



FAITHFUL **Obedience**

PHILIPPIANS 1:6



VISION

To see God’s love bring holistic transformation to immigrant and refugee communities.

MISSION

PLI exists to glorify God by educating, equipping, and ministering to immigrant and refugee families empowering them to thrive in the U.S.

CORE VALUES

- Radical Love** / 1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7
- Sacrificial Commitment** / PHILIPPIANS 2:3-7
- Courageous Speech** / JOSHUA 1:9

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SCAN HERE TO
MEET PLI’S TEAM



DEAR BROTHERS & SISTERS IN CHRIST,

This past year has been a testimony to God's people walking in **faithful obedience**. Every step forward in ministry by staff, volunteers, donors, church partners, prayer warriors, and community partners has been possible because of answering God's call with steadfast faith.

Day after day, we see the quiet but powerful ways God works when His people say "yes" to Him. Volunteers show up to teach English or help families navigate life in a new culture. Donors give generously and sacrificially, trusting God to multiply their gifts. Churches and community partners enable PLI to extend abundant hospitality. Muslim immigrant and refugee families are showing great courage as they take steps of faith by asking questions about Jesus and beginning to explore what it means to follow Him.

Collectively, we are seeing the fruit of obedience. Lives are being touched by God's love, families are being strengthened, and seeds of faith are being planted. Obedience is not always easy, but it is always worth it when it brings glory to God.

Looking ahead, PLI continues to walk in obedience to God: helping Muslim immigrant and refugee families find stability in the U.S. while pointing them to Jesus. Each program, each relationship, and each story you read in this report reflects this calling. Together, we are learning to take one step at a time, trusting the Lord to direct our path and sustain His work.

For 13 years, God has faithfully built PLI through ordinary people choosing to obey an extraordinary God. His hand has guided this ministry from its beginnings to where it stands today. As you read the stories in these pages, I invite you to celebrate His goodness with us and be encouraged that your faithful obedience is part of something much larger than any of us could accomplish on our own. Scripture reminds us in **Joshua 22:5**:

"Be very careful...to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to keep his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul."

May we continue to live this out together. Thank you for your prayers, your generosity, and your faithful obedience. I am humbled and grateful to walk alongside you as partners in the gospel, trusting the Lord to transform lives through the ministry of PLI.

Grace & Peace to you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Obringer".

Michael Obringer

Executive Director and Co-Founder

WHERE GOD IS WORKING

2024-2025 AT A GLANCE

987

Individuals ministered to in
programs and at community events

639

Lives touched through
Christ-centered connections

230

Volunteers Mobilized

“...WE CAME HERE TO LEARN ABOUT JESUS.”

Continue reading to hear what God is doing in Fereyba’s family on page 8.

YOU CAN JOIN HIM



PRAY

Join hundreds of others in praying for holistic transformation within immigrant and refugee families. Your prayers can bring hope and healing.



GIVE

Make a difference through monthly donations, one-time gifts, or contributions of stock, goods, or services. Your generosity provides accessible programs, hope, and community for families in Houston.



VOLUNTEER

Become a part of our volunteer team! Whether as a teacher, mentor, or home visitor, you can make an eternal impact on the lives of immigrant and refugee families.



ADVOCATE

Help us spread the word! Introduce us to small groups, volunteers, or financial supporters. Share our mission on social media and amplify efforts to support these families.



ESL PROGRAM

A SEED PLANTED: FAITHFUL OBEDIENCE AT WORK

Faithful obedience is lived out every day in small, God-led moments. Nicole, one of our ESL volunteers, experienced this firsthand with her student, Nooria, who is from Afghanistan.

During class, Nicole shared the story of the woman at the well. After she finished, Nooria said simply, **“That’s a good story.”** When they were alone in the classroom during teatime, Nicole asked if she liked the story about Jesus. **Nooria smiled and shared she had been watching a TV show about Him in Dari**, one of Afghanistan’s two official languages. Nicole responded, **“So you are learning about Jesus,”** and promised to pray that Nooria would understand how deeply Jesus loves her. The conversation ended as other students arrived, but a seed had been planted by a show about Jesus and watered by Nicole.

