls through the cracks.*

# HELP SUPPORT ATLAS

## 2022 Events - Save the date!

**March 1st** - Donor Dinner

**May 26th** - "Give to Lincoln Day"

**August 2nd** - 4th Anniversary Celebration

**August 28th** - 4th Annual Mini-Golf Outing

**December** - Year-End Giving

As we consider new events to engage the community and serve our neighbors, keep an eye on our website, newsletters, and social media for more information.

## Other ways to support the ministry of Atlas: Lincoln

Volunteer with our Prayer Team by emailing  
**office@atlaslincoln.org - attn: Prayer Team**

Select "**Atlas Partners**" as your designated charity on  
**Amazon Smile** for a portion of your purchase to go  
back to Atlas

Donate new and used clothes and household goods  
to our thrift store,  
Transformations at **1241 S 14th Street**

Learn more about Atlas: Lincoln on our website  
**www.atlaslincoln.org**