



LIVE THE LIFE

2016 Annual Report



Strengthening marriages and families

COULD AN INVESTMENT OF \$ 1 PER PERSON REDUCE COUNTY DIVORCE RATES BY 50%?

In 2016 a group of philanthropists launched a pilot program through Live the Life in Jacksonville, FL. They invested approximately \$1.00 per year per person, or just over \$900,000 for 913,010 people in Duval County.

The results of the first year of this project have been nothing less than STUNNING!! **The Duval county divorce rate dropped by 17.6% in 2016¹**. If divorces were like a pizza with 6 slices, you could say we just ate the first slice!

As one of our supporters, we hope you agree this first slice was simply delicious. Anyone care for another slice?

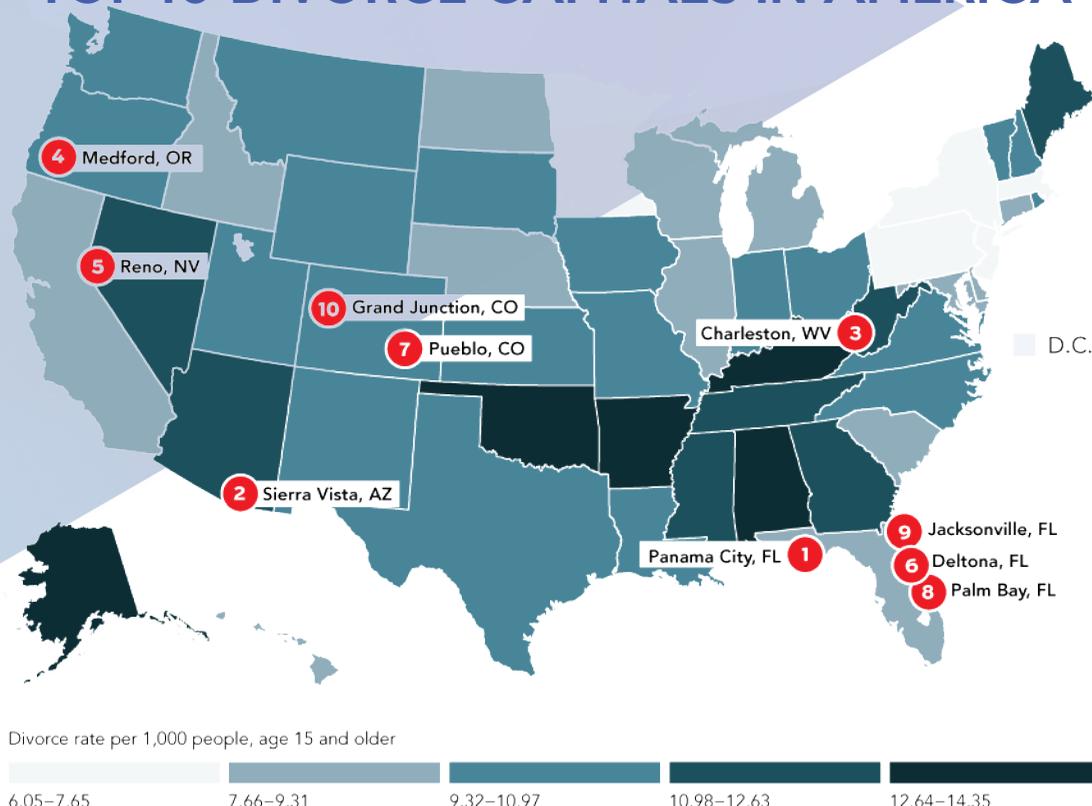
We are so excited about the strategic Community Marriage Initiative model we are developing and refining, and predict that by the end of the 5-year project in Jacksonville, the divorce rate will drop by 50%.