At the end of the semester, **Nicole felt the Lord nudging her to offer Nooria a Bible** in her heart language. She prayed for the right moment. On the day students came for end-of-year feedback, Nooria arrived early, waiting in the lobby. Nicole asked if she would like a book of true stories about Jesus in Dari. **Nooria’s face lit up, and she eagerly said yes.**

When Nicole gave Nooria a Dari New Testament, she tucked it into her backpack. Nicole prayed **Jesus would reveal Himself to Nooria** and that she would believe the truth in His Word.

This story is a vivid picture of **faithful obedience** with one volunteer listening to God’s prompting, one student open to receiving, and one small step that could change a life for eternity.

FAITHFUL STEPS: ONE TEACHER, ONE STUDENT, ONE LIFE

At PLI, ministry often unfolds in quiet, faithful steps when volunteers respond to God’s prompting in small, intentional ways. Dan, a PLI volunteer, saw this firsthand with his student, Abasi, who speaks French as his native language.

Dan asked Abasi if he would be willing to watch the French version of *The HOPE*, a film that tells the story of God’s promise to all people, and discuss it together. Abasi agreed, and their conversations quickly grew deeper. They talked about Abraham, Isaac, and Ishmael, exploring what Islam and the Bible teach about God and Jesus. Abasi recognized **both the Bible and the Quran teach Jesus was sinless** and had no human father. Dan explained a sinless sacrifice was necessary to satisfy God’s judgment on the sin affecting all mankind, and Abasi asked thoughtful, challenging questions.

Dan also shared how the story of Abraham and Isaac was a turning point in his own journey of understanding God’s truth, demonstrating faithful obedience in his own life. When Abasi had questions about Jesus being God, Dan encouraged him to read the Gospel of John. Several times, Abasi stayed after class to continue their conversations, **exploring Christianity and Islam, discussing *The HOPE*, and reading Scripture together.**

This summer, Dan invited Abasi to lunch and asked if he pondered their conversations. **They discussed Abasi’s questions about Jesus and the Trinity**, comparing the Muslim understanding of “One God” with the Christian understanding of the Trinity. Dan then asked if Abasi would be willing to read *No God but One* by Nabeel Qureshi, a Muslim-background believer. Abasi agreed, and Dan gave him the book. **Please pray Abasi will read it and the Holy Spirit will reveal the truth to him.**

285 ESL STUDENTS GREW IN
LANGUAGE SKILLS.

ISAIAH 55:10-11

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

FAITHFUL LEADERSHIP

PLI's Children's Program serves children from three months to five years old and their parents. While children are cared for in a safe, nurturing environment, they are also prepared for the expectations of American schools. At the same time, parents receive tools and insights to better understand the U.S. school system and how to support their children's education.

A unique part of this program is the team of **12 Muslim women from immigrant and refugee backgrounds** who serve as our children's teachers. These women gain more than a stable part-time job. They also receive professional development training and the opportunity to grow through intentional relationships with our staff. As we work alongside them, we build **bridges for Gospel conversations** and **model biblical values in everyday work**.

At PLI, we emphasize **resolving conflict biblically, according to what Jesus teaches in Matthew 18**. Ashley, PLI's children's program leader, has consistently led her team with wisdom and care, teaching them these Biblical principles about conflict which shape both their work and relationships.

Ashley recalls one teacher coming to her office to share about a conflict with another team member. After listening and offering counsel, Ashley encouraged her to follow PLI's conflict resolution process. The teacher responded,

***"At PLI they always tell us that if we have a problem, we shouldn't hide it.
We should go to the other person and talk with them."***

With Ashley's faithful leadership, her team is learning new ways of working together, transforming their personal growth and increasing the unity of the team.

