



URBAN LEAGUE

of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES. CHANGING LIVES.

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

BUILDING A DIVERSE, EQUITABLE, AND INCLUSIVE WORKFORCE THAT'S OUR BUSINESS.

We're the Regional Business Council. Our members include CEOs of over 100 of the area's leading businesses, generating over \$65 billion in revenue and employing over 120,000 professionals. RBC members are passionate about St. Louis and giving back. Our strength, resources, and expertise allow us to act quickly to significantly impact areas of need as they arise. Improving the St. Louis region is a big job, but that's our Business.

The Regional Business Council thanks the **Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis** for providing training and support to African American men and women to secure careers that pay a living wage through the Save Our Sons and Sisters program.



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Welcome to Our 2022 **ANNUAL REPORT**

In 2022, our team at the Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis was driven by a shared vision: to empower African Americans and others throughout the region in securing economic self-reliance, social equality, and civil rights. Day in and day out, we worked alongside our incredible network of supporters, partners, sponsors, staff, friends, and Urban League family to make this vision a reality.

Through a diverse range of programs and services, we set out to create a future where all people in our region are valued members of the community, can adequately support themselves and their families, live in vibrant and thriving neighborhoods, and share in the region's prosperity and well-being. We are proud to report that with the unwavering dedication of our team and the support of our community, we made great strides towards this future in 2022.

Now, we invite you to learn and share more about our efforts and achievements by downloading your own copy of our 2022 annual report at www.ulstl.com. Join us as we celebrate the progress we've made and commit ourselves to continuing the critical work of empowering communities and changing lives in the years to come.



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Message from our **Board Chairman**



Mark H. Levison

Mark H. Levison
Chairman of the Board
Urban League of Metropolitan
Saint Louis, Inc.

Welcome to our 105th Annual Dinner and Report to the Community.

Tonight, our President and CEO will provide a snapshot of the Urban League's work over the past year. I am certain you will be proud and truly amazed at the impact our agency continues to have throughout the St. Louis metropolitan region.

I have been a member of the Urban League Board of Directors for over 10 years and became Board Chair in 2020—just as the pandemic began sweeping across the country. Through the years the agency encountered many challenges, but nothing rises to the catastrophe that is COVID-19. For the past three years, The Urban League has pivoted, adapted, revised, and re-imagined the way we serve our community and the results have been astounding. When others stood down, the Urban League stood up.

I am proud of the staff, our partners and collaborators and my fellow board members. I appreciate every sponsor and donor who believed in us and trusted us to deliver on our mission. Because of you, we can support those most in need.

I especially want to thank our President and CEO, Michael McMillan for his vision and leadership. The new Regional Headquarters Campus has become a beacon across the city. The program expansion and partnerships being created are taking the Urban League to even higher heights. It has been an honor to be involved with so many who have done so much.

As my term ends, I want to again express my sincere gratitude for the staff and leadership of the Urban League and to my fellow board members who have allowed me to be of service.

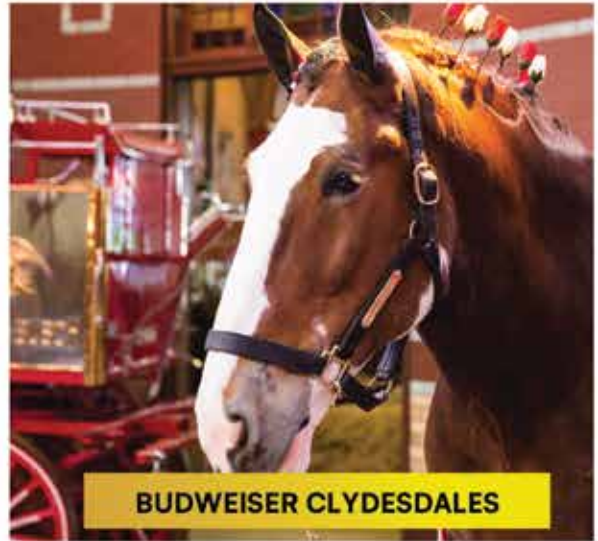
Congratulations to tonight's honorees and thank you for your continued support.



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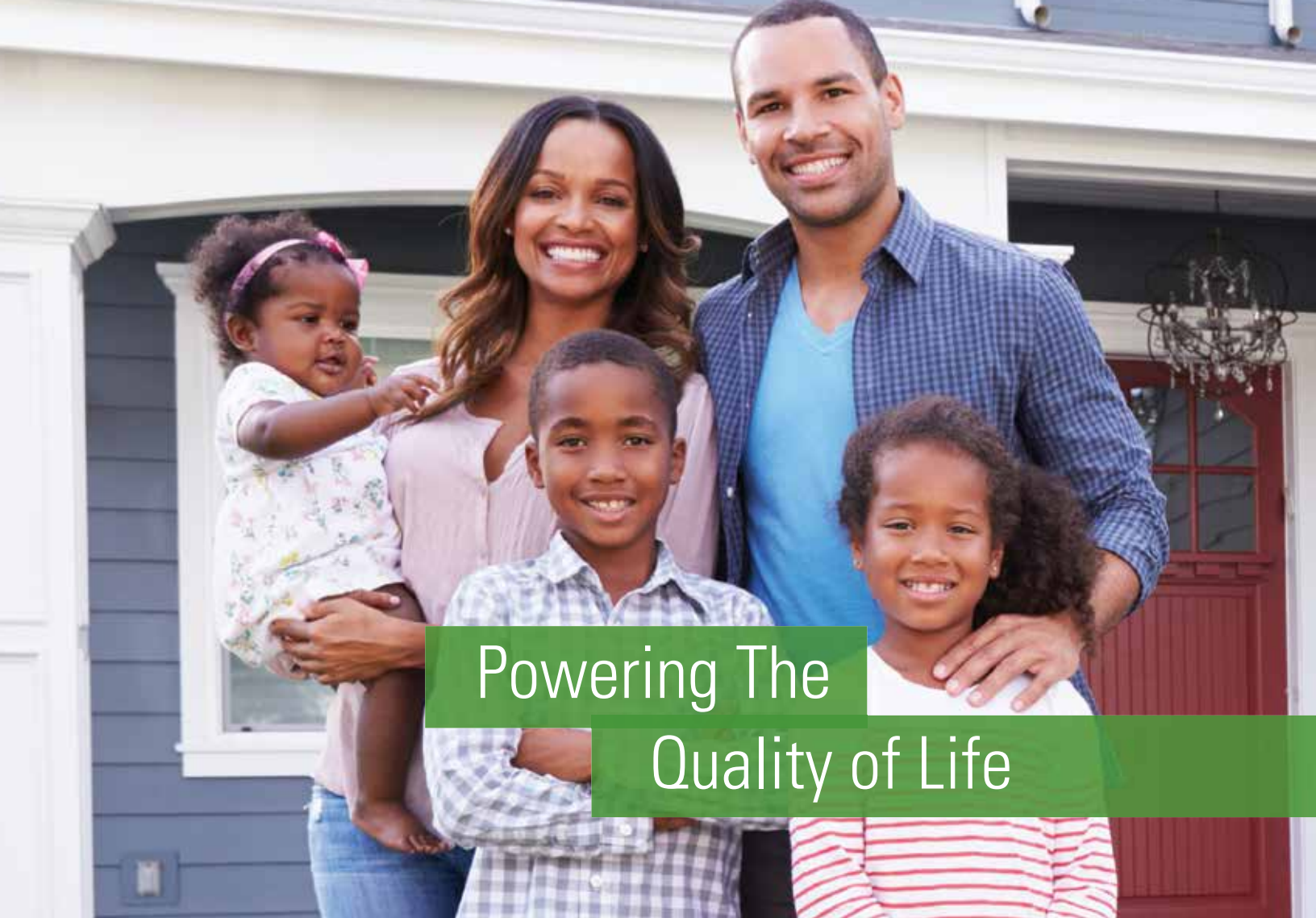


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Ameren is honored to partner with the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis.



Message from our President & CEO



Michael P. McMillan
President & CEO
Urban League of Metropolitan
Saint Louis, Inc.

Welcome to the 105th Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis Annual Dinner and Report to the Community!

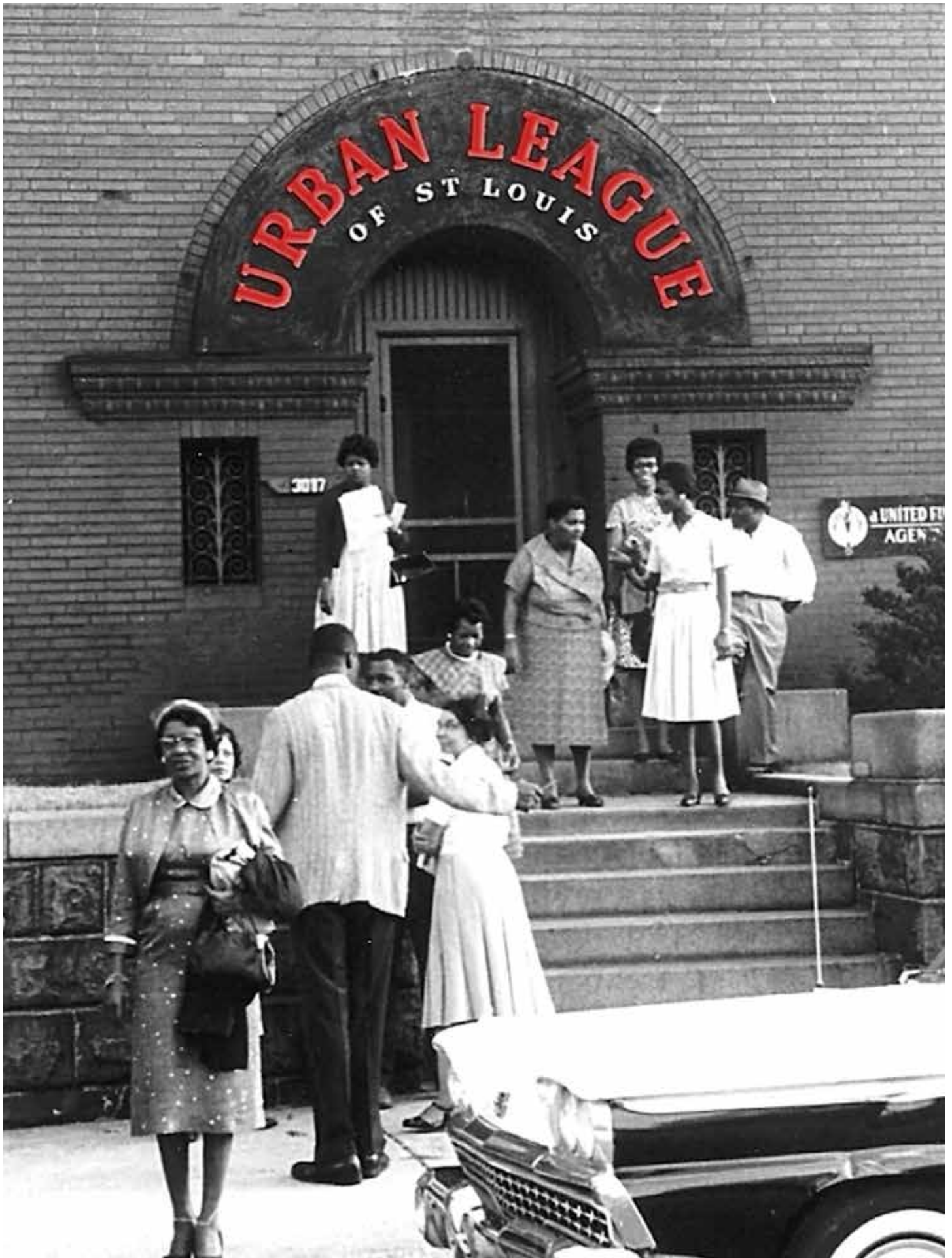
This past year has been marked by tremendous growth and opportunity for the Urban League despite the continued impact of COVID-19. I am especially grateful to our Board of Directors for their support and for the latitude given allowing us to adjust and be more innovative to meet the needs of our clients and community. I am also tremendously proud of the 350 Urban League employees for their perseverance, their resiliency, and their commitment to provide absolute best-in-class service.

The past several years have been incredibly challenging for the nonprofit community. As COVID-19 rampaged, many providers scaled back their programming, reduced staff, or closed their doors. Sadly, some people in need found that their “go to” organization was gone. The pandemic forced us to employ new techniques, modernize, embrace technology, and re-visit old practices to better serve people during their darkest moments. Now that the pandemic is relenting a bit, we are reaping the benefits of those necessary innovations. We are emerging from this crisis stronger just like the 205,000 clients we serve.

Despite the challenges, the Urban League experienced strong growth in our critical programs, growth in our donor base and funding partners, and overall growth in giving. Individual donors, government agencies, and corporate partners trusted the Urban League to meet the tremendous need in our community with quality programs and services.

Our strong performance in 2022 reflects strong partnerships, strong relationships, and a strong belief in our mission to empower communities and change communities. As we approach our work in 2023, our mission of empowering people and changing communities is even more imperative. COVID-19 dealt a devastating blow, but this pandemic will pass; it's up to us to learn how to use the lessons learned to flourish now and into the future. I believe wholeheartedly that with your support we will move from surviving to thriving.

Thank you for attending tonight and for trusting and believing in the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis!



History & Milestones

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis has a rich history that dates back over a century. In 1910, the National Urban League was founded, and just a few months later, a committee of the Social Service Conference and one of the committees for Social Service Among Colored People met at the Church of the Messiah in St. Louis to determine how they could work together to provide vital social services to the hundreds of African Americans who had fled the South in search of jobs and refuge from the brutal realities of sharecropping, Jim Crow segregation laws, lynching, and the Ku Klux Klan.

At that pivotal meeting, Roger N. Baldwin, a professor from Washington University who would later go on to found the American Civil Liberties Union, presided over the proceedings and outlined the goals of the organization, which were “to collect information and report to various committees conditions and needs of people” and to act on those needs not receiving services. This was a critical moment for the black community, which had long been overlooked and neglected in terms of social services and basic human rights.

Fast forward to 1918, and a group of black and white St. Louisans founded the Urban League of St. Louis in response to the East St. Louis race riot, which had sent many refugees fleeing to St. Louis in search of safety and opportunity. This was a time of great upheaval in the country, with racial tensions running high and many cities struggling to accommodate the influx of black migrants from the South. The Urban League of St. Louis was established with the goal of helping these new arrivals adjust to their new urban environment, and to alleviate some of the appalling living conditions and lack of resources they faced on a daily basis.

In those early days, the League was primarily focused on social services, but over time it has evolved to encompass a much broader range of

initiatives. Today, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis offers programs in Educational Excellence, Community Empowerment, Economic Opportunity, and Civil Rights & Advocacy. These programs are designed to empower African Americans and other under-served communities, and to promote equality and social justice.

Thanks to its partnerships with a wide range of corporations, community leaders, and governmental and civic institutions, the Urban League is able to make a real impact on the communities it serves. It is the largest League in the nation, and was the first to earn a five-star rating. In fact, it is one of only two Urban Leagues in the country that provides services in two states, Illinois and Missouri. With 13 facilities and 55 different programs, the League serves over 200,000 individuals annually, providing them with the tools and resources they need to succeed and thrive in a rapidly changing world.



1910

National Urban League is founded in New York City, NY.

1917

An infamous deadly race riot occurs in East St. Louis, Illinois. Black workers and migrants are attacked resulting in 48 deaths, hundreds wounded, and thousands left homeless. The U.S. Department of War quickly creates the Urban League of East St. Louis to help calm the situation. St. Louis voters approve a segregation ordinance.



1918

The Urban League of St. Louis is founded under the leadership of Rev. John A. Day, the agency's first Board President and George W. Buckner serves as the first Executive Secretary.

1918

The Urban League serves its first 100 clients in the Saint Louis region as the Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis.

1922

Urban League operates Turner Branch School, for disabled black children and a free dental clinic. Gordon H. Simpson becomes Executive Secretary. The Urban League takes a comprehensive approach to the overall community service and problem solving. Urban League becomes a member of the Community Fund (known today as the United Way).

1932

John T. Clark establishes the Federation of Block Units, an auxiliary to the Urban League, to unify neighborhoods and stabilize housing values. In addition, the Federation provides services to accommodate the growing migration of African Americans to St. Louis City.



1937

Homer G. Phillips Hospital, a hospital built to serve African Americans, opens with the support of the Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc.



1950

M. Leo Bohanon succeeds John T. Clark as Executive Secretary of Urban League of St. Louis. In the postwar years, St. Louis goes through a changing period. During this time, the Urban League of St. Louis shifts its focus from preparing clients for jobs in domestic service to jobs in business and industry.

1951

The city of St. Louis witnessed a remarkable surge in the African American population, soaring from 109,000 in 1940 to an astounding 154,000 in 1950. Consequently, the Urban League strongly recommends implementing a comprehensive community-wide program to address the overwhelming challenges arising from this demographic shift.

1964

William E. Douthit becomes the fifth president of the Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc.

1964

The Beatrice T. Hurt Scholarship Fund is established by the Federation of Block Units and offers financial assistance to students who are seeking an undergraduate degree. The scholarship is named after Beatrice T. Hurt, a pioneer in the early stages of the Urban League movement as one of the first community organization specialists.

1968

Laws passed in 1963, 1964 and 1968 change the way the Urban League works with the corporate community and its clients. Douthit reorganizes the Urban League of St. Louis to meet challenges and opportunities coming from the social and economic climate.

1968

The Urban League co-sponsors the Ebony Fashion Fair to raise funds for the B.T. Hurt Scholarship.

1971

The Urban League opens an office in the all-black Saint Louis County municipality of Kinloch.

1972

The Urban League moves its headquarters to 3701 Grandel Square-St. Louis, MO 63108.



1977

The Urban League, Sears Roebuck and Company pioneered a new concept in community planning with the transformation of the old Sears Department store at 1408 North Kingshighway into a Community Service Center.

1977

The Urban League establishes the Vaughn Cultural Center. Mrs. Ermalene Vaughn contributes funds for its establishment in memory of Dr. Arthur Vaughn, a Saint Louis University Medical School faculty member.

1979

The Urban League of St. Louis and St. Clair County (Illinois) merge, becoming the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis.

1985

James H. Buford becomes the sixth president. With this change in leadership, the Urban League undergoes reorganization to meet change.

1986

The League receives a charter to establish the Urban League Guild.



1987

The Board of Directors creates the first youth auxiliary, the Progressive Young Adults (ProYA).

1992

Urban League of Metro St. Louis becomes the Weatherization Assistance Program operator for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

1994

Urban League begins its Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Giveaway in partnership with Schnuck Markets and the St. Louis RAMS.

1998

The Urban League reorganizes service areas into three service regions (St. Louis County Region, St. Louis City Region and St. Clair County Region).

2000

The Urban League re-institutes its link with young professionals by introducing the (ULYP) Urban League Young Professionals, formerly ProYa.



2000

The Urban League of Metro St. Louis joins the St. Louis County Government and the Missouri Career Center to provide Workforce Investment Act youth services to at-risk high school students.



2001

The Urban League partners with YWCA to deliver Head Start Services in St. Louis City. The League creates a Vice President of Communications position to direct its public relations and marketing needs. Urban League relocates its St. Louis County Operations to the newly renovated Schnucks Building on 8960 Jennings Station Road.

2002

The Urban League opens its fourth Head Start Center located in Jennings. The center completes the Schnucks Building renovation and connects to Saint Louis County Operations.



2003

The Urban League expands its St. Clair County Division, opening a 14,000 square foot facility as part of the East St. Louis Housing Authority Services Complex. The larger location allows this division to expand its basic needs and training services.

2004

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc. receives its first five-star rating from the National Urban League, becoming the top-ranked affiliate.

