



ANNUAL REPORT

2018



WHO WE ARE

Urban Alliance is a non-profit organization located in East Hartford, Connecticut. Motivated by the love of Christ, as people of faith and hope, we have a deep desire to respond to needs in our Greater Hartford community by serving others together in unity, even as all of us are in need of help, hope and love.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to create opportunities for people to achieve lasting change in their lives through the collaborative work of churches and organizations in our local community.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to see people become spiritually, physically, economically and socially healthy and whole as God intended.

*Pictured: Clara Henry
and Joyce Millet at
New River Community
Church's Friends &
Food program*



Pictured: Brother and sister at The Hartford Project's Love Wins festival at Citadel of Love



Dear Friends,

As we reflect on 2018, we are grateful for your partnership and the significant milestones we achieved together.

This past June, we celebrated Urban Alliance's 10th anniversary. From the start, we have focused on helping people in our community who face challenges to meeting their needs. Over the past decade, UA has been developing and equipping a diverse network of Christian churches and organizations to serve the community in deeper ways, believing that we can make a greater impact together than we can alone.

We began by partnering with one organization in 2010. By the start of 2018, our network included 83 churches and organizations. However, we prayerfully set a goal to grow to 100 network participants by the year's end.

We are excited to share that 2018 was our strongest year yet. We accomplished our goal of growing the UA network to 100 Christian churches and organizations.

But most importantly, we exceeded our goal to serve 100,000 people. By partnering with churches and organizations in the UA network, we ultimately reached more than 130,000 people in the Greater Hartford community!

While numbers tell one part of the story, we find greater meaning in what those numbers represent: individual people—our neighbors—each with their own lives and stories of help and hope for a positive future.

As you read through some of those stories in this report, we trust you'll be encouraged to see how your involvement and contributions are building stronger programs in the community and helping people achieve lasting change in their lives.

Thank you for being part of our Urban Alliance team!

David Brooker
President & Chief Executive Officer

Russell Jarvis
Vice President & Chief Operating Officer

2018

HIGHLIGHTS

Pictured: Linda Casey, volunteer with Wintonbury Church, distributes health resources to a Hartford resident during the Revitalize Community Health Outreach



WE EQUIPPED 134 PROGRAMS

We equipped 134 community programs operated by churches and organizations in the UA network to strengthen their capacity, core services, culture, connection and Christian witness.



WE REACHED MORE THAN 130,000 PEOPLE

The scope of our collaborative work touched 130,710 lives. Our five initiatives continued to serve as effective platforms for uniting with churches and organizations and equipping them to develop stronger programs, so that people faced with challenges to meeting their needs experienced greater help and hope for a positive future.



WE CELEBRATED 10 YEARS

We celebrated a milestone of a decade of impact that has been made by listening, responding and building relationships to help people in our local community.



WE EQUIP A NETWORK OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO **SERVE THE COMMUNITY IN DEEPER WAYS SO THAT PEOPLE WHO FACE CHALLENGES TO MEETING THEIR NEEDS WILL EXPERIENCE HELP AND HOPE FOR A POSITIVE FUTURE.**

Pictured: A volunteer helps a client check in at Ebenezer Pentecostal Church's food pantry

BEYOND THE BASICS

Beyond the Basics is an Urban Alliance initiative to help churches and organizations reach and serve people who are lacking food, clothing or housing so they meet their basic needs and gain greater stability in their lives.

revitalize

Revitalize is an Urban Alliance initiative to help churches and organizations reach and serve people who are struggling to care for their physical health needs so they are able to experience and maintain a lifestyle of wellness.

Charis

Charis is an Urban Alliance initiative to help churches and organizations reach and serve people who are facing mental, emotional or relational struggles so they are able to cope with life's challenges and heal from painful experiences.

NEXT GENERATION

Next Generation is an Urban Alliance initiative to help churches and organizations reach and serve youth so they develop the character, relationships and skills needed to succeed in their schools and communities.

thrive

Thrive is an Urban Alliance initiative to help churches and organizations reach and serve young children and their caregivers throughout critical developmental stages so children develop strong foundations for learning and growth.

OUR APPROACH

“ **URBAN ALLIANCE ALLOWED US TO DREAM BIGGER** than we ever thought. ”

REV. DERYK RICHENBURG
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST,
WETHERSFIELD

We have five initiatives—Beyond the Basics, Revitalize, Charis, Next Generation and Thrive—to partner with churches and organizations around identified needs in the community.

We support churches and organizations in our network through these initiatives, with convening, training, toolkits, consultation, grants, supplies and volunteers to build stronger programs in the community.

Urban Alliance's 5-C Framework describes five elements of programming—core services, capacity, culture, connection and Christian witness.

With UA support, this framework is used to help programs develop stronger in each of the 5-C areas.