12 WOMEN EMPLOYED
AS CHILDREN'S TEACHERS

MATTHEW 18:15

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother."



WOMEN'S PROGRAM

SEEKING JESUS TOGETHER

This year, several women began a Film Discovery Group which is a space for those **curious about Christianity** and for **new believers to grow in their faith**. Each week, the group watches a short film clip, such as the Jesus film, and engages in discussion about its themes.

One evening, the group watched a clip about **sacrifice**. During the discussion, a volunteer asked Fereyba, "You have sacrifice in Islam, right? Can you tell me more about that?" She explained what sacrifice means in her faith. Afterward, Fereyba added, *"If you want to learn about Islam, let me know, and I will prepare something so I can explain it well in English. But we came here to learn about Jesus."*

God is at work in the hearts of the women who attend the film group. Through small, intentional steps like watching a film, asking questions, and sharing perspectives, lives are being opened to the truth of Jesus. Volunteers are following, **in obedience**, God's prompting to engage clients with boldness and clients are taking **faithful** steps to explore the gospel. May God continue to draw them into a deeper, saving understanding of Jesus, and may these small, faithful actions bear eternal fruit.

MEN'S PROGRAM

RASUL'S JOURNEY

In last year's report, we shared a story about Rasul and what God was doing in his life. He had begun reading the Bible and even remarked, "Mohammad copied Jesus." God continues to work in Rasul's life in meaningful ways.

Recently, Rasul shared that he's been wondering why God has blessed him with a wonderful wife and a stable job. *"It feels like someone must be praying for me,"* he said. Jim responded, *"I pray for you by name every day."* Rasul was visibly surprised and touched. Praise God for Jim who is faithfully obeying the Lord's prompting to pray for Rasul each day!

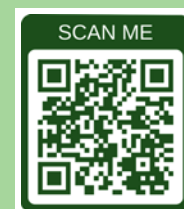
Their discussion turned to the idea of conscience. Rasul asked what it is and how it works. Jim explained that God has written His law on our hearts, giving us a sense of right and wrong, and that the **Holy Spirit draws us toward God**, speaking through our conscience.

Later, Rasul approached another volunteer, David, about the **Taurat (the first five books of the Old Testament), Zabur (the Psalms), and Injil (the 4 Gospels)**. David explained that Christians see all three together as one continuous story. Rasul noted that Muslims follow these books along with the Qur'an and pointed out similarities between Islam and Christianity. David then shared a key difference: **Christians believe Jesus is God**, whereas the Qur'an teaches He is only a prophet.

Rasul has responded with genuine interest and continues to ask thoughtful questions, wrestling with which faith to follow. God is at work in Rasul, **drawing him closer to Jesus**, and is using volunteers like Jim and David **who simply say "yes"** when the Lord opens a door.

76 MEN
CONNECTED
TO MEN'S
COMMUNITY

Go Deeper with PLI



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

FAITHFUL SEEDS: CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER

One afternoon in PLI's After-school Program, Michele sat with Hassan, an energetic student from Eritrea. While the other children read quietly, Hassan buzzed with energy. To keep him engaged, Michele started a conversation. Suddenly, he blurted, "I want a gun to shoot people!"

With gentle patience, Michele redirected him: "You know, **we're called to love others**, not hurt them."

Hassan grinned, boasting that he wasn't afraid of anything—until finally he admitted in a whisper, "Okay, there's one thing I'm afraid of—evil spirits."

Michele didn't brush off his fears. Instead, she leaned in and shared with childlike simplicity: "That's real. But I'm not afraid, because I have Jesus. **When I call His name, evil spirits flee.**"

Hassan responded. "I'm Muslim. I don't believe in Jesus."

Michele gently explained, "Did you know Jesus is in the Qur'an? He's honored there too. But what's amazing is that He conquered death. People tried to kill Him, but He rose again, alive and powerful."

Hassan's eyes widened. "Like zombie powers?"