2007

The Urban League hosts more than 10,000 attendees at the 2007 National Urban League Conference in Saint Louis. The Urban League receives Better Business Bureau accreditation.



2009

The Urban League receives a three-year, \$19.4 million federal contract to weatherize 3,000 homes in the Saint Louis area.

2012

The Urban League opens a new City Community Outreach Center at 935 North Vandeventer and a new Community Outreach Center at 10220 Lincoln Trails in St. Clair County, Illinois.

2013

The Urban League Board of Directors appoints Michael P. McMillan as the seventh president of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc.

2013

The Urban League establishes the Whitney M. Young Society, a giving society for leadership donors.



2014

The Urban League launches its historic Save Our Sons program in Ferguson and North St. Louis County to address issues surrounding the civil unrest.



2015

The Urban League breaks ground on the Ferguson Community Empowerment Center on the site of the former QuikTrip (Ground Zero) at 9420 West Florissant.



2016

The Urban League receives a \$7.7 million contract from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide The Head Start/Early Head Start program.

2016

The Urban League partners with TIAA in hosting the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Giveaway.

2017

Generous Capital Campaign Donors make the historic Ferguson Community Empowerment Center (FCEC) possible. More than 600 residents, community and civic leaders joined together to celebrate the ribbon cutting of the FCEC on the site of the QuikTrip that was burned down during the civil unrest that followed the death of Michael Brown at the hands of a police officer in 2014. The building is the 1st building to be built in ULSTL history with 80% minority participation in Saint Louis.



2017

The Urban League hosts the National Urban League Conference - Save Our Cities. The 2017 Conference was the largest conference in National Urban League history with the highest amount of revenue raised, most volunteers and over 25,000 in attendance.



2018

Unveiling of the Urban League Civil Rights Mural in the lobby of the Ferguson Community Empowerment Center. The mural depicts just a handful of those who pushed St. Louis forward as well as the entire National Urban League Leadership in empowering African Americans and others in securing economic self-reliance, social equality and protecting our civil rights.



2018

The Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis celebrates a Century of Service through Empowering Communities and Changing Lives.

2018

Urban League President Michael P. McMillan is inducted into the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame. He is the first Urban League affiliate president and youngest to be inducted to date.



2018

Ribbon Cutting of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis and the Saint Louis Public Schools - Urban Expo / Back to School & Community Empowerment Festival, with largest crowd in the Urban League history of over 25,000.



2018

One thousand North County Residents attend the Ferguson Community Fair; sponsored by the Urban League, Centene Charitable Foundation and Home State Health at the Ferguson Community Empowerment Center.

2018

In recognition and tribute of its 100th Anniversary, the League hosts the street dedication of Urban League Square - St. Louis, MO 63108.



2018

The Missouri History Museum donates “#1 in Civil Rights - The African American Freedom Struggle in St. Louis”; a exhibition on the local civil rights movement and the city’s leading role in advancing the cause of racial justice.



2018

The Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis opens a financial services support center at the St. Louis County Outreach Center in partnership with Enterprise Bank & Trust.



2019

Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis hosts its first Inaugural Save Our Sisters Summit. The summit provides direct access to holistic wraparound resources for all aspects of life for the everyday woman, helping to reach their full potential.

2019

Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis signs a historic partnership agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, to help the St. Louis community small business owners and entrepreneurs pursue the American dream.



2019

The Urban League hosts the National Hockey League Stanley Cup at the Ferguson Community Empowerment Center in honor of the St. Louis Blues Championship win.



2020

Hosted swearing-in ceremonies at our Ferguson Empowerment Center for Ella Jones, the first female and first African American Mayor in the City of Ferguson.

2020

Ribbon cutting ceremony on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday to open the new Urban League Community Resource Center in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza at North Grand and Dr. MLK Drive.



2020

Held ceremony dedicating Peter Bunce Campus after completion of historic merger with Grace Hill Settlement House.



2020

Purchased and began renovation of the new Urban League Regional Headquarters at 1408 North Kingshighway marking the first headquarters move in 48 years. Launched \$20 million Restoring Hope Capital Campaign.



2020

North Spring Empowerment Center grand opening. The center houses The Heartland St. Louis Black Chamber of Commerce and the Urban League's Division of Public Safety and community response.



2020

Urban League partners with Sysco to Salute our front-line workers during the pandemic with a Healthcare Heroes Award.



2020

Created the Division of Public Safety and Community Response to help address crime, stabilize neighborhoods, and provide mental health services.



2021

Urban League officially broke ground on a new \$10 million senior apartment complex and community center in Dellwood.



2021

The Urban League and Centene Corp. present ALL IN: Closing the COVID-19 Vaccine Gap vaccination winner with 2021 Ford Escort.

2021

FUSE, Global Specialty Services secure 10 million masks for St. Louis Urban League with Kappa Alpha Psi partner to distribute locally and nationwide.



2021

The Regions Foundation, a nonprofit funded primarily by Regions Bank, announces \$100,000 grant for partnership with the Urban League of Metro St. Louis and Dream Builders 4 Equity.

2021

The Urban League's Division of Public Safety & Community Response was selected by the Governor's office to partner with the Missouri National Guard to provide over 10,000 Covid-19 Vaccinations to Seniors, Teachers to and local residents in disproportionately impacted communities and high-risk populations following the CDC eligibility guidelines.

2022

Urban League completes purchase of Shops at Roberts Village on Aubert Avenue with support from Michael Neidorff and Centene corporation. The Plaza is set to be revitalized as an integral part of the broader Urban League Complex redevelopment plan.



2022

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis: "A Proud Past with an Empowering Future" authored by Dr. John A. Wright, Sr. Publication, proudly sponsored by the Anheuser-Busch Foundation and exquisitely designed by DavisProject, chronicles a century of dedicated service by The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis.



2022

Former National Urban League Board Chairman Michael F. Neidorff passes after a lengthy illness. Mr. Neidorff was CEO of Centene Corp from 1996 to 2022. He was an ardent supporter of the Urban League Movement and a leader in philanthropic efforts across the country.

2022

National Urban League President Marc Morial officially announced a new National Urban League-designated entrepreneurship center. The center will be housed in a former north city Commerce Bank branch donated to the Urban League.



2022

Comedian DL Hughley supports Urban League food outreach efforts at the St. Louis County Outreach Center in Jennings.



2022

The Urban League's Save Our Sons Re-entry Program is featured in a documentary by Oscar-winning producer Barbara Kopple. The Gumbo Coalition chronicles the battle against racism by National Urban League President and CEO Marc Morial and Janet Murguía, President of UnidosUS, an advocacy organization for the country's Latino community. The film debuted at a NYC film festival.

2022

Save Our Sons experienced tremendous growth in 2022 expanding to a total of five offices, including a new South City location that is a joint venture with the Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development (MDHEWD).

Congratulations to our attorney
Mark H. Levison



for his years of dedication and service to
The Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis
and for helping drive their mission
of empowering communities and changing lives.

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Urban League Headquarters

Over the course of many years, the Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis has experienced tremendous growth and reach throughout the community, which has necessitated a change in headquarters. Despite this evolution, the Urban League's mission remains steadfast: to empower African Americans and other members of the region in achieving economic self-reliance, social equality, and civil rights.

As one of 90 affiliates spanning 300 communities in 36 states and the District of Columbia, the Urban League of Saint Louis is a powerful force for positive change, providing direct services that have a tangible impact on the lives of more than 200,000 people across the St. Louis region.

Our headquarters represent a robust infrastructure and unwavering commitment to our mission, we serve as a beacon not only to our local community but also to all of our sister affiliates and our national chapter.

Through our tireless efforts to empower communities and change lives throughout the St. Louis region, we have demonstrated the strength and resilience that comes from a shared commitment to creating a better world for all. Whether through our advocacy work, direct service programs, or community partnerships, the Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis remains dedicated to advancing the cause of social justice and ensuring that all individuals have the opportunity to thrive and succeed.



1918 - 1937



1937 - 1966



1966 - 1972



1972 - Present



2020 - Present



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RESTORING HOPE CAMPAIGN

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of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc.
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Campaign Update

Restoring Hope

The Urban League's \$40 million Restoring Hope Capital Campaign continued to attract significant gifts and interest in 2022 raising \$23,193,048 as of March 2023. Launched in 2020, the Restoring Hope Campaign funds the renovation and preservation of the Urban League's new Regional Headquarters Campus at 1408 North Kingshighway. Formerly known as the Victor Roberts Building, the old Sears department store building provides over 205,000 square feet of office, retail, and meeting space. The new headquarters is a vital community resource in the heart of North St. Louis consolidating many Urban League programs in one efficient location.

Major milestones and renovation updates in 2022 included:

- Construction on the new \$1 million Simmons Bank project began including construction of a new drive-through on the north end of the building and ATM on the parking lot.
- A Centene gift of \$1 million supported the purchase of Urban League Plaza on Aubert Avenue.
- New branding lighting elements featuring the Urban League symbol were added to the center tower.
- Parking lot and campus lighting upgrades were completed in addition to new campus landscaping.
- Thrivent held a special ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the new Thrivent Hub on the second floor of our new headquarters. This community space is the first of its kind outreach center for Thrivent.
- The National Development Council (NDC) hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony in August 2022 to celebrate the grand opening of the new NDC Entrepreneurship Center at the new headquarters. NDC is partnering with the Urban League on several initiatives that are designed to support minority entrepreneurs and real estate developers in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area.
- Edward Jones committed to establishing a major presence at the new headquarters including staffing a position to support financial education. Details for the new partnership will be announced in 2023.
- The Urban League and the State of Missouri are partnering with Vested Urban Farms/Fresh Harvest 365 to establish a hydroponic farming operation on the new Regional Headquarters campus. The farm project advanced in 2022 as Vested Urban Farms Greenhouse / Fresh Harvest 365 conceptual site plan drawings were completed and approved. Space was cleared for the containers housing the vertical grow houses scheduled for installation in early 2023.
- The Urban League's Housing Division moved into new suites complete with conference rooms.





Simmons Bank Project



National Development Council



Thrivent Hub



Edward Jones Financial Empowerment Center



Housing Division



New Lighting & Signage



Urban Farm - Fresh Harvest 365



Green House Project

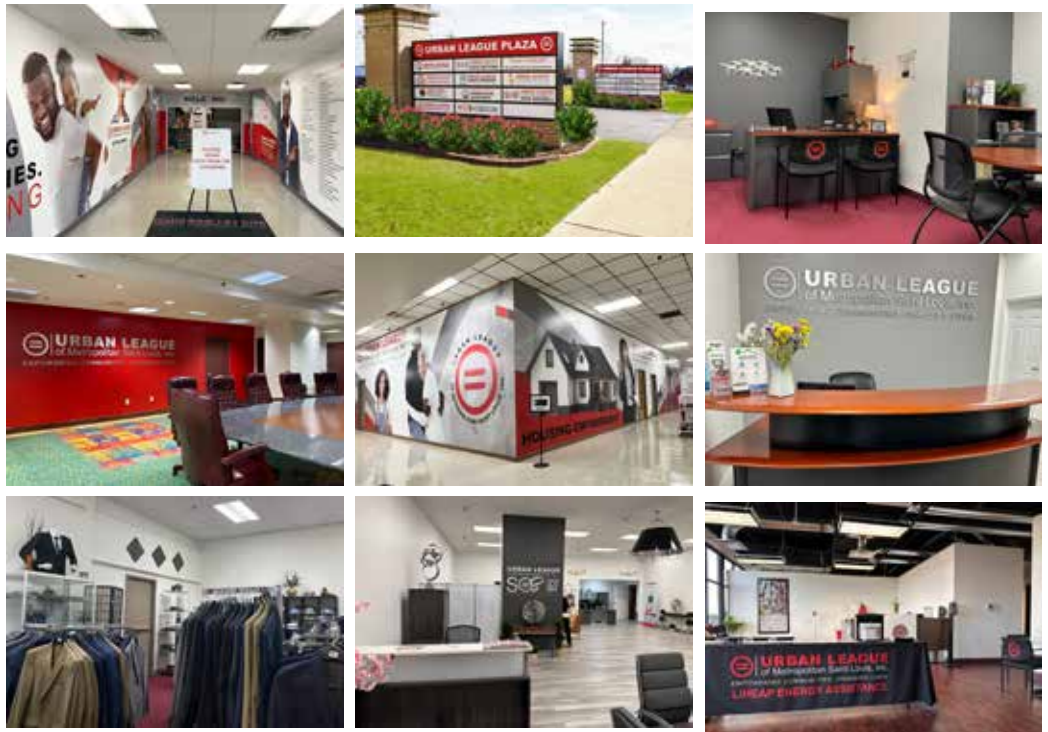


\$40,000,000

Capital Campaign Goal

Nostalgically known as the Old Sears Building, the massive 205,000-square foot facility on North Kingshighway has long been integral to the social and commercial lives of the African American community. Built in 1928, Sears was the only major department store accessible to the increasing concentration of African Americans in North St. Louis.

The Urban League's Restoring Hope Capital Campaign is making tomorrow possible for people determined to improve their lives. The \$40 million capital campaign supporting our new Regional Headquarters at 1408 North Kingshighway launched in 2020 and as of March 2023, over \$23 million has been raised. The strategic move to the old Sears Building/Victor Roberts Building allows us to create a one-stop service delivery hub while anchoring a neighborhood that has been too-long neglected.



Campaign Cabinet

Dave Peacock

Advantage Solutions, Chair

Emily Burch

Community Advocate, Co-Chair

Warner Baxter

Ameren, Co-Chair

Cindy Brinkley

Formerly Centene

Vanessa Foster Cooksey

Regional Arts Commission

Michael Holmes

Rx Outreach

Kristin Johnson

Edward Jones

Rusty Keeley

Keeley Companies

Daniel Marsh

National Development Council

Mary Sly

Keeley Companies

Tony Thompson

Kwame Building Group

Pamela Morris-Thornton

Advantage Solutions

Keith Williamson

Centene

\$23,193,048

Capital Campaign Secured Gifts

Type	Secured	Cash Pledges
Corporation	17	\$7,645,000
Other*	6	\$7,401,000
Foundation	8	\$5,475,000
Anonymous	5	\$1,507,000
Board	4	\$855,000
Individual	7	\$310,000

Other - State of Missouri, Congressional Earmark, Sale of Property & Program Contributions* *as of 3/17/2023

Restoring Hope Capital Campaign Donations Since July 2020:

Corporation Amount

Centene \$2,000,000
Edward Jones \$1,035,000
US Bank CDC \$900,000
Ameren \$500,000
Panera Bread \$500,000
Jim Cooper / TCSP \$500,000
Stifel \$500,000
Dowd Bennett \$500,000
UMB \$300,000
Spire \$250,000
US Bank \$200,000
Interco \$200,000
NDC \$100,000
Peabody \$50,000
MAK Joint Venture \$25,000
Graybar \$10,000

Foundation Amount

Crawford Taylor Foundation \$2,000,000
Crawford Taylor Foundation \$1,000,000
Berges Family Foundation \$1,000,000
Enterprise RAC Foundation \$1,000,000
Dana Brown Foundation \$150,000
Trio Foundation \$125,000
Ameren Cares \$100,000
Orthwein Foundation \$100,000

Individual Amount

Jerry Kent \$100,000
Cindy Brinkley \$50,000
Ed Monser \$50,000
Michael McMillan \$50,000
Michael Lowenbaum \$25,000
Tom Schlafly \$25,000
Dorothy Martin \$10,000

Board Amount

David Peacock \$455,000
Rusty Keeley \$250,000
Michael Holmes \$100,000
Keith Williamson \$25,000

Other Amount

State of Missouri \$3,500,000
State of Missouri \$2,500,000
Congressional Earmark (Cori Bush) \$750,000
Sale of Vandeventer Office \$371,000
Sale of Lion's Choice Office \$267,000
Restore St. Louis \$13,000

Anonymous Amount

Anonymous \$1,000,000
Anonymous \$157,048
Anonymous \$150,000
Anonymous \$100,000
Anonymous \$100,000





Earning trust. Creating value. Building relationships.

Simmons Bank is honored to support the mission of The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis and to be a part of the revitalization of North St. Louis. We are proud to announce that in Spring 2023, we will open a new 2,500 square foot, full-service branch located on the first floor of the building that includes a drive thru lane and a drive-up ATM.



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simmonsbank.com/locations



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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & EXPANSION

 **URBAN LEAGUE**
of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc.
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES. CHANGING LIVES.

Community Development **Expansion**

Urban League Plaza at Aubert

The Urban League's plan to expand the footprint of the new Regional Headquarters campus at 1408 North Kingshighway moved forward thanks to a generous \$1,000,000 gift from the Centene Corporation. The gift allowed the Urban League to close on The Shops at Roberts Village, the strip mall plaza directly behind the Regional Headquarters on Aubert. We are thankful for the support of the late Michael Neidorff and appreciate the arduous work of our legal counsel, Sonette Magnus, in negotiating this transaction. The Plaza space will allow us to advance our long-term plan for an expanded campus providing additional programming and retail space. Immediate plans include securing facade improvements funds to improve the appearance of business properties (front facades) located on the three major corridors (Kingshighway, MLK, and Page), connecting the UL Headquarters and Plaza area. Priority efforts would be on Kingshighway, from Delmar to Dr. MLK.



Urban League Plaza at Dellwood

The Urban League Plaza at Dellwood continues to advance smoothly earning a \$2,700,461 grant from U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) for construction of the Urban League Plaza and Innovation Center. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced the award while praising the project. The EDA grant will be matched with \$4.2 million in local funds and is expected to create 250 jobs and generate \$497,500 in private investment. The project will offer space and business development services for underserved minority and women entrepreneurs. The Urban League and LCRA hosted a mandatory virtual public meeting in February 2022 that included a presentation about the environmental site assessment findings, the Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA), the cleanup remedies selected, the proposed redevelopment, and the activities that will transpire on both the Fashions R boutique site and the Advance Auto Parts site, both of which are included in the project.



A photograph of a man in a dark suit and tie, smiling and looking towards a laptop screen. He is in a meeting with other people, whose faces are partially visible in the foreground. The background is a bright, modern office setting.

Proud to partner to advance inclusive growth

We are proud to support the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis in its ongoing efforts to champion economic empowerment and opportunity for African Americans and all people.

Edward Jones[®]

edwardjones.com/purposeinaction



Electrical & Communications

Committed to Project Safety and Diversity

TD4 Electrical is a full-service MBE certified electrical contractor providing electrical, voice/data, fire alarm, security, temperature controls, and material distribution services. We partner with buyers, managers, and general contractors to enhance diversity on construction projects. Our strong performance record reflects our commitment to customer service, financial capabilities, safety, and project completion on time and within budget.

KEY DIFFERENTIATORS

Founded in 2006 by CEO Tommy L. Davis, Jr., TD4 provides the full range of high quality electrical contracting services. TD4 Electrical is one of the premier minority-owned electrical construction service providers in the country.



The leadership group also includes Tommy L. Davis III as President.

