

Stronghold Center, Inc.



Report to Presbytery of Blackhawk February 9, 2021

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**This past January** was the first month that Stronghold Center, Inc. (SCI) operated as its own individual entity, as a subsidiary of Presbytery of Blackhawk.

**We want to recognize and thank** the *Separation Task Force* after completing its work begun in 2016: previous Committee Moderators, Judith March Hardie and Kathie Luke; Stronghold Committee and Board members Howard Strong, Rebecca White Newgren, and Terry Mohaupt; Blackhawk Presbytery Trustee Jim Keely; Executive Director Danny Pierce; Blackhawk Presbytery Transformational General Presbyter and Stated Clerk Eric Heinekamp; attorneys Kristine Youman & David Badger; CPA Alan Willadsen.

**From Danny Pierce, Executive Director:**

"The good news is Stronghold finished a very difficult year (maybe the worst ever in terms of business revenue) with money in the bank and did not have to ask or borrow any additional funds from the Presbytery. That in and of itself is both amazing and humbling. No doubt the next few months will continue to be very challenging as there is not much uptick in business until the 2nd quarter. On my knees every day praying for God's grace and guidance, Danny"

**At the Presbytery of Blackhawk Council meeting** on January 26, 2021, the following motions were approved:

- 1) Presbytery of Blackhawk will pay SCI quarterly toward its annual pledge of \$50,000; *i.e.* \$12,500 quarterly.
- 2) Presbytery of Blackhawk will pay its annual \$15,000 fee for use of SCI office space (commonly referred to as rent) monthly; *i.e.* \$1,250 monthly.

**The COVENANT** between SCI and Presbytery of Blackhawk will be amended this year, in accordance with SCI Bylaws. Among the provisions being planned are these:

1. SCI will commit to a payment schedule of \$20,000/year, for 5 years to retire outstanding back Payroll debt of \$100,000 owed to BHP, in the spirit of taking full responsibility for our new obligations as a stand-alone entity.

2. Policy will be developed to cover what the monthly payment from Presbytery of Blackhawk for use of office space (commonly referred to as rent) will include, such as, for example, use of postage machine, copier, and Internet service, and use of additional space for meetings, etc.

**In the next few months**, we will—

- Make the decision about whether or not to open Summer Camp again
- Plan an event to celebrate Stronghold's new status

**In conclusion**, the SCI Executive Committee and Board of Directors and Advisory Board spent a good deal of time discussing the sanctity of our present cash position. It is our intent that we respect and accomplish the goals set for us by the generous gifts from churches and individuals represented in this Presbytery and beyond, particularly during this COVID-19 pandemic. Without them we could not accomplish nearly as much to protect Stronghold's financial future, and the future service of our faith.

Respectfully submitted by

*Terry Mohaupt*

*Chair, Stronghold Center, Inc., Board of Directors*

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