Smiling, Michele clarified, "Even better! Jesus is truly alive—His resurrection shows **He is stronger than death itself.**"

That day, Michele followed the Spirit's prompting and spoke truth into Hassan's life. Though she didn't see immediate fruit, she **entrusted the moment to God**, praying that the seeds planted would one day grow into faith in Christ.



ENGLISH CAMP

HASSAN AND MARA – GROWING IN GOD’S LOVE

Months later, Hassan returned to PLI with his sister, Mara, for English Camp. In the past, Hassan had strongly resisted faith conversations. But during a lesson, Mara spoke up and talked about trusting God and Jesus, showing a new openness that reflected a willingness to consider God’s guidance.

Later, Hassan asked, “What do we have to do to be accepted by God?” A volunteer patiently explained, “You have to love and trust God.” Hassan recalled, “Ms. Jean said you have to accept Jesus.” The volunteer gently affirmed, “Yes, you have to accept Jesus as Lord.” **Through these interactions, Hassan was listening, processing, and taking steps toward a relationship with Jesus.**

Together, Hassan and Mara’s spiritual growth highlights how PLI’s programs provide safe, loving spaces where volunteers **faithfully sow seeds of truth**, cultivating hearts that are open to God’s transformation.

101 CHILDREN
SERVED

55 VOLUNTEERS
MOBILIZED

40 CHRIST-CENTERED
CONNECTIONS



ENGLISH CAMP SPONSORS



A WEEK OF JOY AND ACHIEVEMENT

English Camp concluded on June 27 with a lively awards ceremony celebrating campers and their families. Hosted by volunteer Davis Fogle and PLI’s Children’s Program Leader, Ashley Tomlian, the event featured performances by campers, certificates of participation, and recognition of 15 children for Outstanding Character with gift cards generously provided by Chick-fil-A. The Chick-fil-A Cow helped hand out awards, took group photos, and brought smiles to campers and parents alike.

After the ceremony, children selected books from the Curiosity Book Cruiser, sponsored by The Ladies for Literacy Guild of the Barbara Bush Foundation, and enjoyed chocolate chip cookies from the Chick-fil-A Cow. The celebration highlighted a week of learning, growth, and joyful engagement for all.

ENGLISH CAMP

SERVING WITH JOY

This year at English Camp, we had the joy of serving **101 children**, partnering with **five churches**, and hosting **55 volunteers**. Among them were Zane and Vanessa, new volunteers who worked diligently to prepare the curriculum and support teachers and helpers throughout the week. Their dedication reflected **faithful obedience** in responding to God's prompting to serve and invest in the lives of young kids.

At the end of the week, Vanessa shared how deeply the experience had impacted her. She said,

*"I love that they get a different view of Jesus. **Jesus was definitely in this place.** I pray that we continue to have a chance to show Jesus to those who don't know Him. I never thought I would be in a space where people didn't know Jesus. I'm sincerely overwhelmed with joy. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve with you. May God's love, peace, and grace always be with you all."*

Her words captured the joy and spiritual growth that come from serving others with obedience to God. English Camp is an opportunity to minister to Muslim immigrant and refugee children, where hearts are opened, lives are impacted, and the love of Jesus is shared in tangible, life-changing ways. The faithful service of volunteers like Zane and Vanessa demonstrates how **God uses ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary work.**



TEEN GIRLS PROGRAM

WE CAN'T BOTH BE RIGHT

Kim recently took Fatima, a friend whom several PLI staff women have befriended, to an appointment. In most of their spiritual conversations, **Fatima often argues that Christianity is wrong and Islam is correct.**

While driving, Fatima overheard Kim talking about spending the night in the hospital with one of their teen girls. Surprised, she asked, ***"You mean you spent the night in the hospital with a girl who wasn't your own daughter?"*** Kim explained that her mother was caring for the younger children and her father could not take more time off work. Fatima said that was very kind.