TD4's exemplary safety record is achieved with a continuous commitment to safety training and awareness. Project managers heighten daily awareness of crew members to ensure team safety

Additional differentiators:

- Performance Bonding capabilities above industry standard
- Financially sound with a strong Balance Sheet
- Consistent record for on time and under budget project completion
- Consolidated Accounting and Job Cost tracking for accurate reporting
- Expertise of corporate leadership dedicated to quality and diversity
- Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB)



TD4 Electrical LLC self-performs the following construction services for owners, general contractors and construction managers:

- + Electrical material wholesale distribution
 - Electrical Distribution Equipment
 - Switchgears & Generators
 - Wire and Cable
 - Lighting & lighting controls
- + Electrical construction – design-build & plan-spec
 - Commercial
 - Healthcare
 - Educational
 - Industrial
- + Electrical service & maintenance
- + Energy audits & installations
- + Lighting maintenance & rehab
- + Life safety systems
- + Security systems
- + Product procurement
- + Material management
- + Voice/Data
- + Fire Alarm
- + Temperature controls

Commerce Bank Revitalization

The revitalization of the former Commerce Bank branch at 4401 Natural Bridge continued in 2022 with the installation of new brand signage, tuckpointing, lighting and safety features, and roof repair. Commerce donated the old bank branch and made a gift to support renovation costs. The building will house the new Urban League Entrepreneurship Center and Women's Business Center in partnership with the National Urban League and Commerce Bank. The Federation of Block Units will also have offices in the building. A formal ceremony announcing the project was held in April 2022 with National Urban League President Marc Morial, Commerce Bank leadership, and representatives from the U.S. Small Business Association. The Urban League received the designation as an official National Urban League Entrepreneurship Center for the project. The Center for Entrepreneurship (CFE) program, an initiative of the Entrepreneurship Center, enables minority entrepreneurs, running their businesses as sole proprietors, to hire employees and grow their revenues above \$750K and to help expand and thrive. The CFE provides management counseling, mentoring, and training services geared toward the development of management skills that will enable minority entrepreneurs to grow their businesses, obtain financing or contracts, and preserve or create jobs.



Senior Housing Project Dellwood

Construction continued in 2022 for the \$10 million Urban League Senior Housing Project in Dellwood. The project was awarded \$500,000 in ARPA funding from St. Louis County in 2022. The development will consist of a 44 unit low income senior apartment community located in Dellwood, Missouri. The project, located within the boundaries of the St. Louis Great Streets Initiative for West Florissant Avenue, will feature a three story brick and fiber cement building that will include 40 one bedroom and 4 two bedroom units, as well as community space on the first floor.



UNITY IS POWER

Nourishing People's Lives is what drives everything we do at Schnucks, from helping communities thrive to supporting the neighborhoods our customers and teammates call home.

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[SCHNUCKS.COM/UNITY](https://www.schnucks.com/unity)



PROGRAMS & SERVICES



URBAN LEAGUE
of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES. CHANGING LIVES.

Urban League

Mission, Vision & Strategy

Our Mission

The mission of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc. is to empower African Americans and others throughout the region in securing economic self-reliance, social equality and civil rights.

Our Vision

As the leading champion of empowerment and opportunity for African Americans, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis envisions a region where all people:

- Are valued members of the community;
- Can adequately support themselves and their families;
- Can live in neighborhoods that are vibrant and thriving; and
- Share in the region's prosperity and well-being.

Our Strategy

The Urban League will advocate for and empower African Americans and others in Metropolitan St. Louis by pursuing the following priorities:

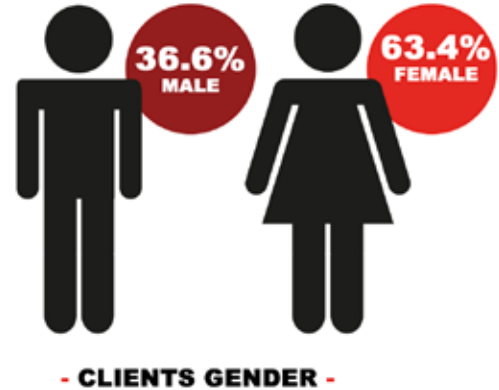
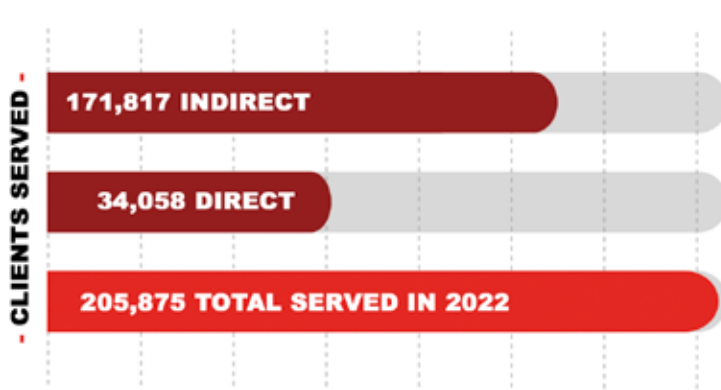
- 1) Economic Opportunity: Creating ladders out of poverty through jobs, entrepreneurship and financial responsibility.
- 2) Educational Excellence: Providing access to quality education from pre-kindergarten through college. Creating an Urban League Leadership Academy to provide scholarships and internships for high school and college students.
- 3) Community Empowerment: Providing social safety net to stabilize our neediest families.
- 4) Civil Rights and Advocacy: Obtaining fair and equal treatment for all in every aspect for society.



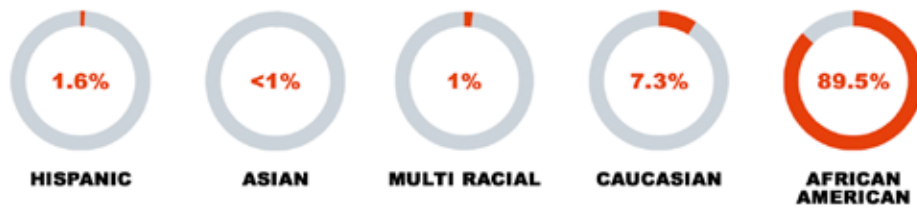
@ULSTL

Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | YouTube

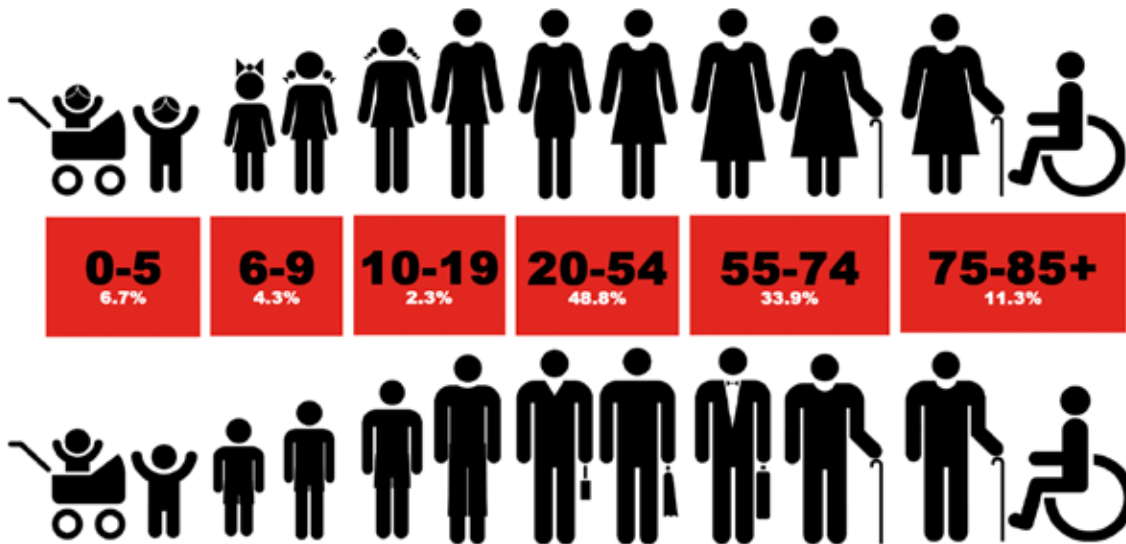
2022 Urban League Data Summary



- CLIENTS RACE -



- CLIENTS AGE -



Workforce Division Summary

Save Our Sons



Served 1,403 Men
57% increase from last year.



68 Hiring Fairs hosted



532 clients successfully placed in jobs.
14% increase from last year.



\$17.1 Million in wages generated from clients' job placement, nearly double the amount generated last year.

STL Youth Jobs



\$317,520 in wages provided to 147 young clients ages 16-24 enrolled in the Student Workforce Exposure summer work program.

\$128,700 in wages provided to 143 young clients ages 16-24 enrolled in the Discover You summer work program.

Total of \$4446,220 in wages generated by our STL Youth Jobs programs, serving 290 young clients.

Women's Business Center



217 clients received 1on1 business counseling
Totaling over 700 hours of 1on1 counseling



473 Training Events Held
690 New Clients Reached Virtual/Online Trainings



83 graduates completed the Ready! Set! Launch! Program.
10-week Small Business Development Program

Re-Entry



54 clients gained full-time employment after being released from prison
\$1.9 Million in wages generated from clients' job placements

Skill Up



100% of clients gained employment and eliminated their reliance of SNAP benefits.

Housing Division Summary



\$1,650,637.62 spent to prevent 818 families from evictions
\$148,133.15 spent to prevent 161 families from home foreclosures
\$74,057.30 spent to move 51 homeless families into stable housing
\$150,000 spent to assist 358 first time home buyers purchase homes

\$2,022,828 Total in Housing Assistance across the St. Louis Metro Area!
Serving over 1,400 clients.

Community Development Division Summary

LIHEAP



12,768 applications processed for winter and summer assistance
\$2,816,000 in utility assistance provided with LIHEAP Crisis funding
\$210,064 in utility assistance provided with funding from Dollar Help, Dollar More, Clean Slate
\$45,000 utility assistance provided with Heat Up St. Louis funding
\$3,071,064 Total Utility Assistance (electric, gas, water and sewer)

Education Division Summary

Head Start & Early Head Start



931 Funded Enrollment



677 Children Served



83% Student Attendance Rate



41 Children with IEPs/EFSPs Served



250 Children with Continuous Access to Dental Care



Over 340 families received referrals for cases management services

Community School Partnership



417 emergency/crisis situations successfully managed by our Family Mentors in SLPS elementary schools.
Over 1,400 referrals made to community resources



7,690 phone calls made to students' homes to follow up about the importance of attendance when a child is tardy or absent.



2,803 1on1 student mentoring sessions with our Family Mentors working 1on1 with SLPS elementary students.



Over 300 clients received individual case management.
Over 1,000 referrals made to community resources

Community Engagement



8,100 face to face at home engagements through canvassing neighborhoods throughout St. Louis City

Covid-19 Response



Over 6,400 vaccinations and booster shots administered



Over 65,000 masks distributed to the community.

Clean Sweep



Over 7 Miles of streets and alleyways cleared.

12 Dilapidated Buildings Removed
50 Vacant Lots Cleared



Over 1,000 volunteers helped clean and beautify St. Louis City neighborhoods.

Cure Violence



66% decrease in the number of murders in Walnut Park from baseline in 2019-20 compared to current rates in 2021-22.

50% decrease in the number of robberies in Walnut Park in 2022 compared to 2021.

Federation of Block Units



77 Leadership Training Events Hosted
202 Active Block Units in 69 Neighborhoods and 7 Municipalities across St. Louis City and County.



Over 450 transactions and over \$25,000 in loans dispersed at the St. Louis Community Credit Union, located on campus.

Patch Neighborhood Center



226 Clients ages 60+ served through the Patch Senior Services program.



Over 600 families received food from our Patch Neighborhood Center food pantry. Over 4,800 total visits.

Over 189,000 lbs. of food donated from St. Louis Area Foodbank and Aldi. More than \$576,500 worth of groceries dispersed to the community.

Public Safety & Civic Engagement Division Summary

Gun Violence De-Escalation Network



Over 60 successful de-escalations involving 125 individuals throughout the community to help stop gun violence.

Urban Opioid Triage



1,885 clients served by Urban Opioid Triage followed by services for rehab, food, clothing, health screenings, transportation and more.

Neighborhood Healing



Over 240 clients assisted with mental health therapy.



7 screening events held by our Mobile Health Van.
447 health screenings completed free of charge.



Over 2,500 volunteers spent 12,590 hours volunteering their time across our community outreach centers and events.

St. Clair County Outreach



300 families received a total of \$41,040 in utility assistance through ARPA, Warm Neighbors, Heat Up STL and Toyota COVID Relief.



34 clients successfully placed in jobs through St. Clair County Employment Services. \$1.1 Million in annual wages generated from client's job



426 clients attended First Time Home Buyer Workshops. 17 Families purchased homes. \$2.2 Million worth of real estate purchased.



585 Norman Cash payments totaling over \$386,795.81 on behalf of DCFS (Department of Child and Family Services) families to help secure housing and stabilize families.

Peter Bunce Campus



390 hours of pro bono legal services provided by Husch-Blackwell Law Firm.
33 cases handled by Husch-Blackwell attorneys.
\$117,000 worth of legal service provided for free!



130 Families from the Peter Bunce Campus received gifts and checks during the holiday season through United Way's 100 Neediest program.
\$38,528 total in checks went to help these families during the holidays.

Weatherization



Over \$1.425 Million spent using 4 different funding sources; Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Spire, and two Ameren grants; **Serving Over 175 homes** with upgraded energy efficient furnaces, water tanks, doors, windows, and other energy saving measures.

Community Outreach Centers

St. Louis City Outreach



7,078 total client visits to the Panera Food Pantry located at our St. Louis City Outreach Center.



1,421 families received food at our St. Louis City Thanksgiving Food Drive.



91 families received utility assistance through Keeping Current totaling \$53,528.



183 Families from the St. Louis City Outreach Center received gifts/checks during the holiday season through United Way's 100 Neediest program. \$60,198 total in checks went to help these families during the holidays.

St. Louis County Outreach



Over 900 families received food from our St. Louis County food pantry.



704 families received utility assistance through Keeping Current, Dollar More and Heat Up STL.



98 Families from the St. Louis County Outreach Center received gifts/checks during the holiday season through United Way's 100 Neediest program. \$30,818 total in checks went to help these families during the holidays.

Career and Technology Center



548 clients visited our Career and Technology Center
39 clients completed the Career and Technology Training Course.



35 clients completed our virtual/online HiSet training course, preparing for the High School Equivalency Diploma testing.



DIVERSITY *matters*

*"If we cannot end now our differences,
at least we can make the world safe for diversity."*

President John F. Kennedy

Proud to Partner with the



To Build An Empowering Community For All!

Diversity Matters is a new digital journal dedicated to showcasing local DEI initiatives and the people and organizations making the world safe for diversity.

*Let's work together to make the world safe for diversity.
Email publisher@stldiversity.com for showcase opportunities.*



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Associated Bank

Your money works here.

We believe when you invest in the place where you work and live, everyone wins. That's why we're proud to support the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, as it makes our community the best it can be. We hope you'll do the same.

Reach out to your local team.

Loretta Holmes • Bank Manager
Loretta.Holmes@AssociatedBank.com
East St. Louis • 326 Missouri Ave.





COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

 **URBAN LEAGUE**
of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc.
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES. CHANGING LIVES.

Community Empowerment

Peter Bunce Campus North Corridor Collaborative

The Urban League Peter Bunce Campus supports a network of partners serving North St. Louis City called the North Corridor Collaborative (NCC). The NCC network comprises residents, nonprofits, city stakeholders, and employees living and working in North City. We offer virtual community meetings to gather partners and increase awareness about resources, events, collaboratives, and developments impacting North City residents. In 2022, we hosted six North Corridor Collaborative meetings featuring 15 different organizations, businesses, and community leaders totaling 72 hours of community meetings highlighting the resources accessible to North City.

Significant Highlights:

In 2022, North Corridor Collaborative provided a community engagement platform for the following organizations and programs: Green City Coalition, Great Rivers Green Way, The Urban League Women's Business Center, Sophia's Crown, Project Mosquito, Compassionate STL, Lutheran Senior Services, St. Louis Area Violence Prevention Commission, Project Connect Initiative, Youth and Family Center, Federation of Bock Units, Affinia Health Care, Wesley House, Urban League Save Our Sisters, and the Urban League's Public Safety Division.



Testimonials:

Trish Boyle - Sophia's Crown

"This email is to simply say THANK YOU for having us at the Urban League North Corridor Collaborative event last week. It was a great experience sharing insightful information regarding the flower shop with the community. We look forward to more opportunities for us to collaborate in the future."

Testimonials:

Jeanine Learns – Project Mosquito

"Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to share about the Mosquito Alert STL project today at the Urban League's North Corridor Collaborative meeting. We appreciate your forwarding the message below with links to the app and our questionnaire to participants (and invitees) on the call.

We are grateful for the opportunity to talk to you about the Mosquito Alert App and how to protect yourself from mosquito pests." mation from him as well. Thanks for all your advice!"

Testimonials:

Kate Jones - SLU Student Government

"Thank you again very much for this information and for providing us with the resource of the north corridor meeting. We met with Dr. Lin from Affinia Healthcare yesterday and received some good information from him as well. Thanks for all your advice!"

Peter Bunce Campus Asset Program

The Urban League Peter Bunce Campus promotes financial literacy through the United Way's Asset Program offered in Spring and Fall. The Asset Program includes a 5-week money management course teaching how to leverage and improve your credit score and how to best budget to meet your savings goals, among other lessons. In addition to the course, participants enroll in a free one on one credit counseling session and receive a 3:1 money match service upon completion of the program. Once participants save \$100, the program matches that completed savings goal with \$300 which can go towards bills, education, childcare and more. Participants of the Asset Program met for the Spring and Fall offering. To maintain enrollment numbers, we offered various incentives throughout the program, including gift cards allotted for raffle drawings and meals for every participant in each class. The Spring cohort matriculated a total of 10 students and the Fall cohort matriculated an increase to 15.

Both the fall and spring Asset Program maintained full enrollment throughout the entirety of the course totaling 25 students eligible to receive \$7,500 in money matched funds. The coordination and implementation of the financial education classes went well. The financial instructor did an excellent job engaging the participants. The Asset Program helped families gain the necessary skills to improve their money management habits. After completing the classes, families feel more motivated to put their new skills into practice.



Peter Bunce Campus Husch-Blackwell Legal Assistance

In 2022 the Husch Blackwell law firm partnered with the Bunce Campus to address legal matters for residents. Husch Blackwell provided 390 hours of pro bono legal services for the community. Eligible clients received pro-bono legal counsel. Qualifying issues may include landlord disputes, creating a will/trust, power of attorney/medical directive, navigating startup/nonprofit incorporation, Medicare/Medicaid denial appeal, uncontested guardianship, amongst others.



Testimonials:

Tracey R.

During the 2022 session of the ASSET Program, Tracey R. shared an exciting revelation - it was the very first time she had ever checked her credit report. Prior to participating in the program, Tracey was unaware of the credit report checking process and the positive impact it can have on her financial future. With newfound knowledge and skills gained from the program, Tracey expressed enthusiasm for taking control of her credit score and being able to independently check her report whenever needed. It is truly empowering to witness the positive impact that financial education can have on individuals like Tracey, as they gain the tools and confidence to improve their financial well-being.

Lisa A.

Lisa A. conveyed her heartfelt appreciation for the Asset Program, expressing how much she anticipates attending the program every week with her peers. She also noted how the food accommodations provided during class nights helped her in feeding her family, making her experience with the program even more meaningful.

Testimonials:

Jerelyn B.

I am a recipient of the law firm services at Husch-Blackwell. They truly helped me in a most difficult time. Their professionalism, courtesy, patience, and understanding were great. I could not have asked for a better group of people. Especially the young lady that helped me."

Peter Bunce Campus Food Pantry

The Peter Bunce Campus opened a food pantry in April of 2022 offering both perishable and nonperishable items for the public. The pantry is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am – 12:00pm. The pantry serves families who are food insecure and need assistance providing food for their families.

The flyer for the pantry has been shared on social media platforms such as @VOTP_News on Instagram which has 87.2k followers in the St. Louis Area. The pantry served over 400 people after opening in April in 2022.



Testimonials:

Shawn H:

I am writing to express my profound gratitude and appreciation for the outstanding relationship that has been developed between my family and the Water Tower Campus food box distribution station. Over the last year, the station has provided my family with multiple meals each month, helping us to stay afloat during these difficult times of the pandemic and economic recession.

