



FATHERHOOD

Hope in the Juvenile Detention Center

Since March of 2019 the Fatherhood Initiative has had the privilege of being able to go into the Fayette County Juvenile Detention Center once a week to spend time with the young men there. We share with them the principles grounded in the curriculums we use and challenge them to become the best men they can

“Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them.” Hebrews 13:3

be. Each week the discussions and their engagement are moving and often very Spirit filled. A few weeks ago, one of the young men shared his deep sense of hopelessness. He mentioned both of his parents are currently incarcerated as are several of his other family members and he was resigned to the fear this was just his life, his destiny. What was so powerful was his openness and honesty and his willingness to share so much. The Holy Spirit moved in a beautiful way as the young men were fully engaged in the conversation about the power of not allowing mistakes of the past or others define who we are and the victory offered to us all in and through hope in Christ. The young man was challenged to redefine himself in a positive way and at the end of our time small tears formed in his eyes as a hope beyond his grasp was abundantly poured out on him.

We are always looking for more men who will work with us. Contact David Cozart or Lee Shepherd at 859-277-3087 to learn more.

Thank you to the LG&E foundation for their recent grant to the Fatherhood Initiative



National Kudos

The Fatherhood Initiative was excited to end 2019 in strong stance, having served over 300 fathers and more than 100 young men across the community and/or in local detention centers. We are blessed to be able to do this local work. As the year wrapped up, LLF and the Fatherhood Initiative staff were also blessed to receive a couple of national kudos appreciating our work.

First, the Fatherhood Initiative was recognized by The National Fatherhood Initiative® (NFI). NFI is a premier resource provider that works to transform communities by equipping them to proactively engage fathers in their children’s lives. As part of their 25th Anniversary efforts, NFI inventoried their many partners across the country to identify “Fatherhood Champions.” NFI stated, *“As we continue to celebrate Fatherhood Champions doing excellent work in honor of NFI’s 25th Anniversary, we turn our focus to the work of Lexington Leadership Foundation located in Lexington, Kentucky.”* We are humbled and honored to be recognized in this way.

Another national accolade was distributed by The Campaign for Black Male Achievement (CBMA). Each year since 2011, the CBMA has hosted the annual Rumble Young Man Rumble event at Louisville’s, Muhammad Ali Center. The event has become the preeminent gathering for leaders in the field of Black Male Achievement. Each year CBMA recognizes individuals and agencies that exemplify the tenants of Muhammad Ali and core principles of CBMA. The Fatherhood Initiative received the CBMA-2019 Rumble Young Man Rumble “Confidence Award” for its work in Lexington and beyond.

We are so very proud of these recognitions and wish to share them with our many partners and stakeholders that made it possible. Let’s continue to grow together!!!

Save the Date

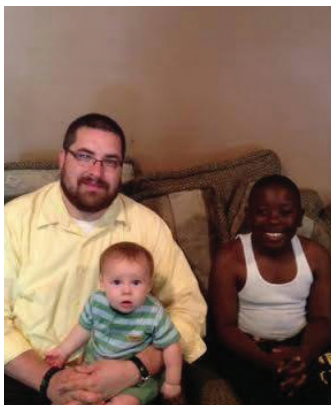
Save the date for Saturday, June 20th at Douglass Park for our Annual Father’s & Families Celebration. More details to come!

Remembering Antwan Jackson-Roberts

Last month, LLF lost one of its bright, beautiful, talented, kind and promising young leaders.

Antwan Jackson-Roberts, 15, was tragically killed when bullets came in through his family's apartment. We are devastated by this loss of life, but we know that we grieve in the hope of the Resurrection.

Antwan was a sophomore at Lafayette High School and loved video games, music, sports, and his family. He was kind, respectful, full of life, and a bright light in an oftentimes dark world. We at LLF had the pleasure of getting to know Antwan through Amachi (he was mentored by volunteer Nate Bustos for almost six years). He also participated in Urban Impact's after-school program, basketball leagues, and Amachi's week of summer camp at the Life Adventure Center. Antwan was enthusiastic, full of life, and a joy to be around. He was always quick to participate with an infectious smile on his face, and he brightened the lives of all around him. He loved to be helpful, and was a role model for other



Above: Antwan and his mentor Nate



Above: Antwan Jackson-Roberts, Age 15

young people in our programs. He had an adventurous spirit and was always eager to try new things. There are no words to describe the loss we feel at his passing, but we are so thankful that he was a part of the Urban Impact and Amachi families for so many years. We will continue to be inspired by his joy, kindness, and enthusiastic spirit. We ask that you join us in praying for all impacted by this loss, especially his mother (Sharee), grandparents, and other family and friends.



