community impact report
My plan is to become a teacher, to make sure every child is destined for greatness. I vow to one day look at my neighborhood and see it filled with young black lawyers, doctors, educators, and people ready to change the world.
I was struggling to put my kids through school. My partner was stuck working entry-level jobs. Now he has access to training to be a certified mechanic, and he’s helping me move to a better house and neighborhood. My kids won’t start from scratch.
I’ve been in prison 12 of the last 15 years. 18 months ago everything changed. People at Urban Ventures believed in me, helped me strengthen my character, find a good job. Now I dream of opening my own car shop that helps teens learn there’s a different way to succeed besides selling drugs or joining a gang.
We are investing as a means, not an end. Equipping people with tools to rewrite their futures. Daring to go where markets fail and charity falls short. Thriving on boldness to envision our city as it should be: A city without urban poverty.

Leadership requires a spiritual grounding; the humility to embrace our shared consciousness and common potential. **We all have a role to play. Join us.**

Urban Ventures brings a bold, radically different approach to the fight against poverty in the Twin Cities. This is our grand experiment. And it’s working.

We are investing as a means, not an end. Equipping people with tools to rewrite their futures. Daring to go where markets fail and charity falls short. Thriving on boldness to envision our city as it should be: 

*A city without urban poverty.*

Timothy Clark, CEO
our model

Empowering individuals and strengthening families to transform urban communities.
challenges

Poverty is complex. And it’s close to home.

achievement gap
almost 70% of students of color drop out of high school

health gap
USDA has designated our neighborhood as a food desert

employment gap
males are more likely to be incarcerated than employed

parenting gap
more than 60% of households are headed by single moms

In the blocks surrounding Urban Ventures’ south Minneapolis campus:

CEO letter inspiration from our friends at Acumen, 2015, http://acumen.org/manifesto/

Minnesota Department of Education, 2015, http://rc.education.state.mn.us


For 23 years, Urban Ventures has been committed to doing what is right, not what is easy—empowering families to be their own solution.

Here’s how it works:

- programs
- products & social enterprises
- partnerships
programs

Over the last three years, our direct-service programs have doubled in size and tripled their impact.

Our programs create sustainable employment, close the achievement gap, strengthen families—and dare communities to dream with possibility.
products & social enterprises

Producing real products. Employing real kids.

Urban Ventures’ enterprises employ our participants and the community—teaching business and life skills while paying livable wages and generating sustainable revenue.

It all begins with your purchase.

VISIT URBANVENTURES.ORG/SHOP
partnerships

We couldn't do it without you. Yes, you.

Each year, 1,000+ volunteers contribute 20% of all the hours worked at UV. 150 corporate and church partners engage their networks to make a difference. Our campus also serves as a hub for numerous partner nonprofits.

VISIT URBANVENTURES.ORG/ENGAGE
our impact
one in five

86,000 Minneapolis residents live below the poverty line. Each year, one in five of these families is touched by an Urban Ventures program or an on-campus partner program.
**January 2014**

Launched CityKid Food program, a social enterprise with two urban farms, mobile farmers’ market, and bee apiary. The program employs neighborhood youth to help grow 52,000 lbs of produce each year.

**OCTOBER**

Surpassed 1,000 annual volunteers for the first time. Over 200 serve on a weekly basis.

**MARCH**

The Center for Fathering completed a national study, increased South Minneapolis enrollment, and offered classes in St. Paul for the first time.

**JUNE**

Formalized a groundbreaking youth mentoring partnership with YoungLife.

**SEPTEMBER**

The Siempre Padres Latino family program introduced innovative curriculum that holistically integrates same-subject teaching for parents and children of all ages over the course of 20 weeks.

**APRIL**

Job development program Ready? Set! Work... placed its 800th job since its inception in 2010. RSW helps ex-felons and those with barriers to employment find jobs at a rate 7x the national average.

**MAY**

First cohort of 26 Act Six scholars received urban leadership scholarships that include mentoring support and over $4MM in tuition assistance to three Twin Cities’ partner institutions.

**FEBRUARY**

Urban Ventures’ CityKid Java coffee recognized as social-enterprise brand of the year.

**OCTOBER**

Surpassed 1,000 annual volunteers for the first time. Over 200 serve on a weekly basis.

**JUNE**

Formalized a groundbreaking youth mentoring partnership with YoungLife.
Every dollar you invest in Urban Ventures is stewarded wisely.
We are committed to 100% financial transparency.**

IMPACT: FINANCIALS

$6,500,787

Last year, supporters invested $6.5MM to put an end to poverty in the Twin Cities.

SUSTAINABLE REVENUE

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FISCAL YEAR 2015 (7/1/14 - 6/30/15)

| Total Revenue          | $6,500,787       |
| Total Operating Expenses| (5,168,968)     |
| Total Operating Income  | 1,331,819       |
| Depreciation           | (775,612)       |
| Net Total Contributions | $56,207         |

**We are committed to increasing sustainable revenue. Sources include social enterprise product sales, rental income, investment income, and program fees.
*** We always post our unaudited financials, audited financials, and IRS Form 990 as soon as they become available.
Numbers on this page are accurate and complete to the best of our knowledge and are pending final audit inspection.

VISIT URBANVENTURES.ORG/FINANCIALS
Programs
Invest in programs that work holistically to empower families and build community.

Products
Buy products that employ youth and reinvest 100% of profits back into our programs.

Partnerships
Connect your business or church with tangible ways to make a difference.

Urban Ventures has the size, scale, and reach to end poverty in the Twin Cities. But, we can't do it alone.

dream big, join us

DONATE
urbanventures.org/donate

SHOP
urbanventures.org/shop

ENGAGE
urbanventures.org/engage

IMPACT: GET INVOLVED

Urban Ventures has the size, scale, and reach to end poverty in the Twin Cities. But, we can't do it alone.

VISIT URBANVENTURES.ORG
2924 Fourth Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408 | 612.638.1000
True transformation begins at Urban Ventures, where children can come and see adults who care about them, believe in them, and help them develop the skills they need to be successful in life. I am such a fan and supporter. Keep up the excellent work.

RET. GENERAL COLIN POWELL