The quality of service provided by Ms. Jerry and the other staff members has been exceptional. They have always kept us informed about the arrival of new food boxes and have generously provided us with a wide range of food items including meats, canned goods, boxed cereals, and fruits whenever available. This has been a huge blessing for us and has enabled us to cook breakfast, lunch, and dinner without missing any days.

What we appreciate even more about the Water Tower Campus location is the welcoming and friendly atmosphere created by all the employees. They have gone out of their way to ensure that we are aligned with receiving food boxes regularly, and for this, we are truly grateful.

We have come to value the services provided by the Water Tower Campus location and continue to visit them regularly. I would like to take this opportunity to convey our heartfelt thanks to Ms. Jerry and the entire team for their selfless efforts in serving our community. Please convey our gratitude to all the staff members who have been instrumental in making this program a great success.

Once again, I would like to say a big “thank you” to the Water Tower Campus location for everything that they have done for my family and the community. We hope that they will continue to provide their invaluable services to those in need. Blessings and thank you!



Peter Bunce Campus Back to School Drive with Affinia Healthcare

The Peter Bunce Campus distributed over 100 backpacks filled with school supplies to families during the back-to-school fair hosted at the Affinia Health Care parking lot. The team also shared promotional materials highlighting the resources available on campus and throughout the agency.



**Thompson Coburn is
proud to sponsor the
Urban League of
Metropolitan St. Louis
105th Annual Dinner
and congratulate
this year's honorees**



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RISE TOGETHER.

**CLAYCO
RISING**

Encompassing 25 years of evolving diversity and inclusion programming, **CLAYCO RISING** compiles initiatives together to enhance commitment to drive lasting, equitable change and challenge industry standards. We will rise above to bring positive change within our industry by building a diverse, respectful and safe workplace for all. **BY WORKING TOGETHER, THERE'S NO LIMIT TO HOW HIGH YOU CAN RISE WITH CLAYCO.**

claycorising.com



Peter Bunce Campus Washington University Planting Day

The Urban League Peter Bunce Campus in collaboration with Washington University hosted two planting days with the goal of beautifying the campus and creating a green space for the community. Volunteers helped with the weeding and replanting process on a flower bed adjacent to the parking lot. All volunteers were provided lunch on both occasions. In total, we hosted over 40 volunteers during the two planting days.



Peter Bunce Campus Campus Outreach Day September 2022

The Peter Bunce Campus partnership with Affinia Healthcare, hosted a Campus Outreach Day in September 2022 to increase awareness of the resources available at the Peter Bunce Campus. This event featured the Saint Louis Community Credit Union, Housing Assistance, Head Start, Community School Partners and more!



Peter Bunce Campus Network and Chill

In December of 2022, the Peter Bunce Campus hosted an event entitled "Network and Chill". This was a play on words to hopefully make networking for resources fun again. During the event, we invited different organizations to set up tables around the room for community members to meet different influential people and learn about the resources near the neighborhood. We also provided food for the event and collected participants' names and phone numbers to create a list of active community members. Fifteen families participated with a total of 35 people in attendance.

Peter Bunce Campus 100 Neediest Cases

The 100 Neediest Program supports families and individuals within the 125% federal poverty guideline. Those who qualify have an opportunity to advocate for their needs caused by financial and personal hardship. Often, recipients have lost family members, gained guardianship over additional children, battle mental and physical health concerns, are victims of abuse, have suffered a tremendous loss in wages or are unemployed. The 100 Neediest program provides direct support via financial aid and an assortment of donations including furniture, clothing, toys, and more.

In December, the Urban League Peter Bunce Campus allocated over \$38,000 in checks plus additional Christmas gifts and donations to 140 families. Donations included king size beds with bedding, twin mattresses, couches, chairs, tables, washer and dryer machines, gift cards and much more. Bunce staff personally delivered gifts to those unable to find transportation to pick up their gifts.



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Expanding Minds. Changing Lives.

St. Louis Community
College is dedicated to
expanding the minds
and changing the lives
of our students.

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As a premier PGA TOUR Champions event, the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson strives for new heights in charitable giving.

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Join in the excitement and help support our community. Pro-Am foursomes, hospitality packages and tickets are available at

AscensionCharityClassic.com.

SEPTEMBER 5-10, 2023 NORWOOD HILLS COUNTRY CLUB



St. Clair County Outreach Center goes beyond city limits

Our name might be the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, but our services extend well beyond the limits of St. Louis City or even St. Louis County. These highlights of our 2022 activities in St. Clair County, Illinois, demonstrate that we have a positive effect on communities that is greater than many people realize. And we're determined to do more for neighbors in more communities whenever possible.

St. Clair County Outreach Center Housing Empowerment

We offer Housing Advocacy and Youth Housing Advocacy in St. Clair County, Illinois, to help families referred to the Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS) find placements in decent, safe, and affordable housing.

This service includes financial assistance and educational training in home upkeep, tenant/landlord rights and responsibilities, and financial management.



Significant highlights

- In 2022, we processed 585 Norman Cash payments of more than \$380,000 on behalf of DCFS families to help them secure housing and stabilize families.
- We stabilized 39 Housing Advocacy clients to ensure safe housing environments for their families.

Testimonials:

Sanchez Family

The Sanchez family was referred to the Urban League's Housing Advocacy Services March of 2022 as a result of living in a home that was very unsafe. They had recently moved to the United States as refugees. The home they were living in had holes in the floor and water damage that caused the walls to split apart.

Their lease prevented the family from making repairs on their own and the landlord refused to make the repairs. The family had paid rent each month as well, so they were good tenants who deserved much better.

Spanish was the family's only language, and luckily the Housing Advocate was able to connect with an interpreter to eliminate the language barrier and get all the necessary information to help them. We worked with the family to provide wraparound services: food boxes, cleaning supplies, setting up a household budget, and more. Through Fair Housing services, the Housing Advocate also worked with the family to put in a complaint against the landlord.

July 2022, we helped the Sanchez family secure stable housing and used Norman Funds to help cover their moving expenses. This family is now in a safe and healthy environment, are happy, and are doing well.

St. Clair County Outreach Center Rental/Mortgage Assistance

As a result of receiving Emergency Food & Shelter Funds totaling \$14,066, we were able help 14 families secure housing and prevent homelessness.

St. Clair County Outreach Center First-Time Home Buyers Education

First-Time Home Buyers is a workshop offered by the Urban League to provide an intensive eight-hour course that covers all aspects of homeownership. Topics include Preparing for Homeownership, Money Management, Understanding Credit, Shopping for a Mortgage, Shopping for a Home, Closing on the Purchase of a Home, and Securing/Protecting Your Investment.

Significant Highlights

The past year saw the Urban League conducting First-Time Home Buyer Workshops that led to the purchase of 17 homes in the St. Clair County and Madison County regions. The average home price was \$136,000, with highest purchase price \$195,000 and the lowest \$66,000).

The economic impact of these new home purchases equates to \$2.2 million.

Testimonials:

Nicole Doumbe

Ms. Doumbe successfully purchased a new home with the assistance of American Pacific Mortgage and her banker, Matt Erickson. She attended a 3-day intensive First Time Home Buyers Workshop in February 2022, where she actively participated and absorbed all the information provided. Her preparedness impressed the mortgage company, and with down payment assistance of \$10,000 and constant communication, the process went smoothly. Ms. Doumbe expressed deep gratitude for the workshop, calling it a great service, and credited her success to the help of God.

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St. Clair County Outreach Center Food Pantry & Distribution

Thanks to our continued partnership with Walmart in O'Fallon, Illinois, and the Emergency Food & Shelter allocation of \$10,000, the Urban League's St. Clair County Division provided food to 4,786 families in 2022. Clients received enough food to feed their families for at least a week. We hosted 134 small-scale distributions of food boxes, PPE kits, and cleaning supplies; two of the distributions catered specifically to veterans in partnership with the Kaufman Fund and BJC. In July 2022, the region experienced historic flooding. Many residents lost their homes, belongings, and so much more. The Urban League sprinted into the action to help provide relief. As a result, the St. Clair County Operations was able to help distribute 100 kits for cleaning that included bleach, peroxide, alcohol, mop, mop bucket, broom, spray bottle, sponges, air freshener, disinfectant spray, and more, along with food boxes. As a result, many families were able to save belongings and even entire homes.

SCC distributed 210 turkeys and side items for the agency's Annual Turkey Distribution for St. Clair County residents. We also established a Community Garden that provides fresh produce — tomatoes, peppers, collard greens, mustard greens, turnip greens, okra, cucumbers, onion, kale, lettuce, watermelons, and cantaloupe — to more than 100 seniors and residents of East St. Louis.



St. Clair County Outreach Center Centreville Water Crisis

With any type of rainfall, Centreville residents are subjected to flash flood waters that cause the foundations of their homes to deteriorate. When Centreville experienced a water crisis in 2022 as a result of outdated and inadequate water and sewer lines, it also affected health by exposing residents to unsafe water for drinking and cooking. SCC stepped in to host meetings to help residents solve related problems. In collaboration with Equity Legal Services and other community partners, the Urban League helped with purchasing and distributing 2,365 cases of bottled water (7,092 gallons) to make sure residents had safe water. We had also received a water box from the 501CThree Foundation and started using it for the community in October 2021 and with that resource in place, we were able to distribute an additional 827 gallons of water in 2022.

We also established a Community Garden that provides fresh produce — tomatoes, peppers, collard greens, mustard greens, turnip greens, okra, cucumbers, onion, kale, lettuce, watermelons, and cantaloupe — to more than 100 seniors and residents of East St. Louis.

Testimonials:

Delores Safford-Crigler

Delores has been a resident of Centreville, Illinois, for 36 years. Before the area's water and sewer disparity happened, she was spending more than \$60 dollars a month to buy bottled water for safe drinking and cooking. To some, that may not seem like a lot of money, but for a family living on a limited income, it's a lot.

Because community water was unsafe, Delores and her family, which includes her son and two grandchildren, were traveling to Edwardsville daily to shower at the home of another family member. Even though she owns a washer and dryer, Delores also goes to a laundromat to wash her clothes. These two activities affect time and finances in her household.

Delores expressed gratitude for the Urban League's help in providing cases of bottled water and food each month.

St. Clair County Outreach Center Business Training Center

In 2022, St. Clair County accomplished a significant milestone with the opening of a brand new Business Training Center. This center serves as a hub for both virtual and in-person classes that are centered around bridging the digital divide, thus bringing essential computer and internet skills training to our local community. Our “Bridging the Digital Divide Program” is specifically designed to provide low-income residents of St. Clair County with access to computers and other technology, basic computer skills, and training in office suite applications. Additionally, the program helps participants move into workforce training programs, allowing them to further develop their skills and enhance their employability.

One of the key aspects of our program is our commitment to increasing entrepreneurship support for our clients who are interested in launching their own businesses. Through our entrepreneurship track, we had 32 successful completions, demonstrating the effectiveness of our approach.

We’re proud to have co-hosted a Virtual Small Business Training in partnership with SIU-Edwardsville and the Metro East Business Incubator. This event provided 25 aspiring entrepreneurs with an opportunity to learn valuable skills, including social media marketing and creating their business website.

As part of our mission to close the digital divide, we partnered with PCS for People to distribute 912 desktop computers to St. Clair County residents. This initiative took place on September 17, 2022, and it was a resounding success. Through this partnership, our residents gained access to resources for searching for employment, doing schoolwork, working from home, and communicating with others.

In total, we had 18 completions in the Computer Basics track, while 30 individuals completed our Microsoft Office Suite Training & Google Suites course. Our commitment to bridging the digital divide in St. Clair County has been unwavering, and we’re thrilled to see the results of our efforts come to fruition.



St. Clair County Outreach Center Financial Empowerment

We hosted a weeklong Virtual Financial Empowerment Conference in 2022 that attracted 132 people who took advantage of virtual classes about topics such as Credit Conversations, Homeownership, Generating Multiple Streams of Income, Understanding Rights for Renters and Homeowners, Money Management, Powers of Attorney, and Creating Wills. The conference ended with the virtual screening of the documentary “Black Friday — What Legacy Will You Leave?” Participants left with strong new skills in areas that will make their lives more secure and with tools to move toward greater levels of homeownership and financial literacy.

St. Clair County Outreach Center Workforce Development

Throughout the year 2022, our organization made significant strides in empowering individuals and strengthening the workforce in St. Clair County. We accomplished this through the provision of direct job readiness training and career coaching to no fewer than 140 individuals, resulting in a substantial impact on the economic landscape of the area. In fact, our efforts resulted in 34 individuals securing gainful full-time employment, earning an impressive average hourly rate of \$16.30. This achievement not only provided these individuals with financial stability but also contributed significantly to the local economy by \$1.1 million generated by these new jobs.

But our efforts did not stop there. We recognized the importance of investing in the next generation and helping young people develop the skills necessary to succeed in the workforce. Through our partnership with the Urban League, we provided four East St. Louis Senior High School students with a valuable paid internship opportunity with PCS for People.

During the internship, these students received intensive training and hands-on experience in various work-related services, including electronic device disassembly and sorting, hardware tool usage, critical thinking, computer imaging, stress-testing computers, quality control, order fulfillment, customer service, and collaborative task management. This comprehensive experience not only equipped them with essential skills but also helped them gain or develop crucial attributes, such as professionalism, work ethic, and teamwork.

We are proud to have played a role in the personal and professional development of these young people and to have contributed to building a stronger and more robust workforce in St. Clair County. Our commitment to empowering individuals and communities through employment and workforce development remains steadfast, and we look forward to continuing to make a meaningful impact in the years to come.

Testimonials:

Vernita Robinson

When Ms. Robinson came to the Urban League, it was the first time she received any employment assistance services through an Urban League agency. Ms. Robinson received thorough case management from our Employment Specialist, who worked with her on updating her résumé, assessing numerous job referrals, receiving job readiness counsel, learning interviewing techniques, and staying motivated throughout her job search journey. The Employment Specialist also helped make sure Ms. Robinson had access to other supportive services, such as utility assistance.

Today, Ms. Robinson has a small startup business as an interior designer and is looking forward to using our entrepreneur program when she gets the chance. She had no idea the Urban League offered this type of program. She has expressed her greatest gratitude to the Urban League and appreciates the services granted to her with no out-of-pocket cost.

Warm Neighbours

\$10,089

42 Individuals & Families

Heat Up St. Louis

\$12,500

99 Individuals & Families

Toyota COVID relief

\$4,850

47 Individuals & Families

Utility Assistance

\$6,401

39 Individuals & Families

EFSP Phase 39 & ARPA

\$7,300

73 Individuals & Families

St. Clair County Outreach Center Utility Assistance

Despite the daunting challenge of limited resources, we were able to make a meaningful impact in the lives of over 300 families in the St. Clair County area by providing them with much-needed utility assistance. Our efforts helped prevent utility disconnections and/or restore essential utility services, providing a lifeline to those struggling to make ends meet.

While we are proud of what we accomplished, we remain committed to doing even more in the future. The need for our services continues to grow, and we recognize that there is always more that we can do to support our community. Through ongoing fundraising efforts and strategic partnerships, we are determined to expand our reach and provide assistance to as many families as possible, helping to ensure that everyone has access to the basic necessities they need to thrive. [Donate today at www.ulstl.com](http://www.ulstl.com).

St. Clair County Outreach Center 100 Neediest Cases

As a result of the 100 Neediest Cases Program, 54 Urban League clients from St. Clair County received financial support of more than \$17,143.44 from the United Way and eight families were adopted and received additional gifts and financial support.



St. Louis County Outreach Center

The Urban League St. Louis County Division remained resilient despite many COVID-19-related challenges. One of the biggest changes was utilization of the building space. The county location has become the designated food relief staging hub where all pre-event preparation for our large-scale food distributions take place. Although relief operations were a priority, the center staff continued to address community needs through a variety of programming.

Clothing Closet/ Pop Up Shop: The St. Louis County Outreach Center served 1,256 families with free clothing. The new and gently-used clothing is donated by the community and provided to neighbors in need at no cost.

Utilities: The St. Louis County Outreach Center provided utility assistance for families through partnerships with Spire and Ameren. Clients also receive assistance through Heat Up St. Louis, Ameren and United Way. The agency partnerships enabled the St. Louis County center to serve a total of 706 families allocating \$663,554.37 in pledges. We served 179 families allocating a total of \$29,244 in United Way Dollar More funds to help keep services on or restore services. The Keeping Current program, an Ameren Missouri initiative, supported 425 families pledging \$606,707.79 to get services back in good standing. We also had the support of Heat Up St. Louis and with their help we were able to help 76 families with their Ameren bill pledging \$21,322 and 26 families with their Spire bill pledging a total of \$6,280.58.

Food Drives: Combatting food insecurity was a major focus for the St. Louis County Outreach Center in 2022. We served 6,869 families (19,590 individuals) with our USDA food boxes. The center also conducted small-scale drive-up food distributions weekly feeding an additional 250– 400 families per week. The goal was to provide an onsite food distribution every Thursday, weather permitting. In addition to the onsite distributions, the agency partnered with BJC in a unique program to distribute 250 food boxes per month for patients in need of food after being released from the hospital.



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St. Louis County Outreach Center Volunteer Coordination

Volunteers are critical in supporting agency operations. Our volunteers assist with events, food drives and packing boxes for food distributions. In 2022, we increased our volunteer capacity with a grant from NIKE focused on deepening collective service. In 2022, 2,500 volunteers provided 12,580 hours of support for the following:

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Day of Service: 344 volunteers / 1,720 hours
- General Community Service: 36 volunteers / 720 hours
- Operation 10 City Relief Tour: 560 volunteers / 1395 hours
- Thanksgiving Food Distribution 134 volunteers/ 670 hours
- Save Our Sisters Outreach: 9 volunteers/45 hours
- Women's History Month Event: 190 volunteers/ 950 hours
- Food Box Prep 568 volunteers/ 3408 hours
- Community Halloween Trunk or Treat: 12 volunteers/ 72 hours
- Weekly Food Distributions: 720 volunteers/3600 hours



St. Louis County Outreach Center Coding Camp

A total of 62 students participated in the 2022 coding camp offered by the St. Louis County center. Participants in the one-week camp learned over 1500 lines of code, explored website development and by the end of the week learned to create their own video game. The camp was offered at no charge to participants and each child received lunch and snack.

St. Louis County Outreach Center 100 Neediest Cases

238 families registered for the 100 Neediest Cases program of which we were able to serve 108 families. Families were provided with food, toys, clothes, household items, and utility assistance.

St. Louis County Outreach Center Treasure Your Chest

The St. Louis County center supported a new breast cancer partnership with Schnuck Markets targeting women of color. Women received \$50 gift cards for scheduling and completing their mammograms. Gift cards were provided to 360 individuals.

St. Louis County Outreach Center Halloween Outreach Event

The St. Louis County staff partnered with The Urban League Young Professionals to provide a safe Halloween event for over 250 families. Participants were provided with hot dogs, candy, Urban League resource information and, of course, lots of fun games.



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Patch Senior Program

The main goal of Urban League Patch Senior Program is to help older, low-income residents and neighbors with food, clothing, socialization, and more.

Patch has a thrift store where clients can receive clothing, shoes, and gently used household items at no cost that come from St. Vincent DePaul and friends of the Senior Center. We also receive donations of produce, bakery items, cleaning products, household items, etc., from Caritas Connections, Affton Christian Food Ministry, and Panera Bread Company.

Seniors attend programs daily to socialize, have congregate meals, and enjoy physical and recreational activities. We also have educational classes, a Metro Reduced Fare Bus Program for city residents, a Free Legal Intake Clinic, and utility and rental assistance. The Food Pantry is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, with food pick-up daily from Aldi (Lemay & Lindbergh locations). We also have a Secret shopper who assists with our pantry needs.