UA support to Christian churches and organizations leads to stronger community programs, which enables them to help people in more transformational ways and serve more people overall.



“ **I COULD HAVE CHOSEN TO GO TO ANY OTHER FOOD PANTRY** just so that people from my church wouldn’t know that I was finding myself at this point, but what I like about Love Kitchen is that they serve you. You aren’t standing in a line waiting to get your food. I don’t feel like I am being given a handout or that I am less than. I’ve been on both sides of the table, giving and receiving, sometimes both on the same day. I love the fact that they greet me with a smile. They don’t look down on anyone. I came to love the leaders of Love Kitchen for what I saw, the work they put in and how their heart is in it. They will walk around and talk to the people. They engage. I’m not just another face. ”

KATHERINE MONTES
LOVE KITCHEN CLIENT

**UA HAS
PROVIDED**

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

**GRANT
FUNDING**

SUPPLIES

TO HELP GLORY CHAPEL INTERNATIONAL CATHEDRAL’S LOVE KITCHEN MINISTRY CARRY OUT THEIR MISSION TO PROVIDE A SERVICE OF LOVE AND MERCY.

Pictured: Katherine Montes

“

**FOR THE
LONGEST TIME
I COULD NEVER
UNDERSTAND**

why she would have meltdowns and would kick and scream. It was becoming too much. I noticed that after having the parenting classes that Mustard Seed Outreach Center (MSOC) held, I don't yell at her. When I drop her off in the morning I give her a hug and tell her I love her, and I noticed her attitude changed. She doesn't cry when I leave her now. She's not as angry when I pick her up to go home. She's a lot calmer now. I noticed a big difference.

”

CAROLYN BIGGS

MOTHER WHO ATTENDED
MSOC PARENTING
WORKSHOP

**UA HAS
PROVIDED**

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

**GRANT
FUNDING**

SUPPLIES

TO HELP MSOC CARRY
OUT THEIR MISSION TO
ADDRESS THE SOCIAL
NEEDS OF FAMILIES IN THE
GREATER HARTFORD AREA
BY PROVIDING SPIRITUAL,
ECONOMICAL AND
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.



Pictured: Carolyn Biggs with her two children

COMMUNITY BENEFIT IN 2018



UA COORDINATED AND/OR LED **37** FACILITATED **CONVENINGS** AND TRAININGS



UA PROVIDED **TRAINING** TO **352** STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS FROM **134** PROGRAMS



UA MATCHED **VOLUNTEERS** TO **35** PROGRAMS AND **462** UASERVE VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTED **4,566** HOURS OF SERVICE



UA PROVIDED **99** **TOOLKITS OF PRINTED MATERIALS** TO PROGRAMS HELPING PEOPLE CONNECT TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES



UA AWARDED **28** NEW **GRANTS** AND DISTRIBUTED **\$253,700** IN FUNDING TO **25** PROGRAMS



UA PROVIDED ACCESS TO **\$3,829,333** IN GIFT-IN-KIND **SUPPLIES** TO **108** PROGRAMS SERVING CHILDREN AND ADULTS IN NEED

network of churches and organizations

+

UA support

=

stronger community programs

=

people are helped in more transformational ways

“ URBAN ALLIANCE HAS BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR GROWTH.

”

PASTOR JOEL CRUZ
YX MOVEMENT



Pictured: Roberto visits Ebenezer Pentecostal Church's food pantry

“ I SEE A DIFFERENCE
IN THIS PROGRAM

from other after-school programs. They really get hands-on with the children. Ever since my daughter has been in Kids Klub her math skills have improved majorly. I'm always getting comments over and over from her teachers about how she has improved. They are so happy there. I don't have to wonder where my kids are when they are there. It's a safe place that I can trust and I have such peace of mind when they are there. Ever since I signed my children up for this program it has improved our lives for the better. I hope it stays around for a long time. ”

VERONICA PADILLA

MOTHER OF CHILDREN
WHO ATTEND KIDS KLUB

*Pictured: The Padilla family at
South Church's Kids Klub*

UA HAS
PROVIDED

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

VOLUNTEERS

GRANT
FUNDING

SUPPLIES

TO HELP SOUTH CHURCH
SUPPORT CHILDREN SO THEY
SUCCEED ACADEMICALLY,
LEARN LIFE SKILLS AND GROW
IN THEIR FAITH IN GOD.

A photograph of three women standing side-by-side in front of a large, vibrant abstract painting featuring vertical strokes of red, orange, and white. The woman on the left is Black with curly hair, wearing a grey and white patterned vest over a dark top. The woman in the center is white with long blonde hair, wearing a long white cardigan over a white shirt. The woman on the right is white with short grey hair and glasses, wearing a green cardigan over a white turtleneck. They are all smiling at the camera.

