



2019
ANNUAL REPORT



Pictured: Volunteers provide fresh and healthy produce to families facing food insecurity at New River Community Church.

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: Volunteers from The Citadel of Love canvas Hartford's North End neighborhood in our collective effort to share free and low-cost health information with over 10,000 households.



Dear Friends,

Relationships are at the heart of our model for serving the community. From inception, our mission has always focused on more than what just one organization can accomplish on its own. We know the whole to be greater than the sum of its parts.

That's why I take great joy in expressing my gratitude to you—our many compassionate donors, caring volunteers, strategic community allies, and transformational Christian ministries that made 2019 another remarkable year.

Because of your generous giving, selfless service, and faithful partnership, our impact has been more catalytic and far-reaching than what any of us could have achieved alone. Thank you.

In the stories on the pages that follow, you will see just a handful of the thousands of lives being touched as we work together to provide help and hope in the face of overwhelming community needs.

You are making a difference for children, adults, and families in the Greater Hartford area and across the central Connecticut region.

While 2019 was a year of great impact, it also marked a new chapter in our development. We transitioned into a new season of staff and board leadership at the end of 2019. Your partnership and involvement in our shared mission to change lives is more critical now than ever before.

We need your help to continue developing stronger community programs through a diverse network of churches and nonprofits and helping people navigate increased hardship during these challenging times.

Thank you for demonstrating love to our neighbors in need of practical help, emotional support, spiritual hope, and relational encouragement. Thank you for making Urban Alliance better, together.

With gratitude,

Russell Jarvis
President



*Pictured: Shavonne and her children
purchase fresh fruits and vegetables
at the North End Farmers Market,*