Kim responded, "God has shown me so much love by giving me Jesus, I have to love others." This sparked reflection in Fatima. She said quietly, ***"I am confused. I was taught that you people have black hearts, but you, Anna, and Alicia are kind and loving. You are 100% sure of what you believe, and I am 100% sure of what I believe."*** Kim gently responded that they both cannot be correct, leaving the unspoken question of "Which belief system is correct?" hanging in the air for Fatima to consider. This pause gave room for the Holy Spirit to work in Fatima's heart as she wrestled with the question.



JOHN 13:34-35

"Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."



COMMUNITY EVENTS

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL: TRANSFORMING MOMENTS, LASTING IMPACT

In February, PLI hosted a **Community Festival** that welcomed around **300 clients**, despite the cold, rain, and hail. The festival featured a **community resource fair**, where 10 partner organizations shared resources they provide to clients, and an **artisan fair** where clients sold handmade and imported goods.

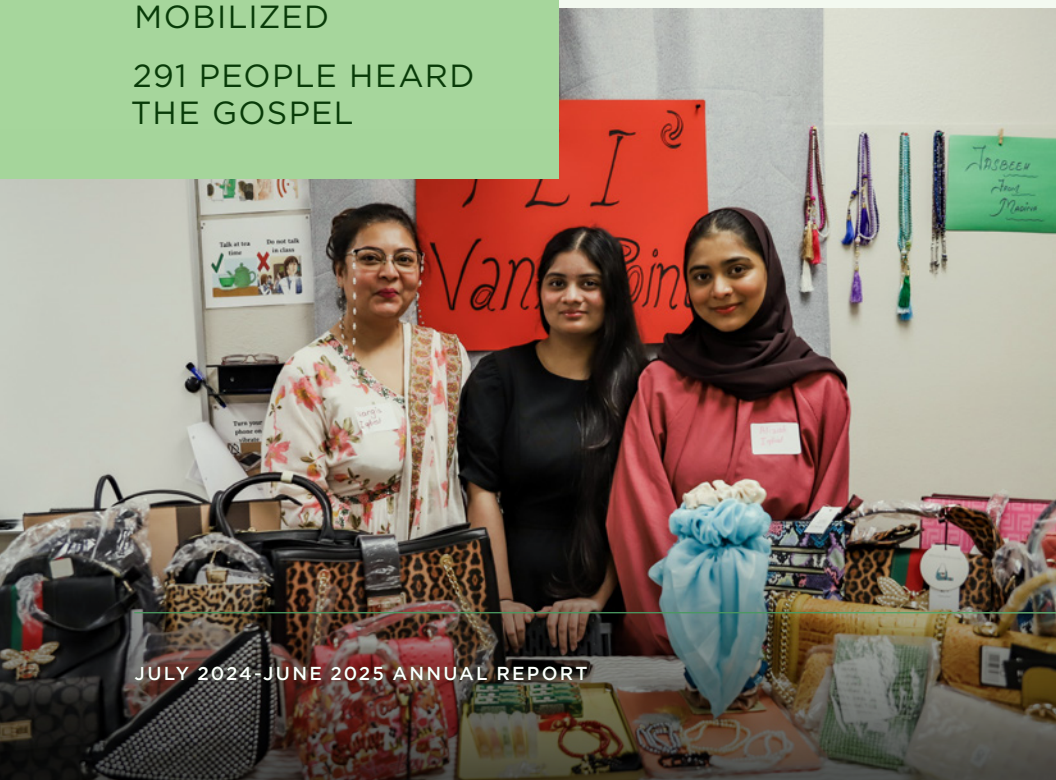
A highlight of the day was a performance by Jeff, a strongman entertainer, who demonstrated impressive feats of strength while also **sharing the gospel with everyone** in attendance. Jeff expressed deep gratitude for the event, noting that he had little prior cross-cultural experience and found the opportunity transformative.

