



URBAN IMPACT

Gratitude, Growth, and Giving

Gratitude. This time of year we are often reminded of the things we are thankful for. Lexington Leadership Foundation is no different. 2019 has seen a great increase in the number of people served, especially by our Urban Impact initiative. We are thankful for each and every child the Lord puts us in relationship with.

With the opening of the Woodhill Community Center in May of 2018, engagement of children, youth, and families is at an all-time high. This past year, Urban Impact had 557 students engaged in after-school and in-school programming, 772 students participating in athletic activities and over 3,000 families and youth involved in community events. Just this last month we hosted

a Thanksgiving Dinner with over 200 families, youth, and volunteers in attendance.

With this increase in service has come some growing pains. While much of our programming happens at the Woodhill Community Center and with partners around the city, Urban Impact transports program participants to numerous destinations including to UK for tutoring, area schools, community events, occasional out of town trips as well as to and from student homes.

Currently, Urban Impact has two passenger vans, a 2006 and 2011. These are in use nearly every day. The vans are well maintained, but approaching high

mileage and at least one needs costly maintenance in the future that may not be a wise solution to our needs. And, as indicated, our needs are growing. A new van is needed!

As you think about your end of the year giving, please consider a contribution to LLF to help us purchase a van for our youth programming. You may give online at lexlf.org/van or you can text LLF to 24365 on your cell phone.



our mission Through Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit we **CONNECT** leaders, **UNIFY** the body, and **MOBILIZE** people to **TRANSFORM** Lexington into a city for God.

Thanksgiving Celebration with youth, families, volunteers, and staff

Celebrating 20 Years

On Thursday, October 24th we hosted our Annual Lexington Leadership Foundation banquet. It was a remarkable evening that honored the past, celebrate the present, and envision the future. We celebrated 20 years of our mission to connect leaders, unify the body, and mobilize people to transform Lexington into a city for God. We see that mission lived out today through serving families, loving kids, and helping to bring unity to the city. We celebrated the people who planted the seeds and the people who dared to answer the call—20 years of amazing volunteers, strong partnerships, and all who are helping make a dream become reality. A dream of bringing the Kingdom of Heaven to Lexington.

The evening started with Dr. John Withers, our founder, and Richard Gaines, an original board member, who shared about the origins of LLF. The audience then heard stories of impact from our current programs. Each of those stories had something in common: the extraordinary volunteers who become such a crucial part of others' lives. Those lives are changed because of a committed decision

to pour into the life of another person. We took time to honor and recognize all of the volunteers in attendance. The evening came to a close with our CEO, Eric Geary, who challenged everyone to keep striving to see Lexington fully transformed into a City for God.

We are excited to launch into 2020 and what the future holds. We are envisioning the picture of Zechariah 8 which describes old men and old women who will again sit in the streets of the city with staff in hand because of great age and the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets (ref Zechariah 8: 4-5). We are believing for that beautiful illustration to become a reality in Lexington. Here's to kids and elders living in the peaceful and safe streets of Lexington, Kentucky—a city that we hope someday will be more famous for Jesus than for basketball, bourbon, and horses! Thank you again to all of our volunteers, sponsors, guests, and supporters. We deeply appreciate each of you for the role you play in this ministry.



Left: LLF Founder, Dr. John Withers, Middle: LLF banquet, Right: Amachi mentors and mentees at the Life Adventure Center

AMACHI

A Full Fall for Amachi

Amachi, our one-on-one mentoring initiative, has had a very busy fall! In August, we launched our “Searching for Seventy” campaign to help provide mentors for all 70 of the young people on our waiting list. To date, we have received 40 applications wanting to be mentors, and we are excited about these new relationships. We’ve watched new friendships form, giving our mentees the opportunity to engage in service projects, participate in a high ropes course, walk around college campuses, attend community events, and more. Many of these new mentor/mentee matches are

part of our Appalachian Mentoring Initiative grant, which focuses on youth impacted by the opioid crisis. These matches have begun learning about the dangers of opioids and other substances, and our families have been supported with community resources. Mentees and mentors also recently had opportunities to attend an “afternoon of adventure” at the Life Adventure Center and to participate in a Halloween Festival at the Woodhill Community Center. We will end the year with our annual Christmas party on December 5th! We are always so encouraged and

excited to see mentors and mentees develop together, and to see our young people truly live in to being “children of promise.” As always, we are seeking more caring adults to invest into the lives of children. If you are interested in learning more about Amachi or volunteering please reach out to our volunteer recruiter Michael Overstreet at moverstreet@lexlf.org or call 859-389-8279.