2019

HIGHLIGHTS



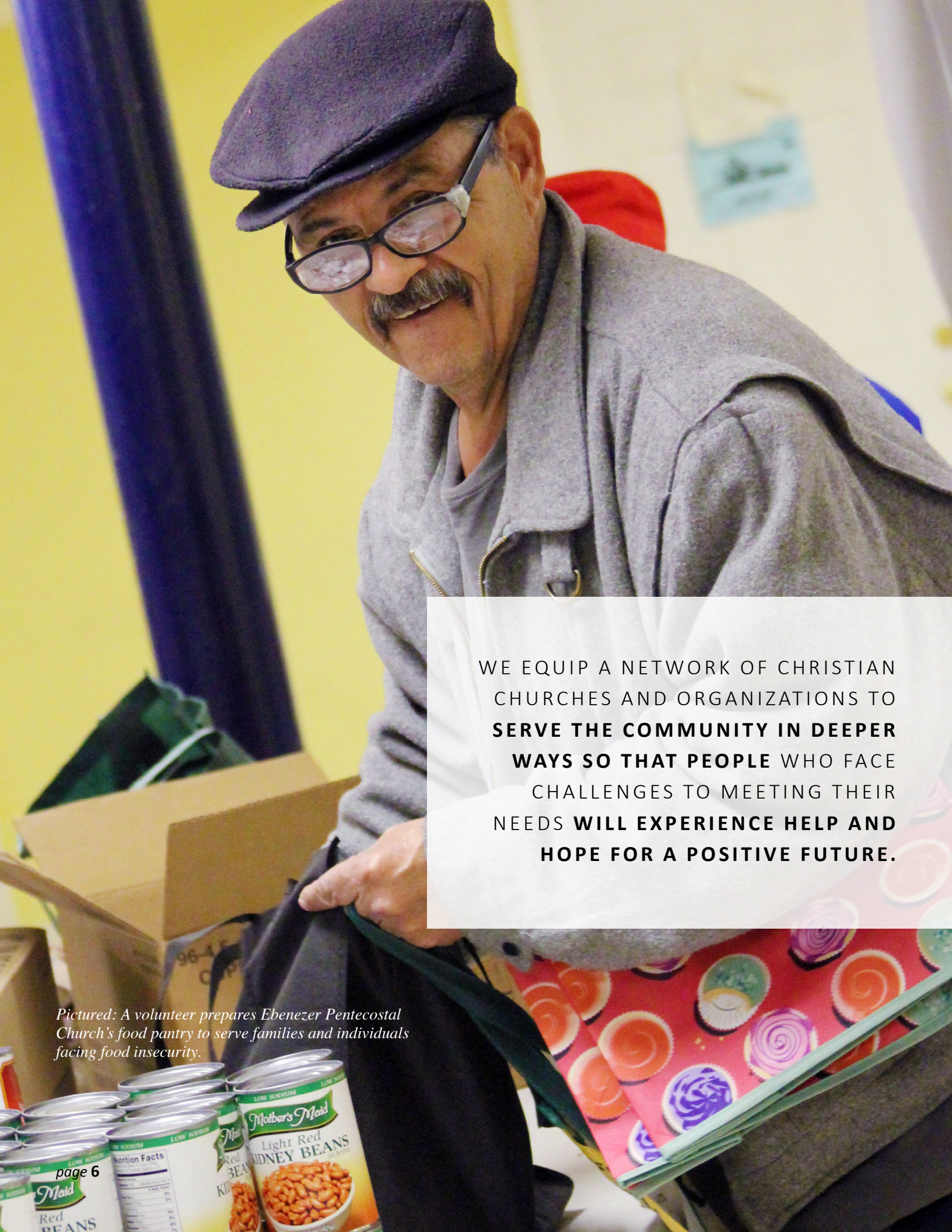
WE EQUIPPED **119 PROGRAMS**

We equipped 119 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 **100,000 PEOPLE**

The scope of our collaborative work touched 104,866 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 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 prepares Ebenezer Pentecostal Church's food pantry to serve families and individuals facing food insecurity.

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 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.



Generation Now! 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 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

“**GOD HAS OPENED MANY DOORS** by partnering with Urban Alliance.”

DR. GLADYS SANTIAGO
GLORY CHAPEL INTERNATIONAL CATHEDRAL

We have five initiatives—Beyond the Basics, Revitalize, Charis, Generation Now! 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 SPECIALIZES IN BUILDING CAPACITY IN CHRISTIAN LEADERS AND THEIR PROGRAMS. OUR WORK LEADS TO STRONGER LEADERS OF STRONGER PROGRAMS AND DEEPER IMPACT IN MORE LIVES.

“

**I WAS ONE OF THOSE
PEOPLE WHO HAD BASIC
NEEDS.**

Who needed to be saved. Who needed resources because I came out of a life where I didn't have a silver spoon. I know what it's like to have to utilize resources such as these. Someone gave me a chance, so the only thing I know to do today is to give back. In my earlier life I took so much and today because I've been given so much, now I just want to be giving back. It's a personal compassion that I have. I'm a beneficiary of someone else's grace.

”

GILLIAN HUNTER

PARTICIPATED IN BASIC
NEEDS WORKSHOPS AT
VICTORY CHURCH





UA HAS
PROVIDED

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

GRANT
FUNDING

SUPPLIES

TO HELP VICTORY CHURCH'S
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
MINISTRY PROVIDE A VARIETY
OF BASIC NEEDS AND
HEALTH SERVICES.

Pictured: Gillian Hunter

A photograph of a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a teal short-sleeved top and large hoop earrings. She is holding a newborn baby in her arms. The baby is wearing a light-colored onesie with buttons. The background shows a window with white curtains and a wooden floor.

UA HAS
PROVIDED

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

GRANT
FUNDING

SUPPLIES

TO HELP FAMILIES UNITED
SERVING AND EMBRACING
(F.U.S.E) CARRY OUT THEIR
MISSION TO PROVIDE
A PLATFORM THAT
ENCOURAGES FAMILIES
TO SHARE THEIR GIFTS,
TALENTS, RESOURCES, FAITH
AND COMMUNITY TO THE
FATHERLESS.

Pictured: Hannah and her newborn son, Kaleb

“

**WHEN YOU ARE IN THAT
MOMENT IN THAT TIME YOU
DON'T SEE THAT THERE IS
GOING TO BE ANY GOOD.**

You just see that it's going to be horrible all the time because bad things happen to you all the time. But, Jesus said that all we need is faith like a mustard seed. If you have a little bit of faith, that little hope where you say to God, 'I need you,' something will happen. It might be small. A person might say they are praying for you and then someone might give you a grocery bag of food, and then another person might give you clothes, and then it's someone like Steve and Sherry paying to take you into their home. It literally happened like that. I chose to keep Kaleb and then I believed that God had a purpose for that and I trusted Him. Then, small things happened.