Significant Highlights:

- In 2022, Patch held a Food Mart, which is sponsored seven months of the year. The year-end gross weight of donated food was 104,904 pounds from the St. Louis Area Food Bank, helping us serve more than 700 families.
- The St. Louis Area Food Bank brings 32 Commodity Boxes (Senior Boxes) to the Patch monthly, donating 10,719 pounds gross for the year 2022.
- We coordinated pickups from Operation Food Search at least three to four times each month to supplement our food distribution.
- In 2022, we served 497 community members and 226 seniors (ages 60 years and over) in the Food Pantry. Patch provided 998 Congregate Meals, frozen and center-funded, to the Senior Program.

PANERA PANTRY

The Panera Pantry has continued to grow serving 13,128 families representing nearly 40,000 individuals in 2022. The pantry operates four days per week and welcomes anyone in need of food assistance. A photo ID showing the recipient is at least 18 years old is required. Pantry staff also provide referrals to other Urban League programs including employment services, utility assistance, Head Start, and rental assistance. The Panera Pantry also supports other Urban League initiatives including the Schnucks Pink Ribbon campaign that encouraged women of color to get mammograms and in return they could receive Schnucks gift cards and a pantry box. Several area churches received food support and clients supported through 100 Neediest Cases.



Housing Division

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis helps individuals and families obtain safe and affordable housing through a variety of programs including financial education, housing assistance, and related internal and external resources. The Housing Division served more than 1,400 clients in 2022. Service areas included St. Louis County, St. Louis City, St. Charles, Jefferson and Franklin Counties, Metro East, Illinois.

The Housing Division is part of The St. Louis Metro Housing Task Force whose mission is to develop meaningful approaches to maintain, revitalize, and stabilize local housing through implementing appropriate strategies and raising awareness to the community at large.

The Urban League's housing program has been a Housing and Urban Development (HUD)-Approved Housing Counseling Agency since 1968. The Division currently has four HUD-certified counselors, a regional financial empowerment director, intake specialists, housing specialists, housing advocates, and a senior case manager—all dedicated to making affordable housing possible.

In 2022, the Housing Division's programs included the Affordable Housing Trust Fund which provides rent, mortgage, and utility assistance; ARPA Mortgage Assistance; Citi Affordable Access Banking; Edward Jones Family Financial Empowerment Workshops; the Emergency Food and Shelter Program for rental, mortgage, and utility assistance; Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program with the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County through LiveStories, where we processed over 800 emergency rental applications. The ERA Program supported those disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Additional programming included Framework online homebuyer classes, Freddie Mac/Easter Seals of Midwest Financial Education Staff training, Freddie Mac Multi-Family Rental Counseling, Homeless Prevention Services (Rapid Rehousing), Pathways2Homeownership virtual education series, the Regions Down Payment Assistance program, SAFHR Mortgage Assistance, and Wells Fargo Down Payment Assistance.



Outreach and Community Engagement was a priority and staff worked with many community partners, such as American Family Insurance, Associated Bank, Bank of America, Carrollton Bank, CJ3 Realty, CIBC, Commerce Bank, Country Financial, Enterprise Bank & Trust, Edward Jones, Evergreen Resimercial Realty LLC, FCB Bank, Freedom Mortgage, Guild Mortgage, Haywood Hoosman Realty/ H & H Brokerage Group, HUD, Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing Opportunity Council (EHOC), Montgomery Bank, Regions Bank, Scott Credit Union, Simmons Bank, Sterling Bank, St. Louis Metro Realtors, St. Louis Regional Financial Empowerment Coalition, Thrivent, UMB Bank, US Bank, and many others.

Through these valued partners, we hosted outreach events such as our very popular successful Pathways 2 Homeownership Fair Housing, Bayless Community Information Fair, Enterprise Bank & Trust's Housing Resource Fair at Dellwood Recreation Center, the Ferguson Neighborhood Summit, Financial Education Week, monthly Financial Reflection and Empowerment Expos at the Wohl Recreation Center, Freddie Mac/Easter Seals Financial Classes, Guild Mortgage's Homebuying Solutions, Hazelwood School District Fall Family Festival, Men's Financial Empowerment Forum at the William J. Harrison Center, St. Louis REALTORS® Re-Imaging St. Louis Expo at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park, Urban Expo Housing Experience Homeownership Pavilion, U. S. Bank's Access Home Symposium.

The Housing Division also provided the following services:

- Family Financial Empowerment Workshops
- Homebuyer Education Classes
- Mortgage Assistance and Counseling
- Pre-/Post-Purchase, Counseling, and Down Payment Assistance
- Rental Assistance and Counseling
- Virtual Financial and Homebuyer Workshops

The Housing Division advocated for fair housing practices and participated in the St. Louis REALTORS® Apology to the Community event at Harris Stowe State University. The St. Louis REALTORS® presented their Reimagining St. Louis Plan initiatives to assist their professional association in reckoning with its past so they can build a more equitable future.

The Urban League was invited to help develop the St. Louis Homeownership Pilot Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC). Its mission is to increase the number of minority homeowners over five years, with a target goal of 400 in the Greater St. Louis area in year one. A homeownership kickoff event is planned for Harris Stowe State University in April 2023.

CIBC presented the Housing Division with its 2022 Affordable Housing Award.

Testimonials:

Aviah's - Rapid Re-Housing

Since 2020, my two boys and I were homeless with no place to call our own. We had been couch surfing with family and friends, but deep down, I knew that this was not the life I wanted for us. Luckily, a friend told me about a shelter and I called 211. While staying there, I was fortunate enough to be selected for the Rapid Rehousing Program which was a turning point in my life. I realized that I needed guidance to navigate through life.

Ms. LaShawn, my caseworker, has been an incredible mentor to both me and my boys. She encouraged me to finish school and provided the emotional support I needed to persevere. My life has been filled with challenges, including domestic violence, but Ms. LaShawn was always there to offer resources and strength to help me leave that situation. She even helped me create a safety plan for visitation with my newborn.

Thanks to the support I received from the Urban League and Ms. LaShawn, I was able to earn my high school diploma with a 3.725 GPA on August 15, 2022. I wouldn't have been able to achieve this milestone without their tough love and kindness. When I transitioned out of the Rapid Rehousing Program, I was sad to lose a case manager but grateful to have gained a lifelong friend. I plan to stay in touch with Ms. LaShawn and continue to seek her guidance through the Urban League.



Heat Up/Cool Down St. Louis

Urban League, Heat-Up St. Louis & Cool Down St. Louis - A Unique Partnership

Having served as a publisher, editor-in-chief and chairman of the national NAACP's Crisis Magazine, Gentry W. Trotter had an interest in the home energy delivery industry, becoming more equitable in terms of policies and procedures. Such changes also would speak to the affordability of home energy and finding ways outside of typical federal funds to make sure some Urban League clients are not victims of falling through the cracks of the regional safety net.

Trotter wanted to further engage the public in fundraisers beyond a typical add-on money to a grocery or utility bill. He was looking to develop a consortium of economic disciples and social services and community partners to speak to the public health and safety societal issues of being without energy during the blistering and dangerous summers and often the bitter cold winters.

Heat-Up St. Louis, Inc., (d/b/a), also Cool Down St. Louis was born using donated hats from the old Bee Hat Building on Washington Avenue. Trotter felt while raising campaign funds, a charity could raise awareness about the danger of being without utilities. A series of fundraising programs took place with Schnucks, the St. Louis Rams, the St. Louis Blues and the St. Louis Cardinals. The oldest and most effective fundraiser is still the Hardee's Rise and Shine for Heat benefit in Missouri and Illinois. With the ongoing development of the internet, our partner eventually became known as Heatupstlouis.org and Cooldownstlouis.org.

Working with governmental entities, regional leadership, social service and community action agencies, and a broad, all-volunteer board membership ranging from the religious, first responder, and business communities — public education, advocacy; and energy assistance as supplemental and primary resources became a reality. The Urban League of Metropolitan has become one of HUSTL's first and essential partnerships, collaboratively working to change utility companies' policies, and educating the public about how energy efficiency, and available funding programs can alleviate fear and, possibly, danger.

Prior to 2000, utility assistance organizations were not effectively bundling resources, and there were duplications of benefits. Heatupstlouis.org, Cooldownstlouis.org and the Urban League helped to strengthen the flow of public and private dollars, so that if a resident didn't qualify for one funding source, there were others, including those public donations with less barriers, Heat-Up felt.



In addition to developing a consortium of partners to aid in the clarion call of public safety; and to eradicate poverty by bundling other funding pots to help drive utility bills down to zero or to the lowest manageable level, both the Urban League and Heatupstlouis.org have worked toward the financial well-being and stability of area metropolitan residents.

The COVID-19 variants continue to decimate wallets and pocketbooks of the working poor, seniors, and the physically disabled on fixed incomes. The graying of the St. Louis region has also become even a greater challenge because eventually that large population segment earns less, and ends up on limited financial resources. They are often at highest risk for disconnections, due to affordability and now in 2022, inflation. The increased costs of living have financially crippled many people's abilities to maintain a decent lifestyle. Many clients have experienced some mental and physical health issues related to being without an energy source, for a long or strong period of time, according to our partner, Heat-Up St. Louis. Low-income homes being

disconnected and with children going to school have also hampered some of their learning capabilities, because without utilities they often are moving from home to home to get warm or to be able to do their homework in a livable environment Heat-Up/Cool Down has been an excellent feeder for the Urban League's operations, especially for referrals for rental and grocery assistance, job opportunities and training. Heat-Up continues to be a significant and dominant advocacy and social service charity partner. There are hundreds of neighbors in need who do not qualify for UL's LIHEAP funds, but ULSTL can always depend on HUSTL as an effective supplemental and often primary energy assistance source.

Heat-Up/Cool Down now covers nearly 44 Missouri and Illinois counties, including the City of St. Louis. Michael P. McMillan, President/CEO of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc. is on the Heat-Up/Cool Down executive board. McMillan continues to provide counsel to this unique grassroots partnership. While Heat-Up St. Louis/Cool Down St. Louis has its business offices in downtown St. Louis, the organization opened its newly renovated regional outreach office in the new Urban League's regional complex in the former Victor Roberts Building at 1408 North Kingshighway. In addition, the Jennings Urban League office now accepts HUD applications for Heatupstlouis.org on Jennings Station Road. Clients also are now able to use a drop-slot, as well as interface with Heat-Up staff through social distance in their new center.

The Urban League's LIHEAP office has also greatly benefitted. The Urban League, and Ameren donated office furniture and fixtures to the Kingshighway efforts for Heatupstlouis.org.

Our St. Louis County unit benefits greatly from Heat-Up/Cool Down funds through the efforts of HUD block grants. In St. Louis City, The League also works with Heat-Up/Cool Down on other funding pots, i.e. Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Utility Tax Equitable Relief Fund. St. Clair County also benefits with the annual Rise and Shine funding aided by UL volunteers in the Metro East each winter.

Heat Up/Cool Down St. Louis 2022 Hardee's Rise and Shine for Heat

Urban League President and CEO Michael P. McMillan once again served as an honorary chair of 2022 Hardee's Rise and Shine for Heat benefit. The effort took place in February at more than 50 Missouri and Illinois Hardee's restaurants.

Hardee's decided to accept pre-orders of Sausage biscuits and Egg Biscuits at a special price of \$1.00 for 35 days out from the Rise and Shine event day. Urban League volunteers were among those serving as official greeters collecting additional "dough" from the public at the drive-thru and in-store.

The Urban League's County, City and St. Clair County divisions believe that Rise and Shine for Heat is a much needed economic shot in the arm for the entire St. Louis region because it, too, fills a gap.



Heat Up/Cool Down St. Louis Annual Ameren/Spire Heatupstlouis.org Winterizing Utility Forum

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis City and County divisions, joined Ameren Missouri and Spire Energy in 2022 for the Annual Heatupstlouis.org Ameren/Spire Energy Winterizing Utility Forums, encouraged by the Missouri Public Service Commission. Ameren donated \$200,000 to Heat-Up and Spire Energy donated \$200,000 in a single day to help cease disconnections. In 2022 the format was done virtually again on Heatupstlouis.org. This virtual event has hundreds of clients participating online each fall. The St. Louis Fire Department, Ameren and Spire along with others provided energy efficiency, financial literacy, and winter safety tips in an effort to drive down higher bills going into the unforgiving winter heating season.



Heat Up/Cool Down St. Louis 18th annual Cooldownstlouis.org/Ameren Cooling A/C Give-A-Way

Cooldownstlouis.org along with the Urban League City and County divisions were joined by 12 other Missouri agencies who helped distribute 1,000 new energy efficient air conditioners, donated to Cool Down by Ameren Missouri. In addition to the value of more than \$100,000 for the A/C purchase, Ameren Missouri donated to Cooldownstlouis.org \$200,000 for utility assistance support. Keep in mind that utility usage is on the rise if you work at home, or stay at home for a long period of time. Ameren also provided more than 1,000 energy efficient light bulbs which significantly saves money year-around on utility bills. Michael P. McMillan helped kick-off again, the Save our Seniors Cool Down Missouri project created by Cooldownstlouis.org with St. Louis City Mayor Tishaura Jones; Reverend Earl E. Nance, Jr., Chair Emeritus and Cool Down St. Louis corporate treasurer; Fire Chief Dennis Jenkerson, representing the Fire Chiefs Association of Greater St. Louis and Cooldownstlouis.org, public safety chair; the new Ameren Missouri president/CEO, Mark Birk and St. Louis area meteorologists KSDK's News On Your Side Scott Connell; Kent Ehrhardt and Kristen Cornett of KMOV, Channel 4; KPLR-TV's John Fuller and FOX2's Chris Higgins.



The 2022 Fall series of webinars impacted the lives of more than 12,500 individuals and families .

The webinars included health warnings from Dr. Mati Hlatshwayo Davis, City of St Louis Health Director; Fire Chiefs Association of Greater St. Louis represented by St. Louis Fire Chief Dennis Jenkerson. In addition, Ameren and Spire had video presentations about various energy efficient and budget opportunities. CAASTLC provided weatherization tips for those County and City residents trying to keep their utility bills affordable. Following the 12-minute presentation, the Urban League City and County worked with clients, who also had the one-day opportunity to select them. The pledges came in handy because in November LIHEAP funds only assist seniors and those with physical disabilities. The utility forum filled a necessary time-period gap.



The Urban League also distributed Cool Down Cooling Cards during their countless food and PPE distributions throughout the St. Louis region. Ameren Charitable Trust has been generous in the support of Cool Down St. Louis' public education print materials. The partnership we have with both Cool Down, Ameren and their consortium of other partners is immeasurable and saves lives, always improving the quality of life for our region's most vulnerable seniors, the disabled and low-income households with small children. UL and HUSTL does in fact give those who seek our help, a second chance to avoid unsafe methods of heating in the winter, or stroke-related illnesses in the summer due to lack of an A/C.

23 Years of Compassionate Public Service in Illinois and Missouri

1,500,000 LIVES IMPACTED



"I lost my job and needed help paying my utility bill. I went online and, same day, Heat-Up STL kept me connected."

Brian, South County

"My window unit A/C broke. I'm a senior and couldn't afford one. I called Cool Down St. Louis, they came and the Fire Dept. installed one - free."

Rita, North City

"My grandmother can barely afford her food, rent, and meds. Her utility bills were overwhelming. Heat-Up St. Louis put her on an Ameren Budget Billing plan and paid \$275 on her bill."

Sandy, St. Charles

"It was 100 degrees in my mother's house this past summer. She got sick and went to the hospital. When we got back home, Cool Down St. Louis gave her a brand new Ameren unit."

Belinda, Metro East

"We came to your Winterizing Winter Forum and learned about dangerous space heaters. You paid our Ameren and Spire bills. God bless you."

Mary Beth, North County

"Thank you, Heat-Up, for keeping my family from freezing to death. You got us reconnected in three hours and found \$800 to pay our utility bills."

Monica, South City

"We tried everywhere to get help with our energy bill, but everyone was out of funds. Heat-Up/Cool Down was a blessing. They paid our \$420 bill. God love you."

Nancy, Franklin County

"We were without heat for two weeks and couldn't find help. We called Heat-Up, and they were a blessing with \$325 payment. I'm a single dad with three kids and make \$7 per hour. After paying my grocery, meds, and rent bills, I can't pay my electric and propane bills. Thank you Heat-Up."

Eddie, Jefferson County

Our 41-member consortium and diverse, 68-member volunteer board of directors of Heat-Up St. Louis, Inc. (Heatupstlouis.org and Cooldownstlouis.org) are committed to helping neighbors in need in 44 Missouri and Illinois counties, including the City of St. Louis.

For 23 years, we've used compassion and partnerships to help needy families, the disabled and seniors avoid unsafe methods of heating in the winter and avoid becoming fatalities during the deadly summers. In addition to providing energy assistance, our mission of public education and advocacy is a commitment to efficient, affordable and safe energy for our communities.

Need Knows No Geographic Boundaries. You can get help or donate through: Heatupstlouis.org or Cooldownstlouis.org

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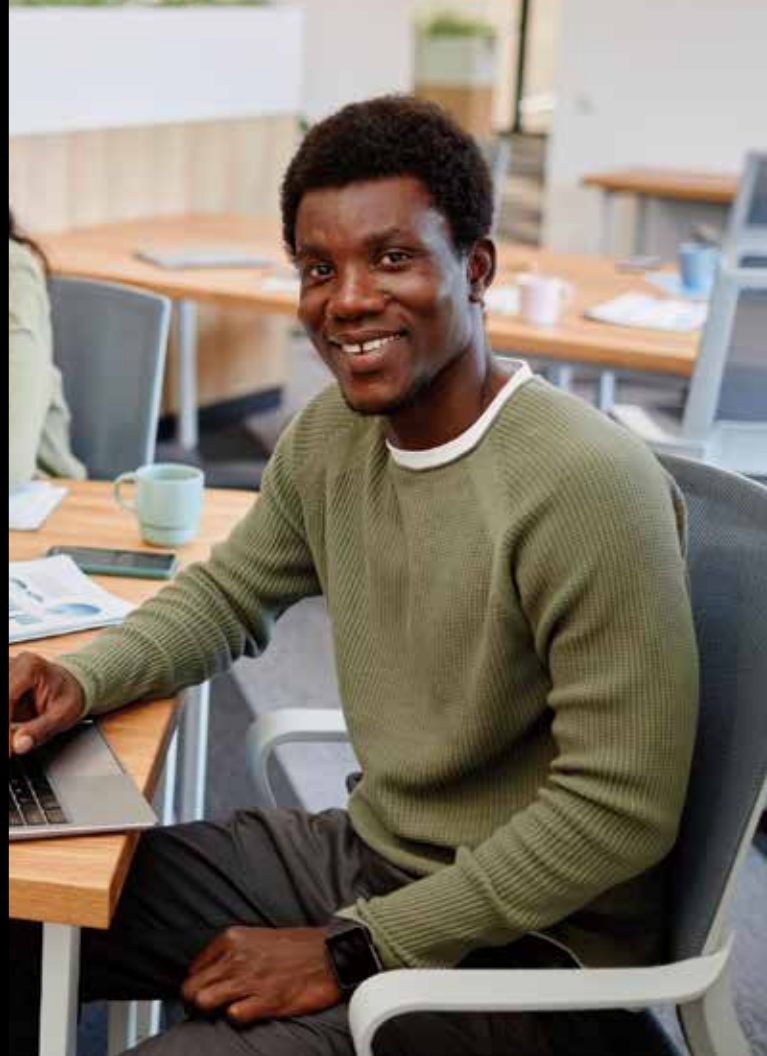
The Urban League is committed to empowering and supporting the seniors in the City of St. Louis, and they do so by reaching out to them directly in their own apartment buildings. This outreach effort is designed to inform the seniors of the many free services that are available to them, as well as to uplift their spirits and improve their quality of life. Representatives from various agencies, are on hand to speak to the seniors about the many programs that are available to them. These programs include free transportation by the City to transport them to doctor's appointments, the grocery store and other errands. This service is especially important for seniors who may have difficulty getting around on their own.