UA HAS
PROVIDED

TRAINING

VOLUNTEERS

GRANT
FUNDING

SUPPLIES

TO HELP LOVEDIN CARRY
OUT THEIR MISSION TO
SUPPORT WOMEN WHO
CURRENTLY WORK IN THE
ADULT ENTERTAINMENT
INDUSTRY, LOVING THEM
INTO A NEW AND
ABUNDANT LIFE.

Pictured (l-r): LovedIn Ministry co-founders Audrey Blackwell, Susan Noviello and Sheryl Dougherty

“ **THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY WOMEN DON'T LEAVE THE CLUB.** Many don't have an education. They don't have anything else on their résumé. They've isolated themselves from society. They realize that they're judged. They've formed their own community in where they all accept each other; it's a comfort zone. There often is an addiction to not only substance abuse but to making money in the way they do, in the form of lust. You can get in but you can't get out.

We laugh, we cry, we support. It's life. To see the smiles on their faces, to get the hugs and hear 'I love you' and know that we are some of the only support that these girls have is hard. And it's messy. But, God always continues to open up a door. It's worth it and they're worth it. They are worth the time and effort. ”

SUSAN NOVIELLO
CO-FOUNDER OF LOVEDIN

“ I AM ENCOURAGED THAT A NEW DAY HAS DAWNED—I am assured that the Lord is doing something great in the Greater Hartford area.

PASTOR ESTHER MWANGI
INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

A Better Choice Women’s Center
Anointed Tabernacle of Jesus Christ
Archer Memorial AME Zion Church
Ascend Mentoring
Bethany Christian Services
Bible Way Temple Nation
Building Healthy Families
Calvary Church of West Hartford
Calvary Fellowship
Caring Families Pregnancy Services
Child Evangelism Fellowship of Connecticut
Christ Lutheran Church
Christian Counseling Connection
Church Army USA
Citadel of Love
Colonial Point Christian Church
Coram Deo Recovery
Cornerstone Foundation, Inc.
Cross Street AME Zion Church
Crossroads Community Cathedral
Ebenezer Pentecostal Church
Ebenezer Temple U.H.C.A.
Faith 2 Faith Ministries
Faith Ministries Church
Faith Temple (Templo Fe)
FaithCare
Families United Serving and Embracing
First Church of Christ, Wethersfield
First Church of the Living God
For His Glory Church Ministries
Glastonbury Community Church
Glory Chapel International Cathedral
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Grace Worship Center
Hartford City Mission
Higher Ground Christian Church
House of Praise and Worship
House of Restoration Church
Iglesia Alcanzando La Vision de Cristo A/G
International Gospel Fellowship Church
Iron Sharpens Iron
Kainos Life Ministries
Latter Rain Christian Fellowship
Legacy Church
Life Renewal Community Fellowship
Ministerios Tiempo de Cosecha
Mt. Carmel New Testament Church of God
Mustard Seed Outreach Center
New Covenant United Methodist Church
New Creations in Christ Church
New Dimension Christian Center

New Horizon Baptist Church
New Life II
New Life Worship Center
New River Community Church
NewLife Christian Fellowship
North United Methodist Church
Oasis of Restoration
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Pentecost Deliverance Christian Ministries
Phillips Metropolitan CME Church
Pillar Community Development Corporation
Poquonock Community Church
Power & Faith Ministries
Praise, Power and Prayer Temple
Rehoboth Church of God
Renew Counseling Associates
Shiloh Baptist Church
Shiloh Christian Church
South Congregational Church
Special Touch Ministry, Nutmeg Chapter
St. Monica’s Episcopal Church
St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church
Straight Ahead Ministries
The Agape House
The First Cathedral
The Hartford Project
The Master’s School
The Redeemed Christian Church of God,
Sanctuary of Praise
The Rock CMC
The Salvation Army New London Corps
The Worship Center
Trinity Covenant Church
Trinity Church
Triumphant Church of God
(Triumphant Ministries)
True Life Ministry
Union Baptist
United Methodist Church of Hartford
Valley Brook Community Church
Valley Community Baptist Church
Victory Church
Vox Church
Wallingford Church of the Nazarene
Wellspring Church
West Hartford United Methodist Church
Wethersfield Evangelical Free Church
Wintonbury Church
World Vision
YMCA of Greater Hartford (Wilson-Gray)
Youth Challenge of CT

121 PROGRAM LEADERS FROM CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UA NETWORK COMPLETED THE 2018 URBAN ALLIANCE FEEDBACK SURVEY

100%

“ THE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT THAT UA HAS on faith-based organizations is priceless. The impact trickles down to the community in a powerful way. ”

SAY THEIR PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN **STRENGTHENED** AS A RESULT OF UA SUPPORT

BELIEVE THAT URBAN ALLIANCE **UNDERSTANDS THE COMMUNITY’S NEEDS**

FEEL THAT UA STAFF ARE **KNOWLEDGEABLE, FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING**



Throughout 2018, Urban Alliance facilitated a monthly Micah Group meeting for pastors from churches in the Urban Alliance network, with the goal of fostering opportunities for the group to develop deeper relationships across racial, cultural, geographic and denominational lines so that their churches can more effectively serve the community together.