With your continued prayers and support, in 2017 we plan to scale and replicate the "\$1 per person" Community Initiative model in at least 2 other Florida counties to test our working theory. In case you are wondering, we did not pick "easy" counties. Instead we selected the number one divorce Capital in America, Bay County (Panama City), and Okaloosa County (Ft. Walton Beach), FL



1. Provisional data as of February 15, 2017

TOP 10 DIVORCE CAPITALS IN AMERICA



Sources: American Community Survey, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The Daily Beast

LIVE THE LIFE'S STRATEGIC VISION

The goals to transform each community we serve are bold and simple:

1. Reduce the divorce rate
2. Increase the marriage rate
3. Reduce out of wedlock births
4. Increase church attendance

CORE STRATEGIC PLAN TO TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES

After doing this work for more than 20 years, we believe the core building blocks required to achieve our strategic goals are:

- 1) Increase the SUPPLY of Relationship and Marriage Education as a strategic evangelism tool based on a shared VISION for strong marriages and families
- 2) Increase the DEMAND for Relationship and Marriage Education
- 3) Provide a Website Clearinghouse of Relationship and Marriage Education tools and resources available in each community we serve. This is the place where INCREASED SUPPLY meets INCREASED DEMAND
- 4) Provide increased SUPPORT for individuals and couples through expanding "Circles of Care"
- 5) Provide consulting/implementation assistance to assist Faith-based organizations and Community-based organizations to implement Relationship and Marriage Education program SKILLS in their environment
- 6) Provide Outcome Evaluation to measure the effectiveness of our strategic plan

3 Key Ingredients for Successful Relationship and Marriage Education Programs

SKILLS

SUPPORT

VISION

"An immense amount of healing...the first time in my life that I've really felt loved."

2016 By the Numbers

1,197 + 10,270 + 689 = 12,606
 Premarital program graduates Married program graduates Student/Parenting program graduates **TOTAL PROGRAM GRADUATES**

All with an average program run time of **7.76 hours** 

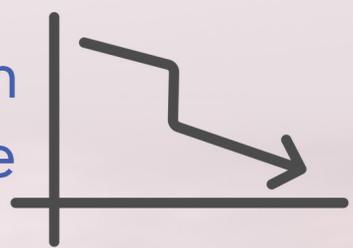
436
Marriages Saved

Which saved taxpayers a total of **\$13,436,212** in 2016 alone  

All of this takes a lot of volunteer hours, **10,583** volunteer hours to be exact

Live the Life has provided **97,822** hours to program participants

All of this has led to a **17.6%** drop in the divorce rate in Duval County in 1 year



WORK WITH MILITARY FAMILIES

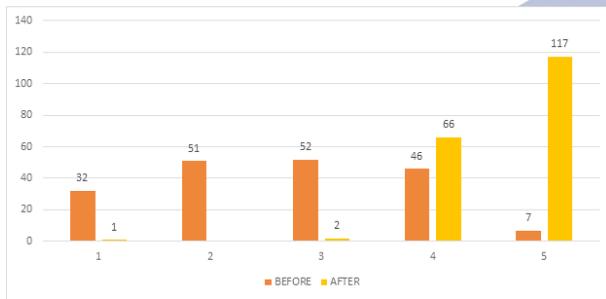
The U.S. Military is becoming more and more aware of the stress and strain put on its families through multiple deployments and military service. After all that our men and women in uniform have done to serve our country 24/7 and 365 days per year, our staff is both humbled and honored to be asked to come alongside these warriors to strengthen their marriage and family resiliency.

We provide Weekend marriage retreats, family retreats, Date Nights, and Father/Son Champions events throughout the year. The goal is to sustain families through times of separation and assist with reunion after deployment. We are making a difference as we build and maintain a strong family structure in the lives of active duty members of the Armed Forces and their immediate family members.

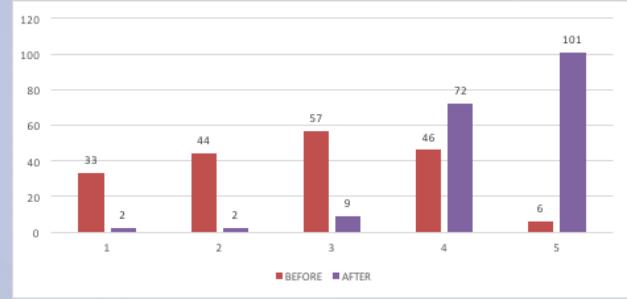
Hurlburt Adventures In Marriage Retreats Cumulative Program Evaluations through January, 2017

KEY:
1 = Strongly Disagree
2 = Somewhat Disagree
3 = Neutral
4 = Somewhat Agree
5 = Strongly Agree

Q: My spouse and I have the knowledge and skills to communicate well.

