



Isaiah 61 Ministries

"Helping people find their healing, wholeness & freedom in Christ through Biblical counseling"

January 2024

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Five years old! I can hardly believe it! Isaiah 61 Ministries has been in operation for five years! The ministry has gone from infancy through toddler-hood and is now emerging as a....well, I guess we are now a "Kindergartner"—established on its feet, grown up in many ways, numerous (even miraculous) milestones under its belt but still has more growing to do.

I'm not really a "numbers" kind of person but rather than me ramble on and on, I will let the numbers do the talking for me. In five short years, look at how the Lord has blessed, grown and used Isaiah 61 Ministries:

Started with one sole volunteer—five years later: two staff, three peer counselors (about to add a fourth!) and one admin volunteer!

Started in a basement office with four rooms—five years later: more than double our office space with ten rooms/spaces!

Finished each of our five years in the black financially! With all our counseling services and materials remaining free of charge!

And look at these five-year totals:

- 14,812 hours served by staff and volunteers*
- 8,312 admin hours*
- 6,242 counseling hours*
- 258 training hours*
- 736 individuals counseled*
- 42 couples counseled*
- 5,587 counseling sessions*

As I type this, and I am not kidding, I can "hear" in my mind (and heart) our son Nathan singing in the backseat of our van at the top of his little lungs (which he frequently did) "Our God is an awesome God...He reigns from Heaven above...With wisdom, power and love...Our God is an awesome God." To which I respond, "Yes, He is, Nathan! Yes, He is!"

A huge thank you to all who have made these last five years possible—to the staff, to the volunteers, to those who faithfully pray for us and to those who financially support the ministry! We especially thank all of those who have trusted us in some of the most difficult and painful moments of their lives and have allowed us to come alongside them in their journey to a place of healing, wholeness and freedom in Christ.

Happy Birthday Isaiah 61 Ministries! How I praise God for these last five years and look forward to what is yet to come!

Teresa

An honor and privilege to serve...

As a pastor there are so many needs represented in our church family from week to week. There are certainly times when the sheer scope of those needs can feel overwhelming and even beyond our ability to address. It is in moments like those that we are so blessed to have a relationship with our friends at Isaiah 61 Ministries. This wonderful team have been such a valuable resource to our ministry team. Isaiah 61 Team serves with such professionalism and genuine heart for Christ, they have made such a difference in the lives of countless individuals from our church family and the community. ~ Associate Pastor

The team at Isaiah 61 have been a tremendous resource for our church and for me as a minister. I know that they have reduced the load for me as a pastoral counselor and provided real emotional support and effective counsel to many hurting folk from my church. We celebrate their five-year ministry and encourage you to consider them as a true companion in our faith community. Our financial support has been greatly returned to us in the ways they've blessed our people. Congratulations to Isaiah 61 and may you have many more blessed and fruitful years of service ahead! ~ Lead Pastor

(Counselor) presented information in two different classes for our church: one on grief, loss, and sorrow and the other on overcoming anxiety. Both classes were very well done, included handouts, time for sharing, and good information that those in the groups truly benefited from. We were blessed by (Counselor) and would not hesitate to contact Isaiah 61 Ministries for similar classes at our church. ~ Lead Pastor

In 2020, it became apparent to me that I was in need of some counseling, and I was referred to Isaiah 61 Ministries and (Counselor). I had been in counseling before, but it quickly became apparent that this was going to be different. Jesus was very much a part of these sessions. (Counselor's) professional and compassionate demeanor helped me talk through some very difficult circumstances. Then my life was really turned upside down, and I needed some deep and extensive counseling. (Counselor) heard me, she was compassionate, and offered guidance and wisdom as I walked down an unwanted path. However, the most valuable advice she gave me was to stay close to Jesus. (Counselor) and Isaiah 61 ministers to the whole person—mind, heart, and spirit. She recognizes the psychological needs of an individual; but she also recognizes the greater need to heal and feed the heart and spirit with the Word of God and His love. (Counselor's) encouragement helped me stay focused on God and His goodness in very difficult times. Three years later, Jesus is working in me and still healing me. I am thankful that God led me to (Counselor) and Isaiah 61 Ministries to walk down this dark road so that I could grow in Christ and, hopefully, be a blessing to someone someday. ~ 50+ Female

Isaiah 61 Ministries provided a place where I learned to feel safe and accepted. The godly, healthy guidance helped me work through my issues and brought me to a place of inner peace. I am thankful that Isaiah 61 Ministries is a part of our community. ~ 60+ Female

I am in full-time ministry and I have worked with Isaiah 61 Ministries from the start. Not only has Isaiah 61 helped my spouse and I personally, but I have referred several people with various struggles in need of counsel. I have found this ministry to be vital in our local communities. I am not aware of any other local ministry for people seeking effective, experienced counsel like Isaiah 61 Ministries. I thank the Lord they were obedient to His calling to establish a ministry such as this. ~ 30+ Married Couple

When my mom passed unexpectedly in January of 2022, I was reeling from her death. One of my friends recommended that I see (Counselor) at Isaiah 61 Ministries. I had never been to a grief counselor before, so I didn't know what to expect. (Counselor) welcomed me with open arms. (Counselor) walked with me through the stages of grief. I will never completely heal from the loss of my mom, but (Counselor) helped me get through one of the most difficult times in my life. Isaiah 61 Ministries has been such a huge blessing to me, I am so appreciative of their ministry. I highly recommend Isaiah 61 Ministries to anyone who is struggling with grief. ~ 30+ Female

DONATIONS SUBMITTED TO: 25 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 101, Waynesboro, VA 22980 or our website i61ministries.net

Happy 5th
Birthday

Isaiah 61 Ministries