In addition to the transportation service, a representative from the Police Department is also on hand to provide updates and answer questions on crime trends and fraud scams that are often aimed at seniors. This information is critical for seniors to know so that they can protect themselves from these types of scams. The local Alderperson is also present to inform the seniors of new developments and exciting improvements to their neighborhood. This helps to create a sense of community and pride among the seniors, who may feel disconnected from the larger community. Representatives from Metro provides discount cards for the bus and Metrolink system. This is a great way for seniors to save money on transportation costs and to stay connected with the rest of the city.

Center management also helps to select the Male and Female Resident of the Year for a special award. This recognition helps to highlight the achievements of these seniors and to inspire others to reach for their own goals. Residents also get to participate in a special raffle of very generous gifts donated from local restaurants, hotels and grocery stores. This is a wonderful way to make the seniors feel appreciated and valued by the community.

Finally, seniors are treated to a hot meal, which is a great way to end the day on a positive note. Special thanks are extended to all of the sponsors and donors who make this event possible and who help to support the seniors in the City of St. Louis.

In conclusion, the Urban League's outreach effort is an important way to support and empower the seniors in the City of St. Louis. By providing information on free services, educating them on scams and crime trends, recognizing their achievements, and providing them with a hot meal and special gifts, the Urban League is helping to improve the lives of these important members of the community.



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Homebound Deliveries

One of our main focuses is to address food insecurity, a prevalent issue faced by many residents of St. Louis City and St. Louis County.

Food insecurity is a serious problem, and it refers to the inability of individuals to access enough nutritious food for themselves and their families. According to Feeding America, the largest hunger-relief organization in the United States, food insecurity affects millions of households in the country, and it can lead to adverse health outcomes such as malnutrition, obesity, and chronic diseases.

To combat food insecurity in St. Louis, The Urban League organizes large-scale food distributions throughout the city and county. However, we recognize that not everyone is able to attend these events due to various reasons. For this reason, we offer a limited home delivery service for those who cannot participate in the food distributions. The Urban League has a network of neighborhood churches that help them deliver food to those who need it the most. This service provided by The Urban League is essential as it helps to address the pressing issue of food insecurity in the region. It is common for individuals and families who are food insecure to have to make difficult choices, such as deciding between purchasing nutritious food or paying for housing and medical bills. The stress caused by these decisions can have serious consequences for individuals' health and well-being, particularly for those who are already struggling.

The Urban League's home delivery service is an important initiative that helps to combat food insecurity in St. Louis City and St. Louis County. By providing nutritious food to those who need it the most, The Urban League is contributing to improving the health and well-being of the community. **For information about Homebound Deliveries or any of our programs, please call 314-615-3600.**

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Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The opening of the Urban League's Community Outreach Center in its new headquarters in September of 2021 set the pace for January through December 31, 2022, with 48,964 clients visiting the outreach center for services.

The COVID-19 pandemic had residual impacts on the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) department in the 2022 fiscal year. We faced staff shortages and increased client volume, which meant there were substantial limits on our reach and speed in administering the program to vulnerable populations and households newly affected by the pandemic — but we still were able to help many people in our area.

With the support of the Department of Social Services Family Support Division, contracted agencies had the opportunity to extend our program reach by administering Energy Assistance benefits year-round. Before LIHEAP policy revisions meant we could double the Energy Assistance payment, the amount paid to suppliers for Urban League city residents for FY 2022 totaled almost \$6 million. Policy revisions carried over into FY 2022 to allow qualifying household to continue to self-attest about their household crisis, whether medical, financial, or resources. This meant we were able to help families facing energy crisis and self-attestation to the tune of paying almost \$3 million to suppliers. Increased call volume drove the October 25, 2022, launch of the ULMSL LIHEAP department's new system for applicants to obtain the status of their LIHEAP/LIHWAP application and pledge payment information.



The LIHEAP department processed 12,768 applications for the FY 2022 program year for winter and summer assistance, along with 385 LIHWAP applications for water and sewer assistance. We also saw 345 households receive assistance through Dollar Help, Dollar More, and Clean Slate funding. By partnering with Heat Up St. Louis for the 2022 Heat Up Winterizing Forum, the department helped another 85 households.

To aid in combating the residual impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Urban League administration of the LIHEAP program and the vulnerable city residents we are privileged to serve, the Urban League LIHEAP department was granted a total ARPA allocation of more than \$6.7 million, with direct client funding at almost \$6 million to be used over five years. That translates to an average of more than \$1 million a year to support our mission of reducing the energy burdens of city residents.

The Missouri Department of Social Services (DSS) conducted a performance and compliance review of our LIHEAP program for FY 2021 in October of 2022 and the summary report found no findings for the agency.

The ULMSL LIHEAP department would like to thank the Missouri Department of Social Services, Family Support Division; Ameren, Spire, and Heat Up/Cool Down St. Louis; volunteers from Delta Sigma Theta Alumnae Chapter, Zeta Phi Beta; and Panera Bread for assisting with outreach efforts, as well as countless other community partners for their continuous support. Thanks to these organizations, thousands of St. Louis residents survived harsh weather and challenging financial situations in the past year.

Weatherization



The Urban League Weatherization Assistance Program provides cost-effective energy-efficient home improvements to homeowners and renters of St. Louis city residents. The goal of the program is to lower utility bills and improve comfort within the home while ensuring health and safety for the elderly, children, and those with physical disadvantages who are hit the hardest by high utility costs. Eligibility requirements for the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) are based on income and household size. Many St. Louis residents live in older homes that may not have insulation or may have older, less efficient appliances, doors, and windows. It is estimated that Low-income households spend nearly 14 percent

of their total annual income on energy costs while other households spend only 3 percent of their averaged annual income on energy costs. Once the home is weatherized a family is at a greater advantage to pay their utility expenses and to reduce their debit. A home that has been weatherized can reduce average annual fuel usage per dwelling by 35 percent.

In 2022, the weatherization department serviced over 175 homes and spent \$1.425 million using funding from Department of Energy, LIHEAP, Ameren, Ameren Charitable, Spire, and CDA. Diverse funding sources gives the team the flexibility to meet most demands. With these funds we were able to provide Energy Efficient Furnaces, Energy Efficient hot water tanks and other energy saving measures in the client's home, reducing their energy consumption and lowering their energy bills.

The agency is now expanding the Weatherization program to cover multifamily units. Federal funding has been allocated to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of Energy (MO DOE) from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2022 (BIL) to retrofit "large multifamily" buildings in the State of Missouri. Because most large multifamily buildings are in the City of St. Louis, the BIL funding will be administered by the Urban League. Morehead Energy, LLC has proposed to work under contract with the Agency to complete the work in 2023. The addition of new staff and additional HVAC/infill vendors and the new multi-family project will allow us to serve more homes and apartments in 2023.

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EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE



URBAN LEAGUE
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EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES. CHANGING LIVES.

Educational Excellence

Head Start & Early Head Start

The Urban League is dedicated to giving the children in our community the tools they need to succeed not only in, but before school. That is the mission behind our long-standing Head Start/Early Head Start (ULHS/EHS) program, a comprehensive early childhood education initiative that provides services to children from birth through 5 years old and their families. The three program options are Head Start, Early Head Start, and Home-Based. A keen focus on school readiness through early childhood education, family and community engagement, and health services is paramount for the agency and program. We are committed to educating, strengthening, supporting, and empowering families by offering high-quality early childhood education experiences through comprehensive services that provide a foundation for lifelong success.

Through ULHS/EHS, we place significant emphasis on involving parents in the program. We encourage parents to participate actively in their children's learning by participating in ongoing parent and family engagement opportunities, volunteering in the classroom, and serving on the HS/EHS Policy Council and other committees that are part of the program.

This program is key to how we support children and families in physical, mental, and disability health. Nutritional well-being is an integral part of children's health and ability to learn, so part of how we care for the children in the program means giving them breakfast, lunch, and a snack at the end of the school day including giving specific attention to students with dietary needs.

The ULHS/EHS program provides ongoing support to meet the needs of children and families academically, emotionally, and socially, through materials and resources to support individual family needs.

During the 2021–2022 program year, the Urban League Head Start and Early Head Start continued to provide services to children and families during the unprecedented times caused by COVID-19. We adapted delivery and supportive services to ensure continued opportunities for families and children to align with our mission.



83%
Attendance

608
Number of Single
Parent Families

931
Funded
Enrollment

677
Number of
Children Served

Parent and Community Engagement is vital to the ULHS/EHS program—parents are the first teachers and valued supporters of Early Childhood Education and school readiness skills. In addition to serving on the Policy Council, parents can participate in ongoing activities throughout the year. In 2022, parents participated in the Incredible Years Training to promote self-esteem, cooperation, competence, creativity, and program-solving. Parents and families received valuable information to help with parenting in motivating, establishing routines, and developing strategies for self-regulation. As a result, many area families are stronger and their children have a greater chance of success in life from day one.



In 2022, 198 of our Head Start students advanced to kindergarten. More than 14 city and seven county schools participated in the annual ULHS/EHS Transition Fair. Through our partnership with Navigating STL Schools, we provided additional support for increasing parent awareness as Head Start students made their move to kindergarten. Parents gained first-hand knowledge and resources to make informed decisions for school placements for their upcoming kindergartners.



The Urban League Head Start children continue to have access to high-quality learning through the generous support of, the Magic House, Science Center, St. Louis Chess Club, Building Futures, Circus Science, Tuft University, and the James S. McDonnell Foundation. The James

S. McDonnell Foundation provided funding that gave the UL HS/EHS program the opportunity to serve more than 50 children in our Saturday STEAM (Science Technology Engineering, Arts, and Math) Academy. Last year, children aged 3 to 5 years old participated in the interactive six-week STEAM program where early learners explored areas of STEAM education. Community partnerships helped solidify the in-depth learning and acquisition of knowledge using real-world, hands-on experiences. The Saturday STEAM Academy created critical thinkers and problem-solvers in early learners.

Testimonials:

Success Story 2022

During the 2022 Enrollment Fair, a Head Start/Early Head Start Family Service Worker met the grandmother of 4-year-old twins. The grandmother received custody of the children due to unfortunate circumstances. The grandmother's desperation and need for childcare was evident.

Both children needed resources for speech, behavior, and healthcare services. Once the twins enrolled in the UL HS/EHS program, their speaking and behavior improved, and they were able to get the testing for educational disabilities that they needed.

Our Family Service Worker was instrumental in helping the family secure healthcare insurance as well. The grandmother has been involved in the UL HS/EHS family partnership program and volunteers in the center often. The family is also one of our 100 Neediest recipients.





Testimonials: Success Story 2022

The most exciting and fulfilling aspect of the Urban League's Head Start program is seeing children succeed and their parents and families become stronger. These success stories motivate us to keep on keeping on with this and other invaluable programs.

A vigilant single parent with a 4-year-old son in the Urban League Head Start program strongly desired to provide and be present for her family. This mom survived severe domestic violence that almost cost her and her son's life. To escape the abusive relationship with the child's father, the mother lived in transitional housing. Recently, she received an apartment through the transitional housing agency, but still furniture, beds and bedding, a kitchen table and chairs, a washer and dryer, household items, cleaning supplies, winter coats, clothes, and shoes. Since the mother did not have family in Saint Louis, she depended on the Urban League Head Start and 100 Neediest Cases to assist her and her son's vital needs.

Unfortunately, just as things were beginning to turn around for this mom, the landlord decided to change ownership of the apartment building and abruptly terminated the lease for all apartment occupants without prior notice. The mom did not know the first step to take, but she was open to suggestions and ready to do what she needed to do for her family. The parent was able to pull through the difficult circumstances to find new housing and began working for a company where she could use her graduate degree. The single mom and her son are doing well and thriving, thanks to her ability to be resilient and willingness to work hard to achieve success for her family.

Career and Technology Center

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis Career and Technology Center is certified under the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (MDHEWD) to assist individuals with their professional and personal goals. The CTC focuses on community outreach to elevate the digital knowledge of our residents using UTJP 2.0 – Google features. The program includes 5 levels: (1) Awareness (2) Basic Digital Skills Training (3) Productivity Software Skills (4) Entry-Level Digital Career Skills (5) Mid-Level Digital Career Skills and Occupational-Specific Digital Skills. If clients need basic computer skills, word processing, and data entry skills or instruction in business communications, we offer several free classes to help you achieve goals and be successful.

In our Basic Computer Fundamentals class, participants learn basic computer skills and the fundamentals of using email systems, internet access, and safety. We offer hands-on training with Microsoft Office Applications, designed to help participants develop basic operational proficiency using Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Participants in our Personal Development course learn valuable skills and techniques for today's competitive workforce, including basic resume writing techniques, effective communication skills, business attire, and office procedures. The Urban League continues to provide essential pathways for educating the public, producing quality workers, and improving life outcomes.



360

trained for the
Awareness Level

149

completed the
Basic Digital Skills

39

Productivity
Software Skills

548

Total Enrollments

GED/HiSET

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis in partnership with St. Louis Public Schools continues to offer a virtual GED/HiSET program. Virtual learning offers students flexibility and opportunities to enhance their digital skills. The Urban League in partnership with SLPS will help you take the next step toward your educational goals.



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St. Louis County Public Library Partnership

St. Louis County Library and the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis launched a new partnership to support early literacy for students ages 3-5 at the Head Start program in Jennings. The program is made possible through a \$30,000 grant from Citi.

SLCL provided a selection of new read-along books (picture books preloaded with an audio recording of the book), headphones, and activity kits to students each month to help encourage a love of reading. The collection of read-along books delivered to the school includes over 35 different titles featuring diverse characters and stories.



Regional Business Council Laptops for Head Start

Several Head Start/Early Head Start families will head back to school with new laptops loaded with learning software to promote math and science education thanks to the Regional Business Council and the Urban League. The laptop distribution was part of Head Start/Early Head Start Back to School activities and will support STEAM education.

Strengthening Parent and Community Engagement through Partnerships and the “Every Child Succeeds Act”

Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, views education equity as a civil rights imperative. Our vision is for all students to learn at high levels, equipped with the skills and knowledge to compete successfully in today’s global environment. This can only happen if students have access to a rich and demanding instructional environment equipped with technology, with priority assigned to strong and well-prepared teachers and school leaders who are supported by parents/ grandparents/guardians at every school, not just the ones in wealthy communities.



Schools belong to the community, and the community engages educators to watch over the social, emotional, and academic performance of all students. The dilemma is who is responsible for the high number of African American students who are not able to meet these social, emotional, and academic expectations? The Urban League is working to mobilize and organize parents and other community allies to demand accountability for their schools, as well as address the cause and effect of student failures by working with the Department of Elementary and

Secondary Education to influence policy changes.

In the past, such actions were determined solely by the districts and the state department of education. However, changes in law gave us the opportunity to advocate from within to have an impact on policy and funding. The Urban League has made it clear that we have the will to mobilize and organize parents and other community allies to provide a platform for parents to share information, learn together, and collectively demand accountability from their schools. In 2022, we received a small grant from the Wallace Foundation for the pilot of a project called Strengthening Parent and Community Engagement with several schools: Jefferson, Hickey, Monroe, Meramec, Peabody, and Walbridge. The concept is for principals to recommend a few parents willing to be trained and continue to train other parents.

Former SLPS principal Dr. Carol Hall-Whittier, who is now a consultant with West County Psychological Associates and has more than 20 years of experience in delivering comprehensive services to school and families, will partner in this work. West County Psychological Associates is an organization of therapists, school educators, and counselors who developed School Services to address the needs of the total school environment: students, parents, teachers, and administrators. They provide auxiliary services by trained personnel seasoned in school and family issues and the delivery of concrete solutions. Working collaboratively, West County

Psychological Associates, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, and St. Louis Public Schools will develop a sustainable program that will help parents acquire the skills to provide active communication between the classroom and the home. This collaboration will seek to change the landscape of students’ low academic achievement in St. Louis Public Schools.

The Urban League of



Metropolitan St. Louis has been an advocate of education equity and excellence in all schools, representing the voiceless as the state was developing its education plan to submit to the federal government. This work has been invaluable in many ways — most importantly, we created the communications needed to continue to advocate in a meaningful and proper way. It is our responsibility to follow up on ensuring that our schools are educating all our students and the ESSA plan is a great start to holding everyone involved accountable.

In addition, this effort prepared the agency with a specific agenda to share with the community. We plan to follow up by mobilizing and organizing parents and other community allies and by providing a platform for parents to share information, learn together, and collectively demand accountability from their schools to ensure all students succeed.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) signals a shift in the policy and accountability landscape, but leaves open the precise way for districts and states to ensure better student outcomes. The revised law provides states and districts with more discretionary authority, but no additional capacity or resources to manage this authority, while explicitly restricting the federal role. States and districts now could prove their explicit commitment to an equitable and excellent education for all children, and the Urban League Movement will hold states and local districts to this renewed promise from planning through implementation.

In Missouri, an ESSA plan is being implemented with the collaboration and partnership of a primary team made up of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), public schools from St. Louis, Kansas City, and Springfield; the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, representing the community; and higher education representatives from Maryville University, the University of Kansas, and the Missouri School Boards Association.

Working together eliminates the blame contest and encourages sharing responsibilities in creating systems that advance student success. However, in 2021, the pandemic changed the landscape of education and exposed the equity issues in schools. Virtual teaching and learning was not the same for all students, staff, schools, and/or districts. Some districts were able to repurpose their programs with minor disruption; others took several months just to get started and students lost time. The experience is an opportunity for schools, districts, and community leaders to take action to create equitable outcomes for all students, as stated in the ESSA plan.



Community School Partnerships

Community School Partnerships is a program of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis with the primary goal of assisting families and children in an elementary school setting to help stabilize and encourage growth academically, emotionally, and socially. Student and Family Mentors assist families in crisis situations and provide case management services to ensure proper intervention. Our program services include, but are not limited to:

- Crisis intervention
- Daily school attendance monitoring and phone calls
- Housing, food, utility assistance, and other referrals

- Employment, financial, personal, and professional development
- Mentorship and encouragement
- Plan, execute, and support school-wide projects/campaigns to enhance attendance, behavior, and academics (family nights, parent raffles, attendance incentives: parties/school store, etc.)
- Food deliveries
- Support after-school programming (Girls on the Run, volleyball, cheerleading, basketball); assist in practices and attend games/events
- Sit on school committees
- Help strengthen school culture/environment

Testimonials:

Ms. E. Scales

Ms. E. Scales is a single mother raising four children. Two of the children attend Jefferson Elementary. Ms. Scales was homeless for three years. She was living with friends and family off and on, and eventually exhausted most of the support and resources she used to help care for her family during this process. She became stressed, bouncing her family from home to home, until she finally decided to enroll in the Gateway180 Shelter. Ms. Scales lived there for three months and complied with the rules to complete the program: gaining employment, saving money, and working hard to remain positive throughout the program. Within that short period of time, she finished the program.

Ms. Scales obtained placement for her family from their housing program and was able to pay for her deposit and first month's rent. She now lives in a three-bedroom apartment, maintains a stable environment, makes her payments regularly, and is current on her rent. With the help of the Assistance League and Home Sweet Home, Ms. Scales received an external referral and the family received the gift of furniture and supplies for their new residence.

Ms. Scales gained employment at Hotel St. Louis and as of the end of 2022, had been working there for four months. She said she feels safe, grateful, and at peace thanks to all the resources from her Mentor and Gateway180 that helped to get her back on her feet. The family has overcome many hardships over the past year, but her biggest success is her ability to maintain a positive and optimistic attitude through everything. This, in turn, will create a brighter future for her family.