He shared, *"Please tell all your colleagues that we (my wife, son, and I) are so grateful for our time with you and your clients this past Saturday. **It was a life-changing experience**, and I don't think we will ever forget it. It was also neat to learn how best to communicate with a group of people from another culture, which I hadn't done before. I think **y'all are truly doing God's work**, and it shows in the faces of your clients. The men, women, and children we met were so sweet and eager to let us share. I just wanted to say thanks again! God bless each of you."*

The festival was a powerful reminder of how **faithful obedience in serving our community** can create meaningful connections, open hearts, and leave a lasting impact on both clients and volunteers alike.

97 VOLUNTEERS
MOBILIZED

291 PEOPLE HEARD
THE GOSPEL



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Casa El Buen Samaritano
Chick-fil-A
Church World Service
Fellowship of Barnabas Partners
Fort Bend Christian Academy
Garden of Grace
Golden Thread, Inc.
Good Works Collective
Harris County Public Library
Holiday Acres Tree Farm
Houston Legal Aid Center
Houston Public Library
Houston Welcomes Refugees
Jamboree Dentistry
Kids' Meals
Ladies for Literacy Guild
Mid-America Arts Alliance
Mighty Oaks Foundation
Refuge Church
Refugee Ministry Network
Revival Sport
Servant of Nations Church
South Texas College of Law
The Get Together
The Rise Initiative
Urban Catalyst
WorkFaith



CHECK OUT
OUR VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES

ENGAGE HOUSTON

CALLED, CHALLENGED, CHANGED

Amber arrived for her six-week summer internship full of confidence. She knew God had called her into ministry, and she was eager to obey. But as the weeks unfolded, her understanding of what obedience truly costs began to deepen.

Immersed in the ministry's daily work among Muslim immigrant families, Amber encountered beliefs and worldviews she had never faced before. Some conversations were startling—moments when she first recognized the spiritual darkness behind Islam's teachings. Other times, she was surprised by how deeply and thoughtfully Muslims wrestle with what Christians believe. Each encounter challenged her assumptions and pushed her to rely on God in new ways.

"Ministry is hard," Amber admitted honestly. She had assumed that clarity about God's calling would make the path straightforward. Instead, she discovered that **following that call demands perseverance, humility, and a dependence on God** far greater than she had imagined. The internship became a refining experience—teaching her that ministry is not about quick victories but about **steady faithfulness** in the midst of difficulty.

Now, Amber is seeking God in prayer with renewed seriousness about what comes next. She senses that the direction ahead is significant, and she wants to respond with the same faithful obedience she saw modeled during her time with PLI. Her summer wasn't just a season of service; it was a pivotal chapter in learning what it truly means to follow God's call—one step of obedience at a time, even when the work is hard.





INTERNS TO RESIDENTS

Since the very beginning, PLI has run highly effective internships. Many of those who once joined us as interns are now ministry leaders on our staff, serving with other organizations across the U.S., or proclaiming the Good News around the world.

COVID interrupted that trajectory, and for a few years we paused the program. But two years ago, we relaunched with a six-week summer internship, and this past summer we welcomed another participant.

As I've had conversations with pastors across the U.S., there seems to be a decline in young people pursuing ministry internships. In response, PLI is expanding and renaming our internship program. Beginning in 2026, we will offer **Cross-Cultural Ministry Residencies**, both six-week and 12-month opportunities, designed to equip people to serve cross-culturally and live as missionaries, whether locally or overseas.