”

HANNAH
NEHEMIAH HOUSE
RESIDENT

COMMUNITY BENEFIT IN 2019



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



UA PROVIDED
TRAINING TO
306 STAFF AND
VOLUNTEERS
FROM **119**
PROGRAMS



UA MATCHED
VOLUNTEERS
TO **28**
PROGRAMS AND
306 UASERVE
VOLUNTEERS
CONTRIBUTED
4,867 HOURS OF
SERVICE



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



UA AWARDED
GRANTS AND
DISTRIBUTED
\$209,700 IN
FUNDING TO
30 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

“ ONE OF
THE BIGGEST
IMPACTS TO OUR
MINISTRY IS THE
URBAN ALLIANCE
GRANT for Circle
of Security training.
We find that it is an
invaluable resource
to equip the young
moms we serve.

SHERRY DANALIS
F.U.S.E.

”



Pictured: A volunteer and program participant exchange greetings at Youth Challenge of CT.

“

WHEN I WAS TWELVE YEARS OLD I STARTED GOING TO CHURCH AND I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO WAS DEAF.

I felt awkward and a little behind, so I was quiet. I helped organize and sort clothes into categories—adults, kids—and in the pantry I looked to see which foods are expired. I am organized at home, so I liked these jobs. I worked by myself and with my mom, and I liked it. At first it was a little awkward and I wasn't used to it but it changed by the end. By talking to hearing people, I feel more confident in myself. I feel comfortable now. I want to be an auto mechanic, because I like to work with my hands. I like to fix things. I learned how to glorify God in my work. I learned a new word—omnipresent. So, I know God is with me always and protects me so I don't feel alone.

”

MARCUS MORALES

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYEE AT NEW DIMENSION CHRISTIAN CENTER

Pictured: Marcus Morales at New Dimension Christian Center's food pantry





UA HAS
PROVIDED
CONSULTING
TRAINING
TOOLKITS
VOLUNTEERS
GRANT
FUNDING
SUPPLIES

TO HELP NEW DIMENSION
CHRISTIAN CENTER CARRY
OUT THEIR MISSION TO HELP
YOUTH GROW AND DEVELOP
IN HEALTHY WAYS.