The CSP team works collaboratively with school personnel and community partners to maximize support for students and families, even conducting home visits to address concerns.

Significant 2022 Highlights

In 2022, Community School Partnerships served more than 3,500 participants in 10 schools. The team made more than 7,600 attendance phone calls to determine students' whereabouts and provide support. Through these daily calls and routine family check-ins, we were able to intervene and add support to 400 crisis situations with more than 150 referrals. In the schools, we listened, "planted seeds," and mentored more than 2,800 students.

Because the Student and Family Mentors are change agents and affect students and families in a major way, supervisors implemented "Teammate of the Month" to highlight a team member monthly based on performance and other criteria, and to recognize the individuals who show up daily to service families. Each of the eight team members highlighted in 2022 received an award and a gift card.

Scholarship Program

The Urban League believes that education is crucial for addressing societal inequalities. To help students from the St. Louis metropolitan area achieve their college and career goals, the organization provides four scholarship programs: the Leslie Scholarship, the Ida Goodwin Woolfolk Scholarship, the Lou Brock Scholarship, and the Frankie Muse Freeman Scholarship. Thanks to partnerships with Cigna and Bunzl, the Urban League granted over \$49,000 in scholarship money in 2022.

These scholarships are available to students pursuing a variety of subjects, including mechanical, electrical, and aerospace engineering, biology, chemistry, business, accounting, law, and pre-med. Selection of scholarship recipients is based on their academic achievements, community involvement, personal integrity, and financial need.



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Economic Opportunity Workforce Development

Center for Entrepreneurship (CFE)

National Urban League President and CEO Marc Morial launched the St. Louis affiliate of the National Urban League's (NUL) Center for Entrepreneurship in St. Louis in April 2022. This project enhances our existing efforts to foster more equitable economic development in the St. Louis metropolitan area through entrepreneurship and extends the reach and impact of the NUL Entrepreneurship Center objectives.

The mission of the Center for Entrepreneurship (CFE) is to support the development and growth of minority entrepreneurs in a manner that leads to the creation of jobs in sustainable businesses and generates wealth for the owners, their families, and their communities.

The Entrepreneurship Center Program (ECP), with its focus on accelerating the growth of Black-owned small businesses and entrepreneurs, has become an even more crucial component in the quest for improved quality of life and economic resilience as businesses recover from COVID-19. Significant highlights in 2022 included:

- Successfully completed four (4) loans for African American small business owners under the Urban Empowerment Fund. Provided counseling to business owners on Financing, Business Development, and Certification
- The CFE received a Walmart Grant, "Black Women in Retail" along with 4 other National Urban League (NUL) Affiliates. This three-year grant will begin programs in late February 2023 and run through October 2025. National Urban League affiliates will support Black Women-owned retail businesses with general and industry-specific coaching, mentoring, and training, providing direct assistance with certification; applying/bidding on public/private contracting programs; and leadership skills development.
- The ECP is leading the organization of an International Trade Program to support unserved and underserved diverse business owners rise above labels of limitations build capacity and strengthen community ecosystems.



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Re-Entry Program

The Urban League's Save Our Sons Prison Re-entry Program assists offenders in successfully re-entering society following incarceration. The purpose of this program is to connect justice involved individuals to tangible economic resources that will prevent them from falling victim to recidivism.

SOS Re-entry is designed as a cognitive development program for thinking, reasoning, and communication as it relates to citizenship, daily life, and workforce development. The curriculum combines approximately thirty (30) topics and tasks to explore. The program helps participants become more self-aware, confident, focused on continuous growth and development, and understanding current workforce demands in preparation for employment.

The re-entry program provides participants with additional support through various Urban League programs tailored to address immediate needs including food or utility assistance, obtaining identification documents and driver's licenses and each participant is mentored through twelve (12) months of follow-up after release.

The program includes resources for the following areas of concern for offenders and is divided into further sections based on individual need:

- Education
- Employment
- Family
- Finance
- Health
- Home Plans
- Identification
- Personal Welfare
- Resources (Community)
- Resumes and Application Workshops
- Substance Abuse



The Save Our Sons Re-Entry program was prominently featured in a documentary directed by two-time Academy Award winning filmmaker Barbara Kopple. GUMBO COALITION follows two visionary Civil Rights leaders, National Urban League President Marc Morial and Janet Murguía of UnidosUS as they work to empower African American and Latino American communities through three turbulent years in America. The film premiered at the SVA Theatre in New York and displayed the efforts of Save Our Sons to teach life and soft skills to the inmates inside the Algoa State Correctional Facility. President Michael McMillan and President Morial took part in the SOS classes at the prison, speaking with inmates about careers and what life can be for them upon exit.

Save Our Sons

Save Our Sons (SOS) is the Urban League's signature Regional Workforce Development Program. The program helps unemployed and underemployed African American men and others in the region find gainful employment and earn livable wages. Since its inception in January 2015, Save Our Sons has assisted over 3000 men between the ages of 17 and 65 with career and employment support while providing soft skills and life skills coaching and other wraparound services including transportation and housing. Through an innovative support program Save Our Sons supported 16 clients with down payment assistance on a vehicle or housing deposits.

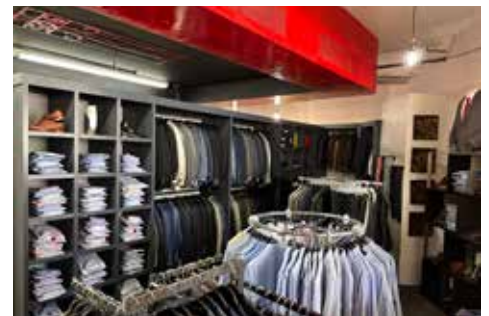
In 2022, Save Our Sons served 1,403 clients, a 57% increase over 2021. Overall, 532 clients were placed gainful employment and \$17.1 million in wages was generated from those placements, nearly double the amount generated in 2021.

Save Our Sons coaches clients on four pillars: How to Get a Job, How to Keep a Job, How to Get Promoted and How to Remain Marketable. SOS specializes in "Direct Target Hiring Fairs" open to all clients who have completed the 4-week training class covering the four pillars. Upon completing the training, participants receive a free interview suit complete with accessories from our Urban Closet.



Expansion of Save Our Sons

Save Our Sons experienced tremendous growth in 2022 expanding to a total of five offices, including a new South City location that is a joint venture with the Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development (MDHEWD). The Urban League opened the new office at 2626 Cherokee Street in October 2022. Other locations include Ferguson, Spanish Lake, and North St. Louis. A new office in the birthplace of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, East St. Louis was scheduled to open in 2023.



Save Our Sons - Direct Target Hiring Fairs

In 2022 Save Our Sons hosted over 50 hiring fairs attracting more than 5000 registrants with more than 300 job placements. BJC was one of our most active employers hosting quarterly fairs and interviewing over 350 people.



Save Our Sons - Urban Expo Career Fair

The Urban Expo Career Fair was a tremendous success with over 80 participating companies conducting interviews and offering jobs on the spot resulting in over 35 offers.



Support from the National Urban League

Save Our Sons was awarded three new grants to expand programming. The Google Re-entry Tech award is designed to help justice impacted clients gain IT skills and certifications and get support with job placement. The Young Adult Re-entry Program (YARP) supports justice involved clients 18 to 25 needing training to access middle skills careers which account for forty (40%) of the workforce for the state of Missouri. Training is supported at St. Louis Community College, Harris Stowe State University, Ranken Technical College and/or Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. The Urban Energy Jobs Program grant partners SOS with the National Urban League, Center for Energy and Workforce Development, Ameren and Spire to grow apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships in the Energy sector and close the DE&I gaps that exist in the energy industry.

Women's Business Center

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis Women's Business Center (WBC) is part of a national network of entrepreneurship centers throughout the United States and its territories, which are designed to assist women in starting and growing small businesses. WBC seeks to "level the playing field" for women entrepreneurs, who still face unique obstacles in the business world. The WBC helps women entrepreneurs launch new businesses and compete in the marketplace through several free and low-cost resources, including business training, counseling, workshops, and access to credit and capital through community referrals.

WBC focuses on the four pillars identified as vital to success for rising entrepreneurs: Leadership Readiness, Business Knowledge, Operational Soundness, and Driving Revenue. These are emphasized in our program offerings, including our signature program, Ready! Set! Launch! a 14-Week Small Business Development Program (RSL). In addition, educational services are offered to clients that focus on a variety of topics based on individual client needs: business planning, marketing, social media, website design, legal services, emotional wellbeing, human resources, professional development, public speaking, MBE/WBE certification, accounting, personal finance, business banking, operational soundness, asset protection, lender readiness, and access to capital via lending program and grants.



Significant Highlights:

In 2022, the WBC responded to the rising need of entrepreneurial support and offered relevant business counseling and training services to the community. The WBC served 415 clients through 1-1 business counseling in 1045 business counseling sessions that included 608 contact hours. The WBC also hosted 156 training events open to the public, with 2,667 training event attendees.

The WBC strengthened partnerships with several community partners through partnered events and trainings: CIBC, US Bank, Midwest Bank Center, Sterling Bank, Enterprise Bank, American Family Insurance, Bancorp South, BMO-Harris Bank, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, 24:1, Operation Hope & St. Louis Office of Financial Empowerment, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, and others.

The Ready! Set! Launch! Small Business Development Program (RSL), included 14 weeks of virtual trainings and business counseling with a curated curriculum and subject matter expert guest speakers. In RSL, 81 individuals graduated from this program, all being women and/or minorities. All graduates were eligible for special access to funding opportunities through WBC's partnership with CIBC and were able to apply for special legal services through Legal Services of Eastern Missouri's Microenterprise Program. At least 20 of these graduates are currently in conversation with lenders for funding/credit opportunities. Many were also introduced to BMO-Harris Bank to utilize special credit and lending opportunities for Black, Latinx, and Women Entrepreneurs through their BMO for Black, Latinx, and Women Businesses Programs.

Through SBA CORE Funding, the WBC was able to provide strong supplemental services to the WBC and to its clients, through 3 full time staff members who provide administrative, programmatic, and case management support that has been integral to the success and bandwidth of the WBC program. The CORE funding also enabled the WBC to strengthen its business counseling bandwidth, offer new and signature training, including Business Planning 101, Marketing Essentials, Social Media Marketing Workshops, Perfect Pitch!, and more. We also received funding through the National Urban League CNPP funding which enabled the WBC to provide financial management trainings and education for entrepreneurs pivoting in their small businesses through the “Savvy Entrepreneur, an ” 8- week virtual and in-person training.

The WBC was proud to present a networking event partnered with Commerce Bank. Three (3) of our Ready! Set! Launch! participants presented their business pitches and received cash prizes totaling \$5,000. We had a total of 45 attendees along with special remarks from the Vice President of Commerce bank.



Transition for Change

The Transition for Change Employment Program (TFCEP) serves non-custodial parents with enforced child support. The staff includes a Program Director, Case Manager, and Job Developer. All eligible clients receive supportive services which include work clothing, shoes, hygiene kits, gas cards and bus tickets. Clients may also receive referrals for housing assistance, clinical services, utility assistance, identification and birth certificate programs, and a pay-near-me location for immediate child support payments. TFCEP offers bi-weekly employment readiness webinars to improve client soft skills, interviewing skills and workplace ethics.

In 2022, in conjunction with the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney’s office, we attended 66 contempt and paternity dockets in person and virtual, to present the program and enroll non- custodial parents in the TFCEP. Our clients are provided with skills to prepare them for career opportunities and advancement. TFCEP was instrumental in assisting 8 clients secure employment with the average wage of \$17 per hour. Additionally, TCEP hosted 2 hiring events where 3 of our clients were hired instantaneously.

We also assisted 6 men and women that were released from Missouri’s State and Federal Prisons.

Youth Employment Programs: Learn and Earn

In partnership with the STLYJ and the St. Louis Public School senior students are able to participate in the Learn and Earn Program. Senior students work in their career field and earn as they learn. Students are paid \$12.00 per hour and work 180 hours.



INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES



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Summer Internship

Youth aged 16 – 24 are able to participate in the Summer Internship Program. Youth can work 180 hours at \$12.00 per hour. Youth are paired with companies that will provide a well-rounded learning experience. On July 14, 2022, students attended the “Mastering Your Career” Mock Interview Event at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park. This event was sponsored by Mastercard. Youth received financial empowerment education, practiced their interviewing skills and elevator pitches with Mastercard employees. Mayor Tishaura Jones, motivational speaker Koran Bolden, and influencer Megan O provided remarks.

Bank Of America Financial Center Apprenticeship Program

As part of its ongoing commitment to supporting youth employment opportunities, Bank of America creates hundreds of opportunities nationwide each summer through its Financial Center Apprenticeship Program.

Five (5) students were able to participate in the Bank of America Internship. Students worked eight weeks (June 20 - August 12, 2022). Interns completed several weeks of online training and completed assignments with instructors and another 190 interns nationwide. Interns were then paired with a Financial Leader and assisted with routine banking needs and received customer service training while also making connections with BOA employees. Interns were paid \$22 per hour. The closing program with Bank of America included guest speaker Ms. Teresa DeBastiani, Senior Vice President Academy Executive for Preferred Banking.

2022 participants:

Taliya Allen is a 2022 graduate of Hazelwood Central High School. She is an honor roll student completing her senior year with a 3.9 GPA. She will be completing the Life Science Lab Assistant program with St. Louis Community College and currently has a 4.0 GAP. She began her pre-requisite classes in January 2023 for Nursing. Taliya received the 2022 STAR Award from Bank of America.

Terran Catron is a 2022 graduate of Hazelwood Central High School. She is an honor roll student who was dually enrolled at University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL) taking three (3) AP classes. She completed her senior year in December 2021, then enrolled full time at Florissant Valley taking 12 credit hours before beginning her freshman year in college. Terran received a full scholarship to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) where she studies Nursing.

J'hanette Dogan is a 2022 graduate of Cardinal Ritter College Prep High School. She is an honor roll student and served as Vice President of her class, was a member of the 4H Club and a Cheerleader. J'hanette received a full scholarship to attend Tennessee State University where she will study Nursing with a minor in Business Administration.

A'Naya Lagrandsmith is a 2022 graduate of Gateway Science Academy completing her senior year with a 3.8 GPA. She was granted funds from the A+ Program and completed over fifty (50) community service hours. She is a member of the Trim and the Spanish National Honor Society. She plays the Alto Saxophone and has played in Kansas City, New Orleans, and Six Flags just to name a few. Her extra curriculum activities include tutoring and band. A'Naya attends Loyola University majoring in Graphic Design.

Anna Marie Sumlin is a senior attending the University of Kansas majoring in Business Analytic. She is a member of DECA and attended the International Career Development Conference in Baltimore, Maryland April 9-12, 2022, and was top ten in the category of Restaurant and Food Service Management and received an award for the ranking. She studied aboard with the CIMBA Program in Italy for the summer session May 22 – June 19, 2022. She currently serves as an Executive Board Member/Event Coordinator for GEMS (Gifted Educated Motivated Sisters). She is also involved in the Women in Business and KU Marketing Club.

Discover You Program

The 2022 Discover You program was successful with 100 students participating. The program is designed to provide job readiness and career Exploration to youth ages 14-15. During the six-week session, students are exposed to different careers and guest speakers who share what the career looks like and the position's requirements. They also obtain information on post-secondary education. Students showcased what they learned at the closing ceremony held at Harris Stowe State University on June 26, 2022. All students received certificates of completion. Twenty-one (21) students received special recognition for a perfect score on mock interviewing. Students were able to do job shadowing with Emerson Electric, St. Louis Black Rep, Stifel, Thomas Dunn Learning Center, St. Louis Community College, and the University of Missouri at St. Louis.

Save Our Sisters

The Urban League Save Our Sisters program affirms, empowers, and inspires women from all walks of life. Participants are supported and nurtured on their journey to achieve their personal and professional goals. Save Our Sisters began in 2018 to help women reach their full potential through career exploration, wellness initiatives, financial education, and targeted business workshops. A separate track is offered to women interested in becoming entrepreneurs.

All Save Our Sisters participants have direct access to the safety net and economic opportunity services that are provided through the Urban League including employment, education, rental, mortgage, and utility assistance. Women can also access the Save Our Sisters Signature Boutique, an exclusive program benefit offering women the opportunity to look and feel their best in job interviews without breaking the bank. The boutique is stocked with clean, gently used upscale professional clothing and accessories provided at no cost to program participants.

Save Our Sisters experienced a great deal of growth in the 2022 program year. Linda Robinson, a veteran human services professional and community connector, was hired as the new director. Programming was expanded to incorporate more workforce support including a collaboration with the Save Our Sons program. This collaboration ensures that all clients can participate in the career fairs and attend workshops focusing on their personal and professional development while helping them become marketable to the employers.

Save Our Sisters hosted an open house to showcase the new office and boutique space with presentations from the Urban League President and CEO, the Save Our Sisters Director, and U.S. Bank sponsor representatives.

The signature Women's Empowerment Summit was held during the Urban Expo with standing room only for the main session that included topics on Entrepreneurship, Homebuying, and Women in Leadership. A new personal development series was added in 2022. The HerStory mentoring and personal development seminar had 80 women in attendance who were empowered and nurtured by a carefully curated panel of women who shared personal stories in addition to practical leadership tips. The forum was moderated by Denise Sneed Williams, author of *Over Comer: Stronger Than the Storm* and featured former state senator Jamilah Nasheed, Missouri Parole Board, Shannon Norman, Founder of the Accept the Compliment movement and human resources executive, and Shawntelle L. Fisher, founder, and CEO of SoulFisher Ministries.



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PUBLIC SAFETY & COMMUNITY RESPONSE

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Public Safety & Community Response

Public Safety

The Division of Public Safety and Community Response connects people with resources to reduce neighborhood crime and improve the health and quality of life for residents. We used a progressive lens centering on the Neighborhood, Porch, Living Room (The NPL model). The NPL lens has proven effective in reducing crime and increasing the quality of life in our targeted neighborhoods.

In 2022, the division continued to stabilize neighborhoods and provide resources and helpful information at the neighborhood level. Engagement efforts were intensified as Urban Engagement Specialists saturated neighborhoods, both target and non-target, to inform residents about available resources, distribute vital health resources, perform direct wellness checks to residents' front doors, and complete thorough intake assessments of each household. Case Manager Specialists were provided with information from the assessments and contacted families immediately to follow up with the proper referrals. We tackled the opioid crisis by conducting Urban Opioid Triage in open-air drug market locations and we worked to mediate incidents resolving conflicts that could lead to gun violence.

In 2022, Operation Clean Sweep, sponsored by the Regional Business Council (RBC) expanded its mission and became Clean Up, Build Up providing neighborhood beautification efforts (cleaning alleyways, cutting and maintaining overgrown lots, planting gardens) in addition to demolishing uninhabitable homes.

All our empowerment efforts, including mentoring and monitoring youth trapped in the criminal justice system, are designed to help families constructively address problems that derail them from making progress.

The Covid-19 pandemic, though waning, made 2022 more challenging than usual. Virus surges, caused by emerging variants, heightened the need to continue our successful neighborhood-based vaccination initiative with our Community Health Navigators.





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Flood Response

The City of St. Louis experienced disastrous flash flooding in July 2022. Mayor Tishura Jones enlisted the support of the Urban League to support emergency relief efforts establishing a staging operation and command center at ULSTL headquarters. The Urban League fielded donations for other organizations including the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative who donated dozens of dehumidifiers and fans for the Urban League to distribute to those in need.