AMACHI WAITING LIST
Boys: 32 Girls: 18

Fatherhood Engagement Resonating Across the Commonwealth

LLF has successfully operated its Fatherhood Initiative since 2012. Based in part on this robust history a convening, statewide network of stakeholders requested that LLF serve as fiscal agent and administrative overseers of a strategic planning grant in the Spring of 2019. This \$10,000, six-month grant from The Fatherhood Research and Practice Network provided resources to promote fatherhood engagement throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The objective of these efforts was to be the establishment of a statewide agent promoting a continuum of care propagating fatherhood engagement which became known as The Commonwealth Center for Fathers and Families (CCFF). LLF Fatherhood Initiative staff and anchor partners went on to assume key roles in the facilitation of the strategic planning process, as well as in the coordination of the culminating event—2019 Kentucky Fatherhood Summit.

Held on Friday, September 27, all feedback and assessments point towards an overwhelming successful and fruitful event. Just under 250 were in attendance from all service regions of Kentucky. Participating in the gathering were both state and federal leadership including Kentucky’s Governor, Secretaries of each Cabinet, and Federal Officers from



Carter G. Woodson Academy students

the Administration for Children and Families- Department of Health and Human Services. Participants heard from nationally acclaimed keynote speakers and workshop presenters on subjects related to fatherhood engagement and emerging practices. The day ended with a call to arms for enhancing services for fathers and families and the release of a plan to establish an ongoing effort through CCFF.

This wonderful event was validation that promoting fatherhood engagement is gaining momentum and resonating not just in Lexington, but also across the state. This event and milestone could not have been accomplished without the cooperation of a potent alliance of several organizations and individuals. Among the presenting partners were the Cabinet for Health and Family

Services, Department for Income Support under the leadership of Commissioner Bryan Hubbard, Ted Starder of COPEs, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, Carter G. Woodson Academy, and many more. This group of committed stakeholders raised enthusiasm and encouragement so high that planning for a 2020 event has already commenced!



Patricia Littlejohn, President of the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families, speaking at the Kentucky Fatherhood Summit

WE ARE THANKFUL FOR OUR IMPACT DURING 2019

163

Amachi matches this past year

300

men served through our Fatherhood Initiative

560

students engaged in after-school and in-school programming with Urban Impact

3,000+

people served annually



SUPPORTING LLF IS EASY!

Please visit us at

lexlf.org/give

or text LLF to 24365 on your phone.

PRAYER ROOM



Please visit "The Trumpet" Facebook Group to see how the Body of Christ in Lexington is utilizing the page to inform and impart. Our heart is to collectively honor Jesus through posting scriptural promises, prayers and/or prayer requests, worship songs, links to uplifting articles, and content related to pertinent local ministries. In short, we hope and trust that the Lord will be magnified as we mutually edify and encourage one another through The Trumpet Facebook Group.

Please visit www.lexlf.org/the-prayer-room for the complete schedule for The Prayer Room this winter. Contact Tommy Green at 859-277-3089, tgreen@lexlf.org for more information.

The Prayer Room is located at 1218 S. Broadway Lexington, KY 40504

PRAYER ROOM SCHEDULE:

Sunday: Bible Study
1 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Tuesday: Ladies Bible Study
6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

Wednesday: Worship
6 A.M. – 9 A.M. &
12 P.M. – 1 P.M.

Thursday: Prayer for the Nations
12 P.M. – 1 P.M.

Friday: Prayer for Revival in KY
7 P.M. – 9 P.M.