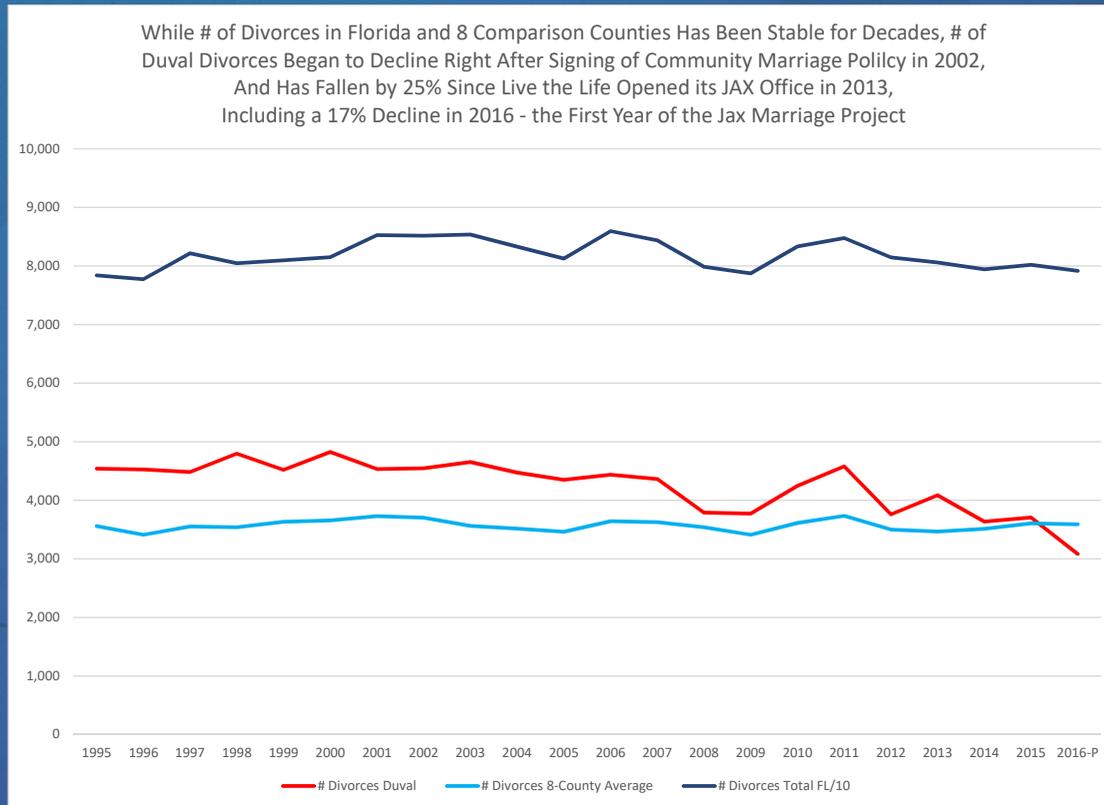


Q: I am confident in our ability to resolve conflicts in a healthy way.