Above: Antwan at the Life Adventure Center

PRAYER

Unity in the Spirit



Above: Pastor's Prayer Breakfast

Over the past year a group of pastors, ministry leaders, and intercessors have been praying together at The Prayer Room every other Tuesday at 7am. The Lord has catalyzed within our hearts a desire for awakening and renewal in the Body of Christ and beyond. We're seeking Him to help us mobilize corporate prayer, craft a sustainable strategy for carrying the Gospel throughout the whole city, forge deep connectivity among pastoral leadership, and give ourselves to one another relationally for the purposes of racial reconciliation.

*Upcoming Prayer
times at 7:00 AM*

MARCH 24TH, APRIL 14TH, AND APRIL 28TH

THE PRAYER ROOM
1218 SOUTH BROADWAY, SUITE 100
LEXINGTON, KY 40504

PLEASE JOIN US IN CRYING OUT TO THE LORD FOR A CHRIST AWAKENING IN OUR REGION.
CONTACT TOMMY GREEN AT TGREEN@LEXLF.ORG OR 859.277.3087
WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Anyone else feel like this year is flying by?! We at Urban Impact sure do! Let's start this update by saying a big THANK YOU to all who contributed to our new van! This is a huge blessing that will allow us more opportunities for exploring the city (and beyond) with our kids. It also increases our capacity for student pick-up and drop-off for various activities like tutoring at U.K. Thank you again to all who made this purchase possible.

In the land of athletics, we've had Aerial Silks classes on Monday

Below: Elementary Basketball League



Above: Empathy in Action with Lexington Children's Theatre

evenings for youth and adults, indoor Futsal on Saturday afternoons, a soccer clinic with for our Amachi and Urban Impact kids, and we're in full-swing with our elementary basketball league. Games are on Saturdays between 9am-noon, so stop by the Woodhill Community Center and catch a game! The packed gym with kids and families will be sure to put a smile on your face.

A new opportunity for our middle schoolers this semester has been a workshop with the Lexington Children's Theatre called "Empathy in Action."

Empathy in Action is an anti-bullying program where young people explore the definition of "Community" and examine their own role in creating an environment where differences

are respected and celebrated. It is amazing to see the students be challenged and stretch themselves as they engage in the different activities and processes of this program. We hope to continue our partnership with Lexington Children's Theatre and provide more drama opportunities for our students.

It always feels like there are a million and one things happening over here at Urban Impact (and often times there are) but there is nothing that brings us more joy. We are ever-so-rapidly growing and always recruiting dedicated volunteers to help us increase our capacity to serve and love more kids in the city of Lexington. We are actively recruiting volunteers for summer and for the next school year. There are various ways to get involved and we would love for you, your church, or business to participate!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT VOLUNTEERING OR PARTNERING PLEASE CONTACT DGLENN@LEXLF.ORG OR CALL 859-255-8551.



SUPPORTING LLF IS EASY!

Please visit us at

lexlf.org/give

or text LLF to 24365 on your phone.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday April 25th:
Kendra Scott Gives Back Party at The Summit at Fritz Farm from 4 pm-6pm. This is the perfect place to pick-up a Mother's Day gift or graduation present! 20% of all sales will go towards Amachi Central KY.

Sunday May 3rd:
6th Annual Lexus 5k Run/ Walk benefitting the Woodhill Community Center. Visit our website for more information www.lexlf.org

Tuesday May 12th:
KY Gives Day! KY Gives Day is a 24-hour, online giving event raising funds for participating KY non-profits. KY Gives Day is a special opportunity to celebrate the important work of non-profits. This year all gifts to LLF will go towards support of Amachi Central KY. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, May 12th and show Amachi some love at kygives.org

For all upcoming events please visit our website at: lexlf.org/news-events.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

There are many ways to get involved with LLF and our initiatives. For more information about volunteer opportunities visit our website at lexlf.org, email: volunteer@lexlf.org or call Kelly Ansted at 859-277-3087.