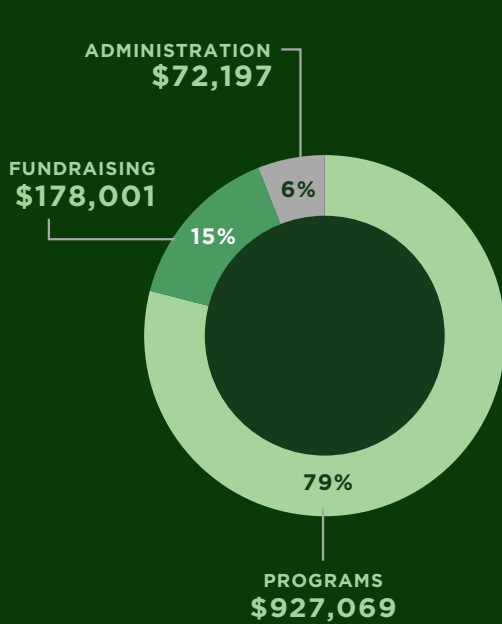
This shift is more than a new name. We will continue recruiting university students, but we are also launching a new pathway to recruit residents from our partnering churches. By working closely with churches, we hope to help them raise up and send out people who are deeply rooted in their faith and prepared to serve among Muslim immigrant and refugee communities.

We rejoice in hearing from former interns, now missionaries, as they disciple new believers and witness baptisms. We look forward to seeing how God will use these new Cross-Cultural Ministry Residencies to prepare the next generation of workers to further His Kingdom.

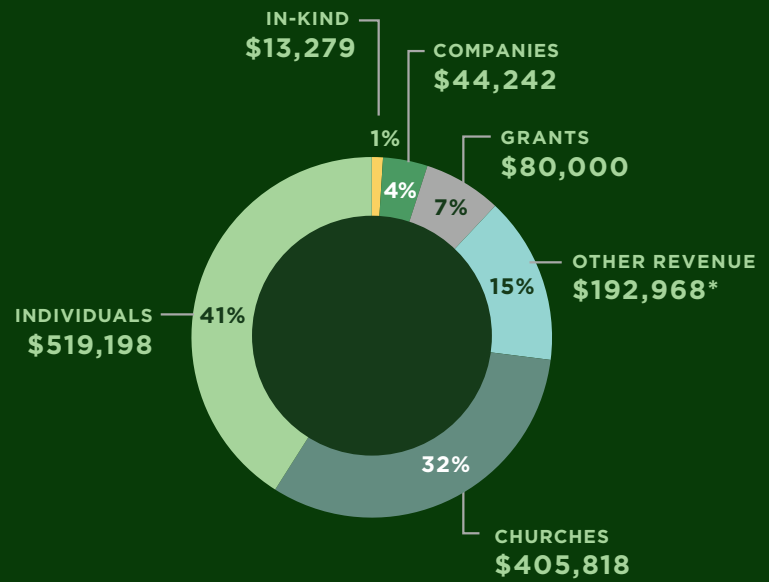
Josh Johnson
PLI Training Director



EXPENSES & REVENUE



EXPENSES TOTAL : \$1,177,267



REVENUE TOTAL : \$1,255,505

** \$88,318 received from IRS for Employee Retention Credit*



COMMITMENT TO
TRANSPARENCY



IMPACT IN NUMBERS

24 Children mentored in the After-school Club



101 Children ministered to at English Camp



35 Women connected through Women's Community

263 Children under five prepared for kindergarten



151 Volunteers equipped through PLI Training



285 ESL students grew in language skills



23 Teen girls mentored

76 Men connected through Men's Community



987 Total clients engaged



37 Women visited in their home



639 Lives touched through Christ-centered connections*

**Intentional opportunities to minister, pray, and share the Gospel with Muslim immigrant and refugee families.*

CHURCH PARTNERS



Nassau Bay Baptist Church



PLI EVENT CALENDAR 2025-26



U.S. Allies Ceremony	November 6, 2025
Honor & Shame Training	November 15, 2025
Christmas Tree Farm Event	December 14, 2025
End-of-Year Celebration	April 30, 2026
PLI Annual Benefit	May 9, 2026
English Camp	June 22-26, 2026
English Camp Celebration	June 26, 2026



CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS



SAVE THE DATE PLI BENEFIT

MAY 9, 2026 | HOUSTON’S FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH





PLI PRESTIGE
LEARNING
INSTITUTE



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