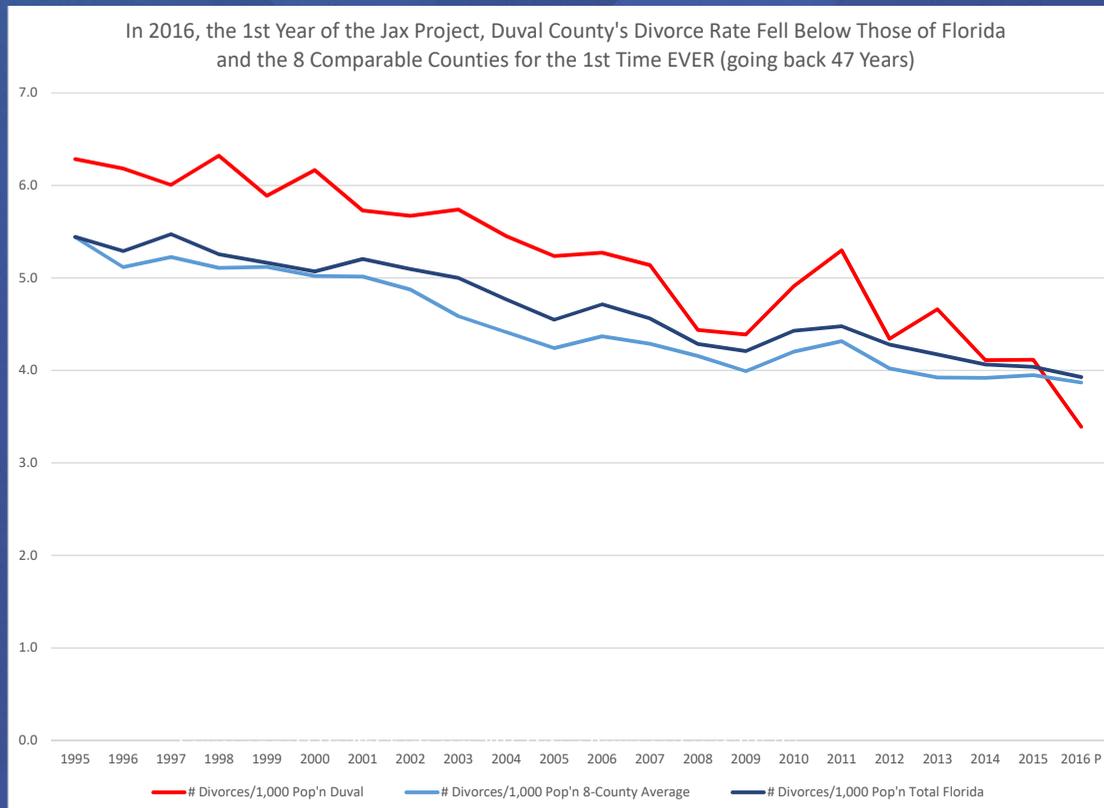


"The Adventures in Marriage Retreat was hands-down the best resiliency program I've been a part of after 6 deployments."