UA HAS
PROVIDED

CONSULTING

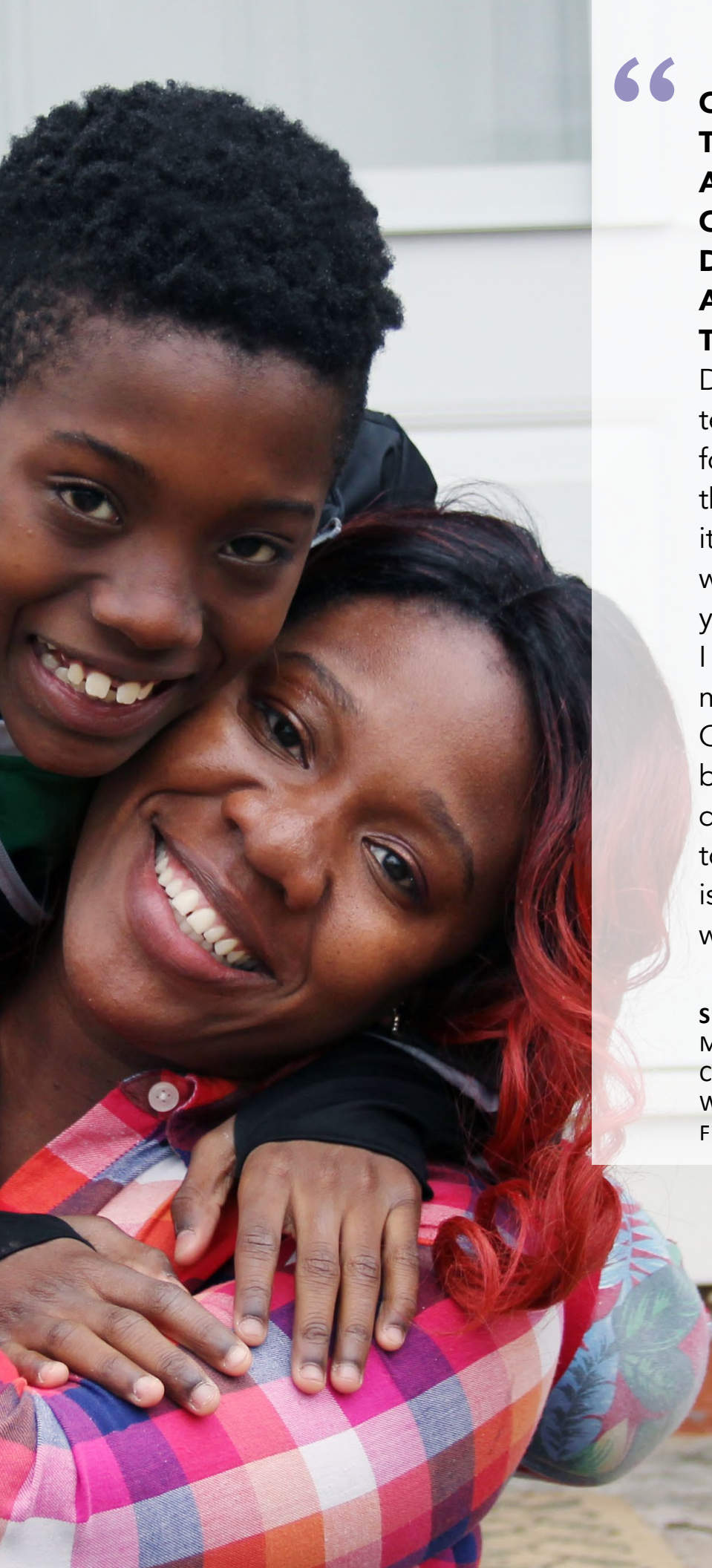
TRAINING

GRANT
FUNDING

SUPPLIES

TO HELP CALVARY CHURCH
CARRY OUT THEIR MISSION
TO LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS
AND SHARE CHRIST.

Pictured: Samantha Rose and her son, Jayden.



“

ONE OF THE BIGGEST THINGS THAT I TOOK AWAY WAS INSTEAD OF FOCUSING ON THE DISCIPLINE OR THE ACTION OF YOUR CHILD, TO WORK ON THE HEART.

Disciplining tends to be temporary. It gets resolution for maybe a day or two but then it is back to whatever it was before. But then also, working on the heart allows you to understand the heart. I ask myself, do I have too much of an expectation? Or, are my expectations not being communicated? By diving deeper, you can come to the realization that there is something more going on with your child.

”

SAMANTHA ROSE
MOTHER WHO ATTENDED
CALVARY CHURCH OF
WEST HARTFORD WORKSHOP
FOR SINGLE PARENTS

“ One of our biggest components of outreach is pastoral care and counseling. **A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE GETTING COUNSELING SERVICES NOW BECAUSE WE ARE ACQUIRING SUPPORT FROM URBAN ALLIANCE.**

MEL TAVARES
PASTORAL ASSISTANT
VICTORY CHURCH

A Better Choice Women's Center
Anointed Tabernacle of Jesus Christ
Bible Way Temple Nation
Building Healthy Families
Calvary Church of West Hartford
Calvary Fellowship
Caring Families Pregnancy Services
Charity Seventh-day Adventist Church
Child Evangelism Fellowship of Connecticut
Christ Lutheran Church
Christian Counseling Connection
Church Army USA
Citadel of Love
Colonial Point Christian Church
Community of Hope
Coram Deo Recovery
Cornerstone Foundation, Inc.
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
Glastonbury Community Church
Glory Chapel International Cathedral
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Grace Worship Center
Hartford City Mission
Hope 4 Life
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
Ministerios Tiempo de Cosecha
Mt. Carmel New Testament Church of God
Mustard Seed Outreach Center
New Covenant United Methodist 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
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)
Union Baptist Church
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

75 PROGRAM LEADERS FROM CHURCHES
AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UA NETWORK
COMPLETED THE 2019 URBAN ALLIANCE
FEEDBACK SURVEY

100%

“WHEN WE COME
TO URBAN
ALLIANCE, WE GET
THE TRAINING,
THE EQUIPMENT,
THE RESOURCES
AND WE DO A LOT
WITH THOSE.

”

SAID THAT BEING A PART OF
THE UA NETWORK HELPED
BUILD CONNECTIONS AND
DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS

FEEL THAT UA STAFF ARE
KNOWLEDGEABLE, FRIENDLY
AND WELCOMING

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

Urban Alliance's monthly Micah Group of senior pastors continued meeting to deepen relationships and collaboration through facilitated discussions on race and ethnicity in 2019. After more than two years of connecting regularly, these pastors have created new opportunities for their churches to serve the community together, through neighborhood outreach, reentry ministry for people returning from incarceration, domestic violence prevention, and cross-cultural sharing.



