



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2020



WHO WE ARE

Urban Alliance is a non-profit organization located in East Hartford, CT.

As people of faith and hope, motivated by the love of Christ, we have a deep desire to serve the Greater Hartford Community in unity with others to provide the help, hope and love that we all need.

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.



RESPONDING TO COVID-19

During the COVID-19 pandemic Urban Alliance (UA) continued to meet the needs of those in our community by providing:

FOOD BOXES



Farmers to Families food boxes to individuals and families

CLEANING SUPPLIES



Cleaning supplies and essentials to help local schools stop the spread

PPE EQUIPMENT



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to network churches & organizations



Pictured: PPE Kits - New River Community Church Member



Dear Friends,

Better Together. These two words capture the essence of the ministry partnership between Urban Alliance (UA), our network participants, donors and other partners in ministry. These words are affirmed by the strengthening bond that has allowed UA to serve, even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, political, spiritual, emotional, and social unrest. Even as UA undergoes its own transitions, these two words signify how we should move ahead –together.

Romans 12:4-5 (ESV) reminds us, “For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ..”

There are numerous other references throughout scripture that express how we should be of one accord. They serve as an encouragement that Christ is with us. His Spirit allows us to come together. His love for us makes us better.

This report is a celebration of what has been, and can be, accomplished together. In 2020, the spirit of togetherness enabled the UA network to serve over 324,000 people in the Greater Hartford area, and beyond. Our partnership with 128 churches and organizations has resulted in stronger community programs, increased capacity and lasting positive change in the lives of thousands of individuals and families.

As pleased as we are with the accomplishments during 2020, there is still more to do. The significance of being better together is even more important now than ever before. UA has been a blessing to many. As much as our work is needed, we need you. We invite you to grow and explore ways to enhance and grow this partnership. Your affirmation of our ministry by spreading the word, volunteering your time and expertise, praying with us and supporting the network financially is encouraged. With God’s favor, may we be a shining example of what it means to be Better Together!