Duval County Divorces are the

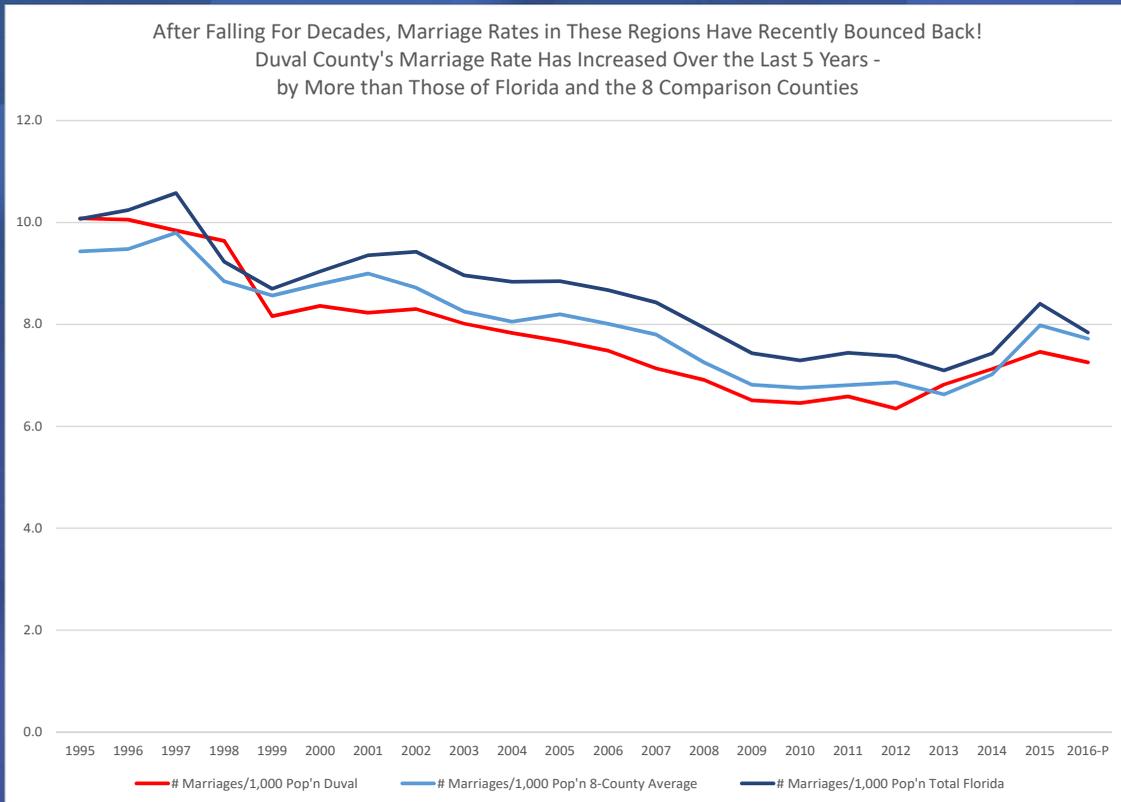


Source: www.FLHealthCharts.com 2016 Data is Provisional as of 2/15/17

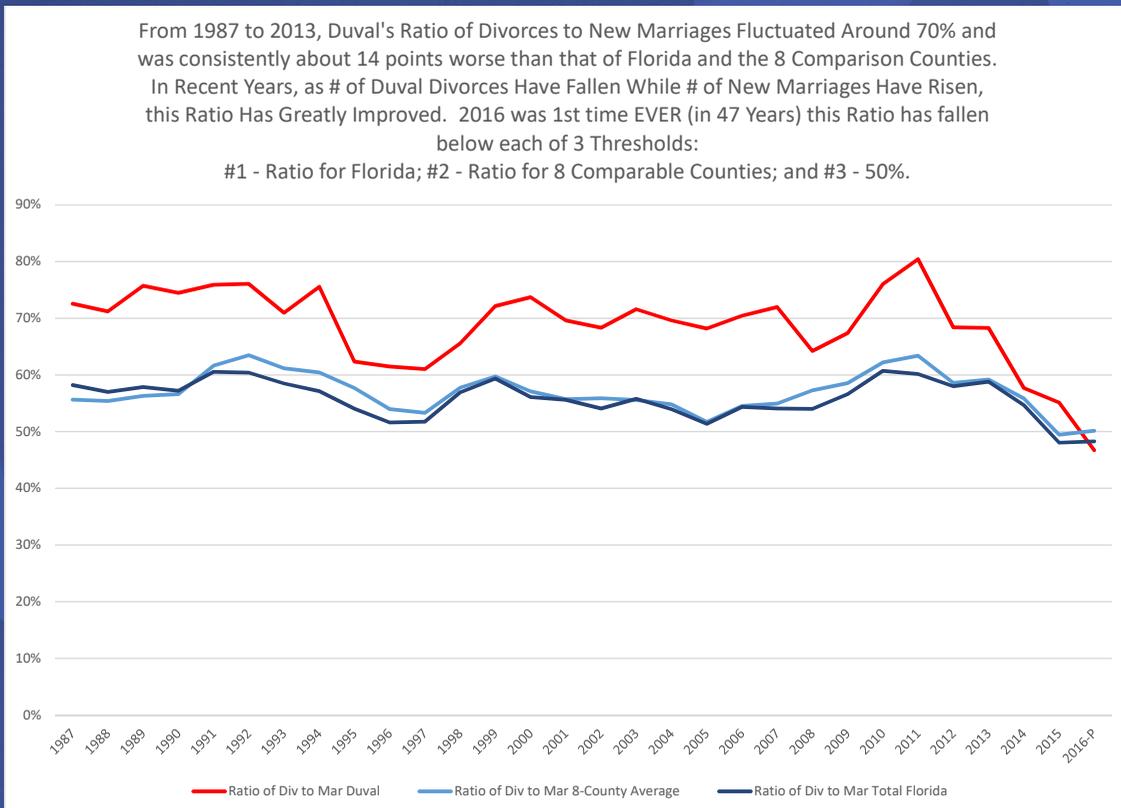


Source: www.FLHealthCharts.com 2016 Data is Provisional as of 2/15/17

LOWEST In recorded History



Source: www.FLHealthCharts.com 2016 Data is Provisional as of 2/15/17



Source: www.FLHealthCharts.com 2016 Data is Provisional as of 2/15/17

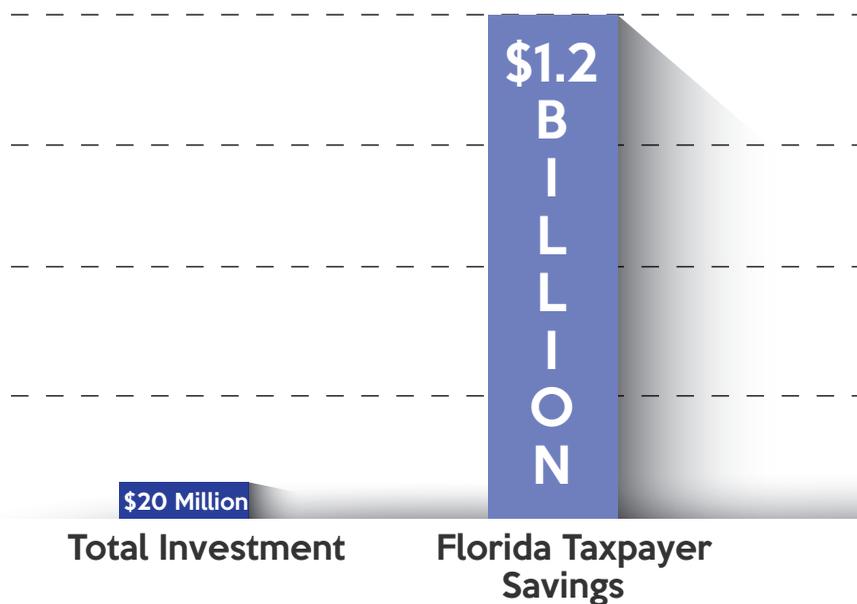
TODAY DUVAL COUNTY, TOMORROW THE STATE OF FLORIDA?

The latest US Census Bureau estimate puts the population of Florida at 20,612,439.

What if we were able to raise \$20 million per year for the next 7 years? Because of Florida's size and complexity, it would probably take a little bit longer, say 7 years instead of 5, but we believe we could reduce the divorce rate by 50% across the entire state of Florida if we had funding at \$1 per person for 7 years.

With an average of 80,000 divorces per year, that would mean 40,000 fewer divorces each year. The cost savings to Florida taxpayers from 40,000 fewer divorces would be \$1,232,680,000¹ – yes that is more than \$1.2 Billion in savings per year.

So what's the return on investment?



1) Cost-savings estimate based on work by Dr. David G. Schramm, "Individual and Social Costs of Divorce in Utah". Journal of Family and Economic Issues. Vol. 27, Number 1, April 2006, pp 133-151.

PRAYER STRATEGY

Please join our Prayer Team as we circle this goal in prayer on a regular basis:

"Father, we unite and agree in prayer to humbly ask You to reduce the divorce rate in the state of Florida and the U.S. by 50% within 7 years"



"I am so thankful that the Lord directed us to you. Understanding what our needs are and how to meet those needs has been huge. These problems have been barriers in our relationship for the last 25 years and we finally have some understanding of each other."

ADOPT A FLORIDA COUNTY

At Live the Life, we have the tools we need, we just need to bring them to scale in more communities. We believe our vision for Community Marriage Initiatives has the potential to transform any community that undertakes a serious, substantive, and sustained effort to achieve it. We visualize communities in the future as “divorce-free zones,” where divorces are rarely, if ever, wanted or needed, and where strong marriages are encouraged, nurtured, developed, and maintained.

We believe we could achieve a 50% reduction in the divorce rate in any county within Florida if we had \$1 of funding per person in that county for 5 years.

The incredible results in Duval county in 2016 have truly inspired our Board and our staff. We hope supporters like you are also encouraged and inspired, because we could not do this work without you!

If you would like to “adopt a county” – by providing the level of funding required to transform a county and reduce the divorce rate, please let us know!

