

# Urban Notes...

- While Urban staff agree that transportation, jobs, parents, and summer school are all obstacles to overcome, NONE of the things kept them from incorporating the principles behind student ownership and student leaders.
- Areas have sold sponsorships on the back or on the sleeves of t-shirts to cover the costs so that they can sell the shirts for \$1 to \$5 so that every kid can afford one.
- Areas that have school uniforms and are unable to have kids wear t-shirts have made “string backpacks” with the Young Life logo on them for kids to wear and use.
- Stickers have also been successfully used in situations where kids have to wear uniforms. Instead of printing flyers, print a sheet of name tags with “Young Life Tonite!” and all the information for club on them. Have kids stick them on their shirts, books, etc..
- The backs of School ID badges are also great for displaying Young Life promo info when worn around the neck. Brightly colored Young Life neck cords can also be made cheaply for wearing ID badges.
- While some urban schools do not have a school newspaper in which to place an insert ad, most will allow some type of poster, velcro sign or banner, or even allow access to announcements to promote club.
- Instead of shoe polishing cars, dry erase boards in every classroom can be marked with “Young Life Tonite” on Mondays with the teachers permission.
- South Oak Cliff high school in Dallas has been very successful having a student leadership team of five senior guys and five senior girls. Part of their weekly activities beyond planning and leading club includes going to a restaurant together and learning to tip or attend cultural arts events together like the Black Dallas Dance Theater Company. Along with being taught to follow Christ and make him known in their school they are taught to be active, responsible members of the community.
- Many Urban schools have had great success in recruiting kids to help with Caperneum clubs in order to give them a taste of leadership and ministry.
- Because of transportation issues, camp follow-up is most easily done once a week and by cabin, led by that cabin leader.
- Because many Urban kids will stay in the community after high school either working or attending school, a summer trip with graduates is key in continuing their walk after high school and plugging them back into the area as leaders.
- Mr. Christmas Tree has been successful in Urban areas and in some instances been combined with a semester end lock in.
- Some areas have taken the Mr. Christmas Tree philosophy and adapted it to “Young Life’s Got Talent”, an event that takes place every four weeks. Each contestant has an agent (leader), entourage (kids support team). Parents and teachers are brought in as judges.