Sincerely,



Perkin Simpson
Executive Director



Pictured: Church Army volunteers

2020

HIGHLIGHTS



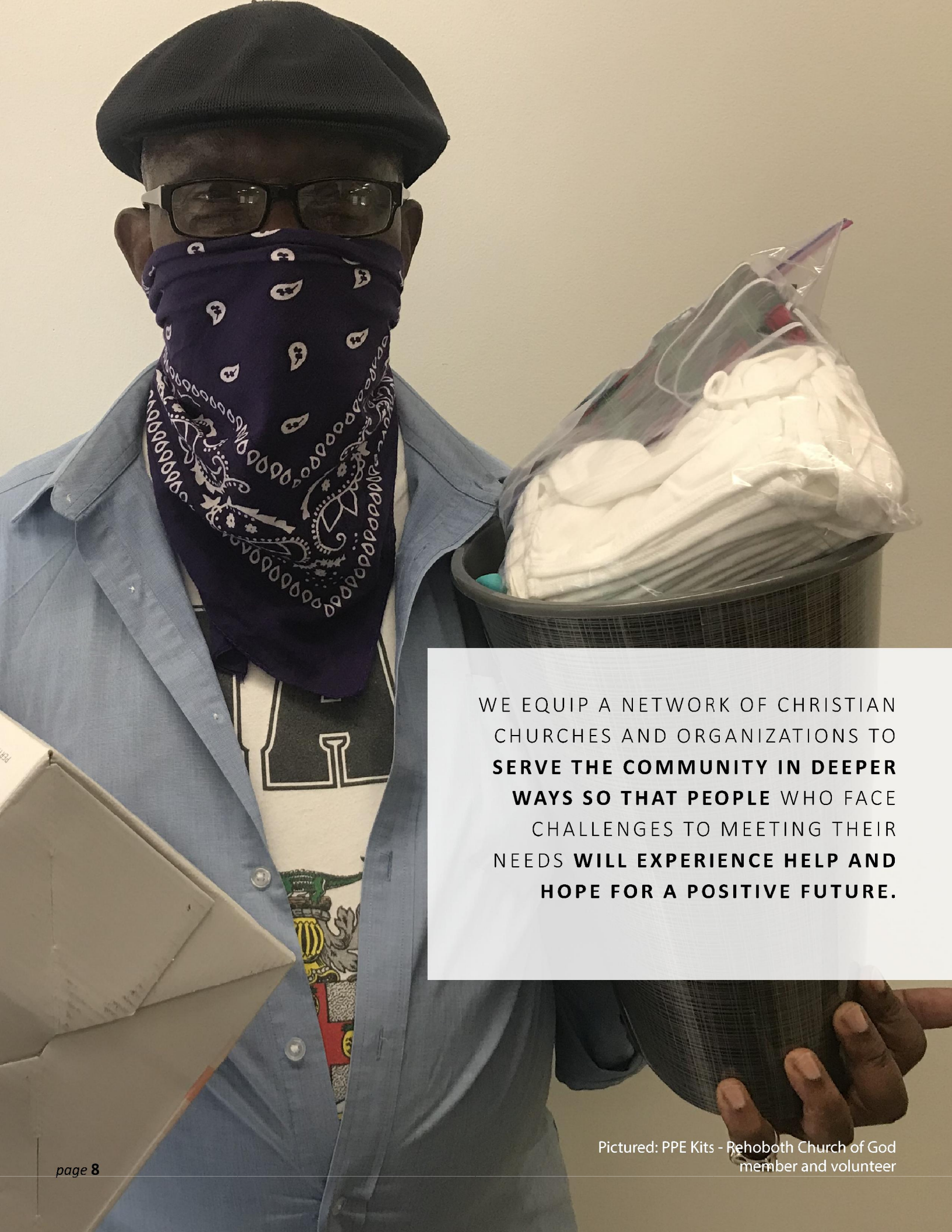
WE EQUIPPED **128 PROGRAMS**

We equipped 128 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 **324,000 PEOPLE**

The scope of our collaborative work touched over 324,000 lives. Our five initiatives continued to serve as effective platforms for uniting with churches and organizations, equipping them to develop stronger programs to provide help to those in need, so that others may get the help they need and find 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.**

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.

// **URBAN ALLIANCE
WAS THERE WHEN WE
STARTED...WE WOULD
NOT BE ANYWHERE
NEAR WHERE WE'RE AT
WITHOUT YOU GUYS!** //

KENT GREENMAN
THE BRIDGE MINISTRY

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 supports Christian churches and organizations to strengthen community programs, so they can help more people in meaningful and life-changing ways.

“ [Our] clients have been so different in what they’re facing. I think if there’s one similarity it’s that they’re all juggling so much. In the beginning we do try to see if they need any community resources, but they’ve appreciated being able to work on goals. I think a lot of them have not done that before, so that’s been very interesting and helpful to them, and I think people are just happy to have someone to talk to who is not judgmental, but someone that they can share their feelings and frustrations with, and get some encouragement.

SHARI ZWICK
THE BRIDGE MINISTRY





UA HAS
PROVIDED
CONSULTATION
TRAINING
TOOLKITS
GRANT
FUNDING
SUPPLIES

TO HELP THE BRIDGE MINISTRY
PROVIDE A VARIETY OF BASIC
NEEDS AND HEALTH SERVICES.

Pictured: James Mangan, Shari Zwick and Kent Greenman
The Bridge ministry in South Windsor.



UA HAS
PROVIDED

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

GRANT
FUNDING

SUPPLIES

TO HELP HARTFORD CITY
MISSION CARRY OUT THEIR
VISION TO HELP YOUTH GROW
AND DEVELOP IN HEALTHY WAYS.



How did the capacity grant help you serve your students?

Thanks to a UA capacity grant, Hartford City Mission (HCM) was able to effectively assess the entire needs of the families we serve and partner with other community based organizations [to help meet those needs]...

[For example], we were able to partner with the House of Bread to provide students in our programs, and their families, with a hot dinner Monday through Friday. We were able to be there for our families.



BISHOP VICTOR RUSH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HARTFORD CITY MISSION

Pictured: Noah Afterschool Program students



UA COORDINATED AND/OR LED 41 FACILITATED **CONVENINGS** AND TRAININGS



UA PROVIDED **TRAINING** TO 257 STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS FROM 128 PROGRAMS



UA MATCHED **178 VOLUNTEERS** TO 19 PROGRAMS TO SERVE DURING COVID-19



UA PROVIDED **73 TOOLKITS OF PRINTED MATERIALS** TO PROGRAMS HELPING PEOPLE CONNECT TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES



UA AWARDED **GRANTS** AND DISTRIBUTED \$78,000 IN FUNDING TO 34 PROGRAMS



UA PROVIDED ACCESS TO OVER \$4 MILLION IN **GIFT-IN-KIND SUPPLIES** TO 108 PROGRAMS SERVING CHILDREN AND ADULTS IN NEED

Our network of churches and organizations



UA SUPPORT



Stronger community programs



more people helped in more transformational ways



Pictured: Pastor Bill LaMorey
Calvary Fellowship



PHONE CALLS HAVE BEEN COMING IN FROM OUR COMMUNITY THAT I NEVER EXPECTED:

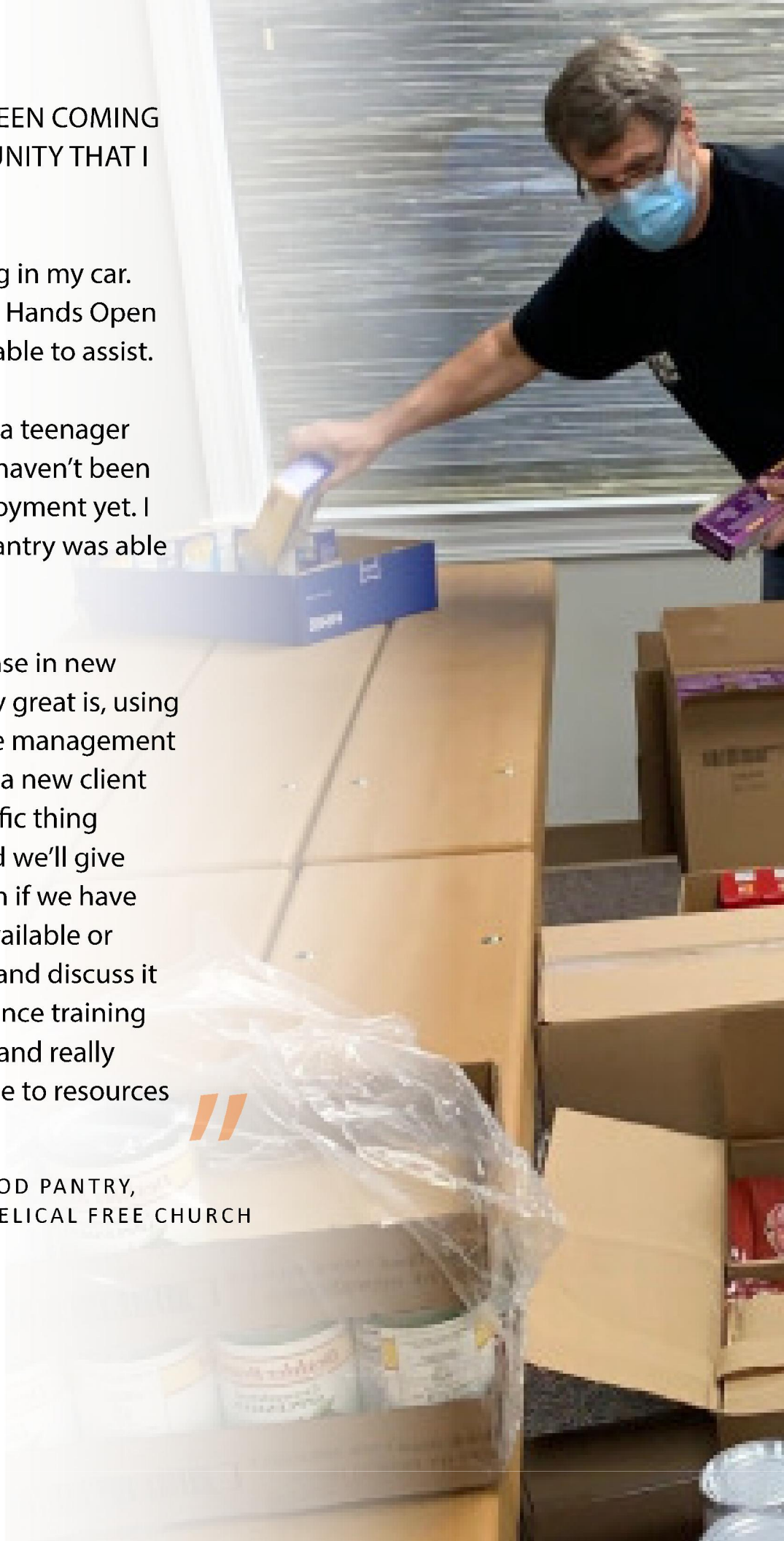
“I’m homeless. I’m living in my car. Can you help?” and the Hands Open Wide food pantry was able to assist.