The chart below provides an estimated Return on Investment calculation for the philanthropists who took a risk and invested in Duval County, FL. Of course, year one is now an ACTUAL result, not an estimated result!

Duval County, FL Estimated Return on Investment

YEAR	INVESTMENT	% Reduction in Divorce Rate	# Marriages Saved	\$ Cost Savings to Taxpayers	Return on Investment (ROI)
1	\$900,000	17.6%	624	\$19,229,808	21x
2	\$900,000	25%	927	\$28,567,359	32x
3	\$900,000	35%	1298	\$40,000,466	44x
4	\$900,000	45%	1669	\$51,433,573	57x
5	\$900,000	50%	1854	\$57,134,718	63x
TOTAL	\$4.5 Million		6372	\$196,365,924	43x



“I believe that a true miracle has taken place in my heart and our marriage. I learned I have been too harsh with my ways of dealing with issues, I now know how to better myself when dealing with conflict to not hurt my wife.”

SOUTH FLORIDA IS ON THE MOVE!

Key Milestones in 2016:

- Lisa May, our South Florida Regional Vice President moved to Ft. Lauderdale to work full time in April 2016
- The Real Essentials program for students and parents is taking off: We trained 11 teachers in the program, and it was offered to 367 students at Boyd Anderson High School in 2016
- We had 218 parents attend our Real Life Parenting workshop
- Adventures in Marriage is being offered with increasing frequency and in 2016 we had 164 graduates in this premier marriage education program
- Our Hope Weekends for troubled marriages continue to grow and expand as more people discover this rare gem of a program. We had 64 individuals go through Hope Weekend this year, and 27 marriages were saved – an 84% success rate!
- We had 213 individuals come to our very first Community Conversations event with Brad Wilcox from the Institute for Families Studies sharing the impact of family breakdown
- Began the process of asking for \$10 million of federal TANF funds to go toward healthy relationship and family wellness education
- We are building a strong network of leaders from other non-profit agencies, community based organizations, and churches to form a Coalition for Marriages and Families and dive deep to address the impact of family fragmentation
- Launched REALife Parenting for the City of Ft. Lauderdale employees
- Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church has provided office space and a permanent home for Live the Life's regional office in South Florida



“After this weekend I feel more connected with my wife than I have in a very long time. I have been stuffing all my garbage deep inside and now I have a safe place with her to empty it. I have hope in knowing that we are still meant to be together.”

SOUTH FLORIDA PROGRAM GOALS FOR 2017

- **HOPE Weekends:** 8 weekends, 128 participants (2 for Spanish speaking participants)
- **Real Life Parenting classes:** 160 parent participants; 3 church workshops
- **Real Essential:** provided in public and private schools, churches, 920 participants
- **Adventures in Marriage:** 12 classes provided in churches and organizations, 480 participants
- **Start Smart:** for seriously dating or engaged couples, 80 participants
- **Community Conversations: Fight the New Drug,** 1,800 participants from multiple venues

Total projected impact: 3,568 program participants

"Where would I rather be: At the beach, pool, watching sports or sitting in a small room with five other couples talking about how to open up with your wife and communicate better? Hmm- that's a real tough one but I am going to go out on a limb and say I think most men would choose the first one- I certainly would. But at the risk of getting my man card revoked for life, I will tell you its the wrong decision. Hope Weekend not only showed me how to handle conflict in my marriage but it also helped me see how special my wife is and what makes her the way she is and even

learned how tough life would be without her. We all have baggage and that baggage is brought to the marriage- learning how to work through it is essential to a successful marriage. And lets face it, a bad marriage makes life suck. Trust me, I know! And for those that have kids like me, you learn that your bad marriage and bad behavior can alter generations. Who wants that as their legacy? I certainly don't! I recommend Hope Weekend to all my sports watching, non-emotional, poor communicating brothers out there- life is short so build a marriage that your kids will want to emulate by putting your spouse first! And one more thing- be prepared to cry, there is no stopping it. (haven't cried like that since the Patriots spectacular win against Seattle.) Raw, unfiltered truth- exactly what every marriage needs as a foundation."



~Scot Seagrave~

LIVE THE LIFE

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