

UPDATE

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JOY in our City

It is said the greatest way to experience joy is when we give, encourage or do something nice for others. These days, many people are experiencing a loss of joy. Daily we receive negative news of the increasing cases of COVID-19 which causes fear and anxiety. Christmas will be a time of isolation and other challenges for families in our communities. They want to experience joy and hear good news to be hopeful.

We have been given the greatest news to share to our communities this Christmas, and that is from an angel.

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

We want to respond during this season by spreading joy in our city. Through your generosity in investing in our StreetLeaders, they have already started to spread joy. One



Shawn James
Executive Director

Friday night in October, our youth decided to bake cookies and deliver them to families. Our Missionaries and StreetLeaders are planning ways to spread this good news to their communities by doing mini outdoor Christmas festivals.

On behalf of our Board, Staff and StreetLeaders, we thank you for your partnership and wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Grace and Peace



UrbanPromise
TORONTO

**REACH
A CHILD,**

**RAISE
A LEADER,**

**RESTORE
COMMUNITY.**



Camp Truth

Having no available indoor space to use in Glamorgan presents a unique challenge in cold and wet weather.

One rainy afternoon, our Staff & StreetLeaders at Camp Truth were

determined to be together. This small group decided to walk to a nearby Chapters bookstore. We split up in groups of 4, sat on the floor, read books together and tried some educational games on an iPad. ***It was an opportunity for the StreetLeaders to engage with the children to be encouraged by this time of interaction and mentorship.***

—Kelly Stouffer, Community Director

My wife and I prayerfully moved closer to Warden Woods to make a home there and dwell among the residents. Little did we know that when COVID-19 took place, we would innovatively and creatively transform our garage into a place for experiential learning. Children and StreetLeaders now have a place to experience new things like coding, dance and Muay Thai. They learn how to create a video game, perform dance routines and the importance of physical fitness. ***We continue to be inspired by the opportunities we can provide in spite of this pandemic.***

—Julius Naredo - Community Director



Camp Hope



Camp Victory

We have observed that our children have been struggling with e-learning and are in need of more educational support. ***In response we provided opportunities to care for the children academically as well as emotionally, physically, and spiritually.*** With safety protocols in place, we are supporting children by offering one-on-one tutoring led by a StreetLeader! Although we have had to adapt, and of course things look different, however, isn't that the beauty of knowing that God is present with us in this season?

—Wynter Macfarlane - Ministry Supervisor

Restoring Community

Meet Ashley Spence, our newest missionary serving at Camp Hope (Warden Woods Community). She has come full circle being reached as a child, raised as a leader who loves Jesus and serves her community.

I joined UrbanPromise Toronto when I was 11 years old. As a child who was eager to have after school activities, I immediately signed up when leaders from Camp Hope reached out to me.

I grew up in a household where we knew about God, but had no actual relationship with Him. At camp, I learned so much about Jesus and myself from my leader Ayesha,

who attended camp as a child. Her challenges helped me to take Jesus seriously and I became a StreetLeader leading children.

After high school, I had an opportunity to serve at UrbanPromise Wilmington. There, I faced many challenges which helped to affirm my calling to be a missionary. I recently finished college in the Addictions and



Mental Health program and I believe it will help me to advocate for the youth of my generation to support the vision of restoring my community.

I RUN FOR...

**RUN FOR
PROMISE**

October, 2020



I arrived in Toronto from Northern Ireland 20 years ago to serve one summer at Camp Hope. It turned into 4 years that radically changed my life. With this year's Run for Promise being virtual, I had a crazy idea, what if I got a bunch of us from that first year to do a marathon globally? It didn't take much convincing to rally 7 friends from Ireland, Australia, America and Canada, which included one who was a child from Camp Hope. We had so much FUN running for children and youth at UrbanPromise Toronto!

—Nicola Clarke - aka Chuckles



118
Participated

**RECORD BREAKING
YEAR! THANK YOU!**

\$100K⁺
Raised!



Give a Gift of JOY

Providing meaningful employment and leadership development to youth ages 15-19 is an essential part of our vision **to see a generation of young leaders from Toronto Community Housing who love Jesus and serve their community.**

StreetLeaders are given the opportunities to grow spiritually and to be resilient leaders as they care for children in their community through this pandemic.

Give a one-time donation to support one StreetLeader:

\$80 for 1 week of the school year
\$320 for 1 month of the school year
\$2880 for the full school year (9 months)

Sign up to be a Promise Partner:

\$36 a month provides sustainable funding to support children during the most vulnerable hours between 3-6 pm.

OUR MISSION >

To reach children in Toronto Community Housing with the love of Jesus, and raise them into leaders, who restore their community.



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