“I’m a single mother of a teenager and I lost my job and I haven’t been able to collect unemployment yet. I just need food...[The pantry was able to assist]”

We’ve seen a big increase in new faces. And, what’s really great is, using the Urban Alliance case management materials, there will be a new client that comes and a specific thing they will ask about, and we’ll give them some information if we have the brochure readily available or have them come back and discuss it further. The Urban Alliance training continues to be useful and really helps us to point people to resources



JANICE CATRONE
HANDS OPEN WIDE FOOD PANTRY,
WETHERSFIELD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH





TO HELP THE HANDS WIDE
OPEN FOOD PANTRY CARRY
OUT THEIR MISSION TO HELP
INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES
IN NEED OF FOOD

UA HAS
PROVIDED

CONSULTATION

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

VOLUNTEERS

SUPPLIES



Every day
I see walking
miracles.

THANK YOU

URBAN ALLIANCE

FOR PARTNERING

WITH CORAM

DEO TO SUPPORT

LOVE AND

BRING HOPE TO

THOSE WHO ARE

STRUGGLING.



JODY DAVIS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CORAM DEO

- 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.
- 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
- Glastonbury Community Church
- Glory Chapel International Cathedral
- Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Grace Worship Center
- Hartford City Mission
- Higher Ground Christian Church
- 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 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
- 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
- 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

WHAT IS YOUR CONNECTION TO URBAN ALLIANCE?

“FOR ME RECENTLY, IT’S BEEN THE MICAH GROUP... ANYTHING THAT I’VE DONE WITH THE AREA OF RACE OR ISSUES OF JUSTICE IS DIRECTLY THE RESULT OF [THE MICAH GROUP].”

-- PASTOR SCOTT SOLBERG

PROGRAM LEADERS FROM CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UA NETWORK HAVE STATED THAT:

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

BEING A PART OF THE UA NETWORK HAS HELPED THEM **BUILD NEW CONNECTIONS AND STRENGTHEN EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS**

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



Pictured: Members of the Urban Alliance Micah Group (not all members are pictured) on a zoom call with staff



THE FUND PROVIDES FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR THE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED INCLUDING:

SUPPLIES & RESOURCES

TRAINING

GRANT FUNDING

VOLUNTEER PLACEMENT

FUNDRAISING & ADMINISTRATION

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

IF YOU HAVE, OR ARE PLANNING TO MAKE A GIFT, LET US KNOW!



give@urbanalliance.com



860-986-7664 Ask to speak with our Executive Director.

Feel free to make an online gift! www.urbanalliance.com/donate-now

Miss Victoria

how can you help?



Pictured: Building Healthy Families (BrightStart) team members and volunteers

IN ADDITION TO CASH GIFTS, URBAN ALLIANCE ACCEPTS:

- Gifts of Stock
- Retirement Plan Gifts
- Bequests (Wills)
- Life Insurance
- Real Estate
- Other Property

Urban Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your gift may qualify for generous tax benefits.

2020 FINANCIALS

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

\$609,036

for Program Services

\$5,913

for Specific Initiatives

\$258,581

for Management & Fundraising

EXPENSES

\$614,949

Program Services

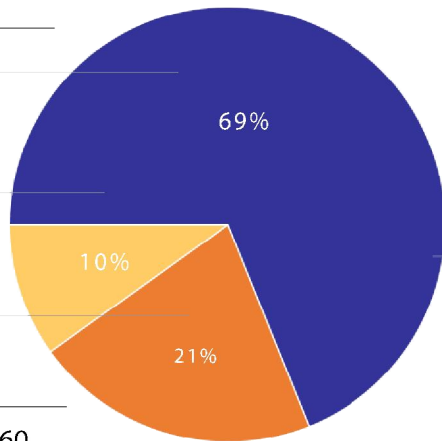
\$88,525

Fundraising

\$188,786

Management & General

Total Expenses: \$892,260



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

PROGRAM LEADER

In 2020, we invested

\$537 THOUSAND

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

\$78 THOUSAND

in grant funding to strengthen 128 community programs helping people in Greater Hartford.



UA STAFF

Angela Colantonio, Manager of Initiatives

Russell Jarvis, Former President, Urban Alliance (2021)

Bill Kracke, Communications Associate

Rosa McGuire, Manager of Initiatives

Joanne Perry, Director of Finance & Operations

Rosaicela Rodriguez, Manager of Initiatives

Jessica Sanderson, Director of Initiatives

Perkin Simpson, Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeffrey J. Vanderploeg, Board Chair, President and CEO, Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI)

Erica Dean, Senior Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Comcast Cable

Romanita Hairston, President & Founder, MORE320; Director, Philanthropies Engagement, Microsoft; Program Advisor, Murdock Charitable Trust

Jay Kuhrt, Interim Director of Valley Care, Valley Community Baptist Church

George Thompson, Vice President, WorldBusiness Capital



Pictured: Greg Leo, UAServe Volunteer
Sunrise Northeast



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