



REDEEMER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 8, 2021

Dear Redeemer family:

In the summer of 2020, as our society confronted again the reality of racial injustice, Redeemer leaders asked how could we help seek *the wholeness of the city*. We wanted to pursue justice in a concrete, immediate way that could also make a long-lasting impact.

African-American leaders in Indy told us that counseling for people of color is a huge need. For many reasons, mental health often goes unaddressed in minority communities. That need resonated for us, given our support for counseling and our mission of seeking wholeness. With the help of these leaders, therefore, **Redeemer created the 4:8 Fund to provide scholarships for people of color seeking mental health services.**

We connected with therapists of color who are gifted and trained for this work. Bwana Clements was especially helpful in making the 4:8 Fund reality. He and his team of counselors go to people to provide what they call coaching (to get past some of the stigmas). **They eliminate barriers to therapy that exist due to transportation, money, and lack of similarities between counselors and clients.**

Redeemer's elders and deacons committed \$50,000 for one year to this vision. We were hopeful but really did not know how it would go. **We are grateful to tell you that God has worked through the 4:8 Fund.** In one year, here is a snapshot of what has happened:

- 110 clients have received counseling.
- That includes individuals, couples, and families (hear one couple's story [here](#)).
- Those clients have had almost 600 sessions with counselors.

This is truly something God has done. We believe it reflects his heart for biblical justice in the gospel call to care for the marginalized in our midst. Redeemer has been just one part of **God working to bring his comfort to the downcast** (2 Cor 7:5).

Why did we call the fund 4:8? The name comes from Philippians 4:8, where Paul urges:

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Our hope is that the counseling that many have received will help them grow in thinking about what is true and good, so that they experience a greater measure of wholeness. We hope you are encouraged in your faith to hear what has been going on quietly in our city.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Charles Anderson
Lead Pastor

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