Pictured: Members of the UA Micah Group



“**YOU NEED FRESH FOOD TO STAY HEALTHY.** So many of us are on medications and it’s important for us to eat healthy. I look forward to the farmers market because everything is fresh. I tried to get my family to eat healthier since last year when I started coming. Even my grandson who was a ‘fast foodie’ is not anymore. I make fried green tomatoes, dinosaur kale, and a lot of fruits and vegetables that we never had before I incorporated them into our food.”

MARCIA BROOKINS
HARTFORD FARMERS
MARKET PATRON

**UA HAS
PROVIDED**

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

TO HELP CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UA NETWORK GET INFORMATION ABOUT FREE AND LOW-COST HEALTH SERVICES INTO THE HANDS OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF HARTFORD RESIDENTS OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS, INCLUDING COUPONS REDEEMED FOR \$24,935 IN HARTFORD FARMERS MARKET PRODUCE.

Pictured: Marcia Brookins at Hartford’s North End Farmers Market



Pictured: Mike Munroe, UAServe Champion who volunteers weekly at World Vision and contributed a total of 242 hours of service at multiple UA-supported programs in 2018.

“ **WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE VOLUNTEERS THAT UA CONNECTS US WITH** we have been able to increase our capacity to provide more donated supplies to those in need in our community. The amount we were able to distribute increased by over 76% last year. And, we have big dreams to keep increasing our capacity year over year. We wouldn't be able to dream so big if we didn't have faith in the ability of UA to connect and bless us with talented and motivated volunteers. ”

MIKE BASSETT
SITE MANAGER, US PROGRAMS
WORLD VISION HARTFORD

UA HAS PROVIDED

GRANT FUNDING

VOLUNTEERS

TO HELP WORLD VISION DISTRIBUTE SCHOOL SUPPLIES, HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS AND CLOTHING TO THOSE MOST IN NEED.

2018 FINANCIALS

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

\$951,454
for Program Services

\$19,236
for Specific Initiatives

\$364,367
for Management & Fundraising

EXPENSES

\$102,805
Fundraising

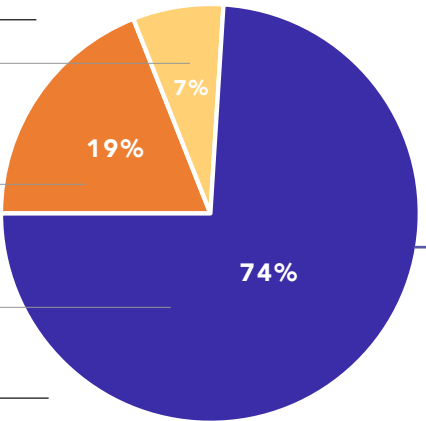
\$261,562
Management & General

\$1,025,292
Program Services

Total Expenses: **\$1,389,659**

“ IT’S THE
TRUST IN THE
FOLKS AT UA that
lets me know my gift
makes an impact. This
work is a mission field
and I am blessed to be
a small part of it.

BILL LINDBERG
UAGIVE DONOR



OUR UAGIVE PROMISE

All of our facilities, management, fundraising and personnel costs are covered by the ongoing commitment of a private foundation, ensuring that 100% of your donations are reinvested into our local community to help people facing challenges to meeting their needs.

In 2018, we invested

\$772 THOUSAND

to provide consultation, training, toolkits, supplies, volunteers and convenings, and distributed an additional

\$253 THOUSAND

in grant funding

to strengthen 134 community programs helping people in Greater Hartford.

*Pictured: Annie Walton
at Hartford's North End
Farmers Market*



UA STAFF

David Brooker, President & Chief Executive Officer

Angela Colantonio, Director of Implementation,
Health & Basic Needs Initiatives

Jaleith Gary, Director of Philanthropy

Althea Henderson, Office Administrator

Russell Jarvis, Vice President & Chief Operating Officer

Christopher Johnson, Communications Associate

Rosa McGuire, Volunteer Manager

Joanne Perry, Controller

Rosaicela Rodriguez, Director of Implementation,
Children & Youth Initiatives

Jessica Sanderson, Senior Director of Research & Strategy

Sarah Thompson, Director of Communications &
Volunteer Mobilization

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