



## From the Director's Desk

*A mother's deep pain (and love) for her son.*

Something I absolutely adore about my job is how often I get to go around to present and talk about Atlas. I've visited a number of Lincoln churches, many non-profit gatherings, dozens of networking groups, and everything in between.

A few weeks ago, I presented to a chapter of the "Breakfast Optimists' Club" at sunrise. The Club was made up of a great group of folks. They listened attentively and asked really amazing questions. Entirely engaged, they thanked me for the work and heart of Atlas and welcomed me back.

After the meeting had concluded, a lady came up to me and thanked me for my presentation. She then shared through tears how her son had died of alcoholism two years ago. She struggled through his life, trying to understand how best to support him. As his disease reached the point-of-no-return, she began to learn she did all she could. She didn't blame herself, and every day experiences growing peace with his passing.

I was so blessed to enter the sacred space of her loss. She shared her vulnerability and her pain. I was stuck by this privilege she had offered to me,

and how representative it is of our work. Sometimes, there's nothing we can do for our hurting folks, other than walk with them. They may, and often do, continue on their paths. Still we walk with them. The paths may lead through the valley of the shadow of Death. Still we walk with them.

We walk with them through pain and failure. Sometimes, that's all we can do and that's all they need. We are privileged to enter that sacred space with our dear people and love them through the pain. And as steps forward continue, we may also be privileged to see the glorious change possible through Christ.



### Atlas: Lincoln – HIRING

Atlas: Lincoln is seeking a relational, organized, and detail-oriented individual to join our team as a part-time Office Manager. Interested individuals can find the full job description and application at our website [www.atlaslincoln.org](http://www.atlaslincoln.org). Applications are open until February 21.



**Register for our Trivia Night on Facebook!**



### Atlas: Lincoln Board of Directors

Jeff Heerspink | Carissa Martin | Jen Hinrichs | Brook Talsma | Derek Effle | Ian Shada

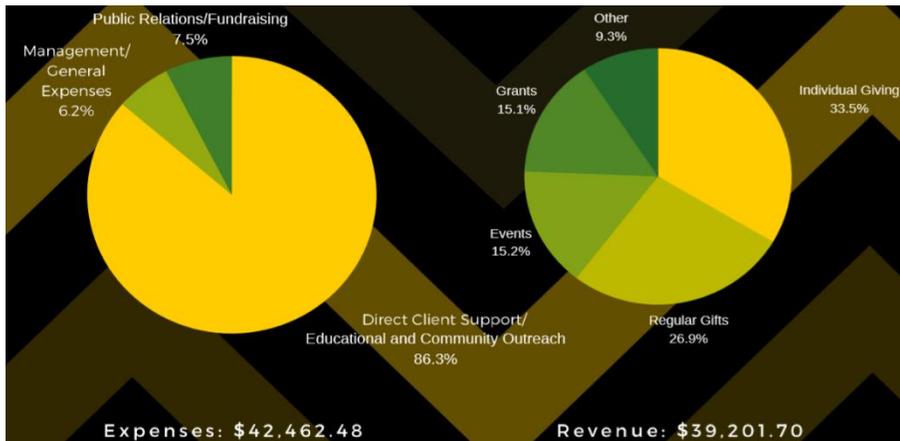
### Atlas Staff

Brody Van Roekel, Executive Director | Savannah Clapper, Mentor Coordinator

## Year-End Financial Report

To all our faithful and generous donors, *thank you* for your support in 2019. Your contributions allowed Atlas: Lincoln to grow in amazing ways. Because of you, we were able to hire our full-time Executive Director, Brody. We stepped out in faith and decided to make a \$6000 gift to support the start of our partner ministry, Transformations Thrift Store.

An amazing group of folks also helped us raise \$8000 in our year-end campaign. This was \$1000 more than we had raised in any one month this year. These gifts will help us start 2020 on the right foot with hiring and expanding part-time positions through the course of this year. Thank you for supporting God's work at Atlas



## Farewell to our Board Chair!

Atlas: Lincoln offers its heartfelt and momentous appreciation for the work of Jeff Heerspink. Jeff has decided to step down from our Board of Directors in January. Atlas in Lincoln was only just a dream until Jeff took the reins and helped Atlas become a reality back in 2018. Jeff's tireless work,

commitment, and passion for Christ and for the hurting people in our city is inspiring and will be dearly missed. Blessings in all that God has next for you Jeff!



## WELCOME IAN!

**IN NOVEMBER OF 2019, THE ATLAS: LINCOLN BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADD IAN SHADA TO THEIR RANKS. IAN WAS BORN AND RAISED IN FAIRBURY, NEBRASKA. HE GRADUATED FROM SCC LINCOLN AND BELLEVUE UNIVERSITY AND IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON HIS MASTER'S DEGREE. HE STANDS BEHIND ATLAS' MISSION TO WALK ALONGSIDE THOSE WHO NEED SOME POSITIVE GUIDANCE IN LIFE. HE TOO HAS BEEN IN TOUGH SITUATIONS AND KNOWS THE BENEFIT OF PEOPLE WALKING WITH HIM TO MAKE SURE HE AVOIDED THE WRONG PATHS. IN ADDITION TO SERVING ON THE ATLAS BOARD, IAN IS THE DIRECTOR OF SALES FOR AN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMPANY AND THE YOUTH DIRECTOR AT HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

### Donor Appreciation Dinner and Mentor Celebration!

*We are celebrating our generous donors and the mentor-mentee pairings who have reached the 1-year milestone! Our donors will be the first to see our 2019 Annual Report and will get a peek at what 2020 holds. We will also be honoring mentors and mentees who have reached 1 year of meeting with a gift and a special program. You can catch the program live on our Facebook starting at 6:45pm on February 4th*

### **ATLAS: LINCOLN ANNUAL REPORT**

**Our 2019 Annual Report available February 5th! Just go to our website and follow the link on our homepage!**