*Pictured: UA's President, Russell Jarvis,
facilitating a session with the Micah Group.*

“

THIS YEAR WE'RE OFFERING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PROGRAMS TO START A COMMUNITY GARDEN. That's another example of a toolkit we provide to programs and they can use in a way that best meets the needs of the people they serve and can be fit into their program and services. We're offering that opportunity as a pilot this year, providing the materials and technical assistance to start a community garden which is very exciting. My dad has always had a garden since I was born so I've always grown up with a garden in my backyard and having that access to fresh fruits and vegetables on a regular basis, so I know how awesome it is and I'm excited to see that shared with others.

”

ANGELA COLANTONIO, MPH, MS
URBAN ALLIANCE

Pictured: A community garden created using a UA toolkit at Bibleway Temple Nation in Hartford.



UA HAS
PROVIDED

GRANTS

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

TO HELP CHURCHES
AND ORGANIZATIONS
IN THE UA NETWORK
MEET CRITICAL HEALTH
NEEDS, INCREASE ACCESS
TO FRESH PRODUCE
FOR PEOPLE FACING
FOOD INSECURITY, AND
HELP PEOPLE BUILD
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
THAT ENCOURAGE
HEALTHY EATING AND
COOKING HABITS .



*Pictured: Anna Pan,
UAGive Champion*

“EVEN THE LITTLEST BIT THAT SOMEONE SACRIFICES MULTIPLIES SO MUCH THROUGH THIS WORK. A SMALL INVESTMENT CAN MAKE A HUGE IMPACT THROUGH URBAN ALLIANCE. I see so much opportunity for growth in the passion of the local church to actively participate in the work of Urban Alliance. I think that it's such a privilege that I'm able to participate. Just to think about how I have this opportunity to play this tiny role through my limited means is so meaningful and I know that a lot of what UA does is to mobilize people to do that, to be the hands and feet of Jesus and go out there and put our feet to the ground.

”

ANNA PAN
UAGIVE CHAMPION

**UA HAS
PROVIDED**

**TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE**

CONSULTING

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

**GRANT
FUNDING**

VOLUNTEERS

SUPPLIES

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY
OF UAGIVE DONORS WHO
MAKE GIFTS OF ALL SIZES
TO MAKE OUR WORK
POSSIBLE. THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SELFLESSNESS.

2019 FINANCIALS

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

\$1,001,210

for Program Services

\$5,719

for Specific Initiatives

\$309,338

for Management & Fundraising

EXPENSES

\$147,034

Fundraising

\$214,921

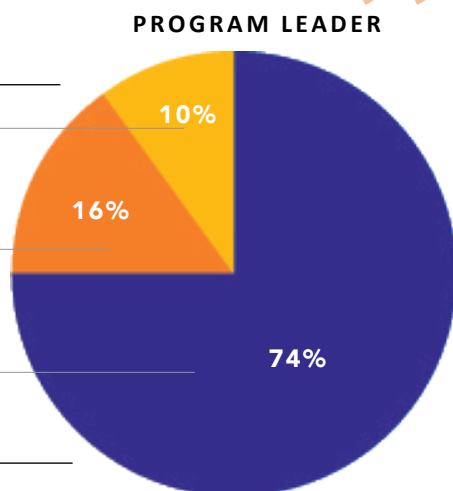
Management & General

\$1,006,929

Program Services

Total Expenses: \$1,368,884

“ I GENUINELY
FEEL THAT UA
CARES DEEPLY
ABOUT ME,
the health of our
organization and those
that we serve.”



In 2019, we invested

\$811 THOUSAND

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

\$196 THOUSAND

in grant funding

to strengthen 119 community programs helping people in Greater Hartford.



UA STAFF

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

Jaleith Gary, Director of Philanthropy

Althea Henderson, Office Administrator

Russell Jarvis, President & Chief Executive Officer

Bill Kracke, Communications Associate

Rosa McGuire, Director of Volunteer Engagement

Joanne Perry, Controller

Rosaicela Rodriguez, Director of Implementation,
Children & Youth Initiatives

Jessica Sanderson, Senior Director of Research & Strategy

Sarah Thompson, Director of Communications & Marketing

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Erica Dean, Director of Human Resources, Comcast Western
New England Region (WNER)

David Brooker, Immediate Past President, Urban Alliance

Russell Jarvis, President and Chief Executive Officer,
Urban Alliance



Pictured: Volunteers meet basic needs and minister to homeless and at-need families and individuals through Kainos Life Ministries' Middletown Outreach program.



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