A joint FEMA/SBA disaster recovery center opened at our Ferguson Empowerment Center on August 30 and at ULSTL Regional Headquarters to provide one-on-one assistance to people directly affected by the flooding and severe storms. Recovery specialists from FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration provide information on available services, explained assistance programs and helped survivors complete or check the status of their applications. The U.S. Small Business Administration also opened an SBA Business Recovery Center at Headquarters. The center offered a one-stop location for businesses to access a variety of specialized help. SBA customer service representatives and Small Business Development Center consultants met individually with each business owners.



Serving Our Streets

Our Urban Engagement Specialists are trained, uniformed, and disciplined individuals who come from the neighborhoods they serve. They work in the most challenged St. Louis neighborhoods, targeting difficult-to-engage residents to build relationships, conduct neighborhood assessments, connect people to needed resources, and reduce crime-related poverty. Urban Engagement Specialists are boots on the ground who serve as the liaisons between the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis and the community. They are on the front line of every Urban League large-scale food drive helping to distribute food boxes, PPE, and toiletry kits to more than 10,000 people in 2022. Urban Engagement Specialists were on the front lines supporting St. Louis city residents impacted by historic flash flooding in July 2022. The team delivered portable blower fans, food, dehumidifiers, buckets, and personal protection equipment (PPE), to residents in neighborhoods most impacted.

Informing residents of programs and services available to them through the Urban League and our partners remained a high priority. Urban Engagement Specialists canvassed 8,100 homes and businesses in the neighborhoods of Academy/Sherman Park, Baden, Castle Point, Fountain Park, Grand Center, Hyde Park, Jeff-Vander-Lou, Kingsway East, and the Ville to inform residents about free assistance, such as counseling sessions for victimized individuals, food assistance, neighborhood beautification projects, gun violence de-escalation, utility assistance, and more. They also led massive PPE drives, distributing more than 50,000 masks and 10,000 bottles of hand sanitizer to residents to keep them safe during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Total Engaged in 2022

1,226
Baden

2,011
Hyde Park

2,040
Jeff-Vander-Lou

2,343
Kingsway East

39
Grand Center

3
Academy/
Sherman Park

109
Fountain Park

16
The Ville

207
Vandeventer

106
Castle Point





Family Resource Specialists

While Urban Engagement Specialists connect with the community on a street level, our Urban Family Resource Specialists take a deeper dive into the lives of the community. When an assessment is complete, Urban Family Resource Specialists connect with the families immediately to provide them with the resources they have requested.

In 2022, Urban Family Resource Specialists helped 582 families get desperately needed help. They also delivered more than 1,200 resources to families.

Family Resource Specialists, along with our law partners Bosley and Associates and the Law Office of Sheila R. Stuart, Esq. have lifted 246 misdemeanor warrants.

We also provided utility assistance, rental assistance, gun locks, masks, ID/birth certificates, baby beds, furniture, diapers, food, Narcan, employment, housing, trauma counseling, assistance with warrants, and mentoring program through our Re-Route program.

Re-Route Program

The Re-Route Program is a new program created in response to the numerous phone calls and requests from parents/guardians and magistrates to guide and mentor problematic young men and women. The strategy is to take a different, more intensive approach to clients between the ages of 16 and 24 facing prison time by connecting them with our Family Resource Specialists as a requirement condition for their probation. The Family Resource Specialists have a great understanding of the client’s circumstances and helps them complete milestones in their lives, from getting enrolled in college to getting a driver’s license. In 2022, we enrolled 16 clients, provided 188 resources, made eight judicial visits, saw three people complete the program and go on probation with 0% recidivism.



Additional Resources

Counseling 55

Housing 1

Health Insurance 5

Relocation 9

Employment 16

Home Necessities 33

Neighborhood Healing Network

The Urban League’s Neighborhood Healing Network addresses both individual crime victims and victimized communities. The Neighborhood Healing Network enrolled 124 participants and served more than 144 participants in 2022.

Participants receive trauma-focused care, including crisis and individual counseling, among other resources. Neighborhood Healing Network partners provided support groups and workshops to reduce distress, depression, and anxiety. The groups and workshops offered support, encouragement, comfort, and new coping skills. Participants are also connected with Community Resource Specialists to receive additional resources and learn to navigate community resources to meet their immediate and long-term needs.

Clean Up Build Up

Clean Up Build Up is an initiative to promote neighborhood stability and community unity through beautification. Community members, stakeholders, and volunteers come together to clean overgrown lots, alleyways, and vacant buildings. The Urban League partners with the Regional Business Council (RBC) and the City of St. Louis both providing heavy construction equipment to remove decaying buildings, dumpsters, safety equipment, and more.

In 2022, Clean Up Build up focused on Castle Point and Hyde Park. Between the two locations, more than 1,000 volunteers participated in removing 12 dilapidated homes, cleaning 50 vacant lots, and clearing more than 7 miles of alleyways.



Gun Violence De-Escalation

The Urban League's Gun Violence De-Escalation Network is an initiative utilizing specially trained mediators who come from the neighborhood and want to make a difference. Concerned citizens who know of a conflict that could lead to gun violence use the mediators as an outlet, without law enforcement involvement. The Gun Violence Mediators canvass the most dangerous areas of St. Louis providing information about how to contact them if a conflict occurs. The hotline number is 314-250-5900, and it can be used 24/7. Once a conflict occurs, mediators meet with all parties involved in an attempt to de-escalate the situation within 72 hours. If a dispute is deemed "unresolved," the agreeing party has the option to be relocated to a more suitable location.

In 2022, gun violence mediators de-escalated conflicts involving domestic violence, students, and neighborhood disagreements. We were able to de-escalate 47 cases involving 125 individuals in 2022. Out of those 47 cases, five cases involving 38 people had to be relocated.

Urban Opioid Triage

The Mobile Urban Opioid Triage effort focuses on the communities of Jeff-Vander-Lou (J.V.L.), Kingsway East, Hyde Park, Baden, and South Side Patch to address drug distribution, prostitution, drug addiction, and accompanying activity. The Serving Our Streets team identified areas where illegal activity and crime occur daily and distributed resources to people who otherwise would be overlooked. Urban Opioid Triage partners with Community Health in Partnership Services (CHIPS), Healthcare Center, Black Alcohol/Drug Services Information Center (B.A.S.I.C.), Project Ark, the State Targeted Response, and other community resource providers to give community members hot food, non-perishable food items, toiletries, health screens, clothing, condoms, rehabilitation referrals, Naloxone (Narcan) training and Narcan kits, home Covid tests, PPE masks, and hand sanitizer.

In 2022, Urban Opioid Triage engaged with 1,885 individuals and distributed 26,203 masks, 7,972 condoms, 416 hand sanitizers, 293 Narcan kits, 141 gun locks, and 126 toiletry bags. We also performed 67 health screenings with our partners at the CHIPS Health and Wellness Center, referred 112 people to rehabilitation services, and successfully enrolled four people into rehabilitation.

Urban Engagement Specialists have been trained and certified through the State Targeted Response Initiative to distribute and teach others how to use Narcan. Members of the community have responded well to the distribution of Narcan. Anyone who attends Urban Opioid Triage and wants treatment, is referred to B.A.S.I.C. Transportation on Demand (T.O.D.) to get participants without transportation to a treatment center immediately.





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Vaccine Initiative

The Division of Public Safety and Community Response remains on the front line combatting COVID-19 in the neighborhoods by providing vaccines, testing, and educational resources to the urban community. The Urban League mounted an aggressive, grassroots COVID-19 vaccination effort with funding from the National Urban League and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The grant award allowed us to hire 20 Community Health Navigators who canvassed St. Louis, informed people about availability of the vaccine, and provided facts to counter the stigma about receiving the vaccine. Our efforts yielded 3,564 vaccinations and 26,209 individual engagements to provide educational materials.

The Division established partnerships with Visionary Vaccine, the St. Louis Public Schools (Northwest High School), and St. Alphonsus “Rock” Church, to open neighborhood-based vaccine clinics providing COVID-19 vaccinations and testing. We provided vaccinations for school districts, senior facilities, churches, and apartment complexes. We also arranged for homebound residents to receive vaccinations in the comfort of home through our mobile vaccination effort.



Grill to Glory

Grill to Glory is a transformative community engagement model that helps cultivate relationships between neighborhood churches and neighborhood residents while informing the community of the resources available through the Urban League. Each Saturday, neighborhood churches fire up a BBQ grill to host a cookout event featuring grilled hot dogs and other treats. With 237 churches participating last season and more than 160,000 residents reached, Grill to Glory proved that it is touching lives and empowering communities.

Each participating church receives a starter kit that includes a grill, hot dogs, and hot dog buns. Participating churches are in St. Louis City and St. Louis County; Columbia, Missouri; southwestern/East St. Louis, Illinois; and Kansas City, Missouri. Grill to Glory is set to relaunch with a new season in the summer of 2023. If you or your church would like to participate, register at ulstl.com.



Cure Violence Program Seeing progress in Walnut Park



As gun violence continues to have a devastating impact on our neighborhoods and residents, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis remains committed to working toward solutions. In 2022, we focused much of our attention on Walnut Park, where Cure Violence continued to thrive and earn accolades from members of the neighborhood, national Cure Violence office, and City of St. Louis.

The Cure Violence Initiative is guided by a clear understanding that violence is a health issue. A primary tenet holds that individuals and communities can change for the better, and that

community partners and strategic partnerships are the crucial ingredients for success. Cure Violence trains members of the community, known as credible messengers, to anticipate where violence might occur and intervene before it erupts. Using the Cure Violence Model and working closely with the St. Louis City Health Department and recognizing that violence makes conflict worse, the team focuses on engaging people at highest risk to change behavior.

Cure Violence services include Outreach to youth and families, Violence Interruption, Conflict Mediation; Resources for Employment/Education, Mental Health, and Trauma; Mentoring Services; Senior Services; and distribution of food and COVID-19 resources such as personal protective equipment (PPE) like masks. Because the Walnut Park neighborhood was a hot spot for crime among the St. Louis neighborhoods and was identified by the St. Louis City Health Department as one of the Cure Violence project sites, we followed the Cure Violence model to intensify community outreach there and increase awareness of resources and support neighborhood safety through the Gun Violence prevention program. We received a three-year grant for these efforts.

The murder rate dropped significantly in the first two years and that positive trend is continuing in its third year. According to data collected from the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) for 2021 and 2022, the Walnut Park Cure Violence witnessed one murder in 2021, six in 2022 and so far, zero in 2023. Three of the 2022 incidents included domestic violence between families and could not be interrupted.

As a result of our Cure Violence efforts, the FOCUS St. Louis leadership organization honored 20 individuals, organizations, and initiatives on May 12, 2022, that are making a difference at the 25th Annual What's Right with the Region Awards Celebration. Our Cure Violence Program and Neighborhood Healing Network programs are being highlighted in the Emerging Initiatives category.

Walnut Park, as defined by the City of St. Louis, includes Walnut Park West as the third of three neighborhoods north of outbound I-70, from West Florissant to the City of St. Louis/St. Louis County line. General boundaries are from W. Florissant Avenue to the northeast, southward to Riverview Boulevard on the east, westward on Interstate Highway 70 (I-70) on the south, and northward to the city limits on the west to W. Florissant Avenue.

The median home value in Walnut Park is \$35,182 (national, \$184,700); median rent, \$933/month (national, \$949), with 43% of the neighborhood renters vs. 57% owners.

Federation of Block Units (FBU)

Founded in 1932, the Federation of Block Units (FBU) has been the gold standard for community engagement helping residents improve their neighborhoods through collective organizing and engagement. The Federation had a remarkable 2022 with the primary focus on increasing internal capacity and equipping residents throughout the region with tools and skills needed for effective governance and intentional impact. The intensive training on our governance, mission, and priorities further strengthened the organization. The Federation also focused on empowerment, each person that attended our activities and/or training now has the credentials and training necessary to build relationships and be proactive in creating stronger communities.

In 2022, we partnered with eight community organizations, four public libraries, four police departments, 33 small businesses and all elected officials from the St. Louis area. Our goal is to continue our advocacy and our participation in the efforts that lead to an improved community where our members can grow, retire and thrive. We applaud residents from the following neighborhoods/cities for their commitment to making a safer community:

Wellston
Wells Goodfellow
Lewis Place
Kingsway West

Pagedale
O'Fallon
Hyde Park
Walnut Park

Northwoods
Hamilton Heights
Kingsway East
Mark Twain

Ferguson
Fountain Park
Penrose
Jeff Vander Lou

307

Number of People Impacted

1,100

Estimated People

7

Municipalities Impacted



77

Hosted Events

202

Active Block Units

69

Neighborhoods Impacted

Testimonials:

Janelle Taylor (BU# 1748)

Before joining the Federation of Block Units, I lacked the knowledge on how to resolve the ongoing conflict with my neighbor regarding his trash. However, thanks to the effective conversation training provided by the Block Units, my neighbor and I are now able to discuss and address various issues affecting both of our properties.

RBC Clergy Luncheon

The St. Louis Regional Business Council (RBC) hosted a special appreciation luncheon for area faith leaders active in the Urban League's Grill to Glory initiative, a community building program designed to connect residents to valuable Urban League programs and services through the neighborhood church. The event highlighted the multi-denominational efforts having an impact on neighborhood safety and community engagement. Grill to Glory has expanded quickly with over 220 neighborhood churches in St. Louis City, St. Louis County and East St. Louis, IL hosting weekly fellowship and community activities. The Urban League and RBC also recognized Dr. Kelvin Adams for 14 years of leadership to the St. Louis Public Schools.

The highlight of the afternoon was acknowledging the brave men and women of the St. Louis Public Schools and St. Louis City Police Department that were the first responders to the Central Visual and Performing Arts School shooting. A moment of silence was held for Alexandria Bell and Jean Kuczka and all students, parents, family and community members in mourning after the events of October 24, 2022.





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STEVE O'LOUGHLIN
*ANNUAL DINNER LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT HONOREE*

DAVID L. STEWARD
HONORARY CHAIR

WARNER L. BAXTER
HONORARY CHAIR

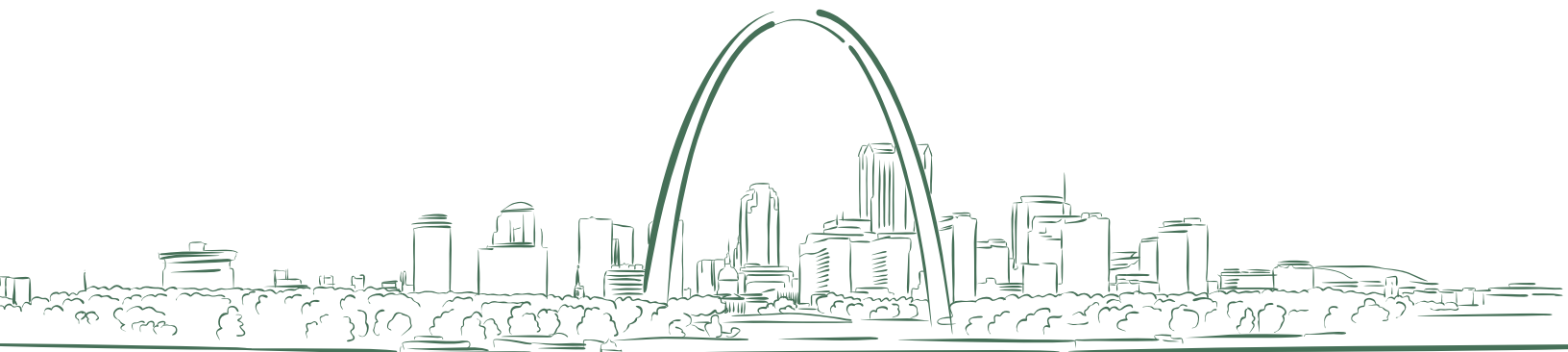
MARK H. LEVISON
BOARD CHAIR

KATHY OSBORN
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AKBERET BOYKIN-FARR
DINNER CO-CHAIR

MICHAEL P. MCMILLAN
PRESIDENT & CEO

EMILY PITTS
DINNER CO-CHAIR



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FBU - NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION

The Federation of Block Units (FBU) is an organization that has dedicated its efforts to building stronger and more cohesive communities through various initiatives. One of its core goals has been to assist those who are most vulnerable and in need of support within the community. To achieve this goal, FBU has been working tirelessly to build community partnerships that offer free home repair services to those who need it most.

Through these partnerships, FBU has been able to help young people, the elderly, the disabled, and veterans who are struggling to maintain their homes due to financial constraints or physical limitations. By providing these essential services at no cost, FBU has been able to help these individuals maintain a sense of dignity and independence, while also contributing to the overall health and vitality of the community.

In addition to its efforts to provide free home repair services, FBU has also been actively working to re-purpose residential homes in the urban core for young home buyers. This initiative has been particularly successful in revitalizing neighborhoods that were previously neglected or underutilized. By providing affordable housing options for young people, FBU has been able to create more vibrant and diverse communities, while also helping to reduce the overall poverty and inequality that exists within the area.

Overall, the work of the Federation of Block Units is a testament to the power of community partnerships and the importance of supporting those who are most in need. Through its various initiatives, FBU has been able to make a real and lasting impact on the lives of countless individuals, while also contributing to the greater good of the community as a whole.

Testimonials:

Brenette King (BU# 1805)

The Federation of Block Units has played a significant role in helping me relocate back to the up and coming City of St. Louis. Being a first-time home buyer, I was faced with the daunting challenge of not having enough direction on how to integrate myself into the community and contribute to its development. However, the FBU came to my rescue, providing me with an excellent avenue to do just that.

With their support, I was able to connect with like-minded individuals who share my passion for community development and growth. Through this platform, I have been able to get involved in various community projects and initiatives, providing me with the opportunity to make a positive impact in my local community.

Not only has the FBU provided me with an avenue to give back to the community, but it has also opened up a wealth of opportunities for me. Through the various programs and resources available to members, I have been able to expand my skills and knowledge, enabling me to grow both personally and professionally.

Overall, the Federation of Block Units has been an invaluable resource to me, helping me to find my footing in the City of St. Louis as a first-time home buyer. It has provided me with a sense of belonging and a purpose, empowering me to make a meaningful contribution to the community while also advancing my personal goals.

FBU - SPECIAL EVENTS

In 2022, the Federation of Block Units organized seven special community events to promote social connections and build relationships among residents. These events included the Annual Assembly, New Member Meet & Greet, Housing & Financial Empowerment Fair, National Night Out (2022), and Homeless Services Town Hall.

FBU - RESIDENT TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

In 2022, the Federation of Block Units went above and beyond in their commitment to serve their community by conducting a total of 77 training sessions that covered several topics. These training sessions were designed to equip residents with the necessary resources and tools to address various neighborhood dilemmas.

The Federation recognized that many residents often face challenges in their communities that require intervention, and they wanted to ensure that the community was well-equipped to deal with such issues. Therefore, they provided training sessions on a range of topics that would enable residents to address different types of problems in their neighborhoods. The Federation's dedication to providing these training sessions underscores their commitment to empowering and strengthening their community. By giving residents the tools and resources they need to tackle neighborhood challenges, the Federation is helping to create a more cohesive and resilient community where everyone can thrive.

Examples of the types of trainings are:

- Conflict Mediation
- Effective Communication
- Block Captain Training
- Citizens Service Bureau
- Community Benefits Agreements
- Homebuying
- Financial Literacy
- Civic 101
- Influence of the Black Vote



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Women's Wellness Center | Community Health | WISH (Women and Infant Substance Help) Center



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AUXILIARIES



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Urban League Auxilliaries

Urban League Guild

The Urban League Guild of Metropolitan St. Louis is comprised of community volunteers, civic leaders, business and professional men and women committed to improving the quality of life for African Americans and others. The Guild is an auxiliary that serves as ambassadors for the St. Louis affiliate and the National Council of Urban League Guilds. The Guild promotes the Urban League's efforts to empowering African-Americans and others throughout the region securing economic self-reliance, social equality and civil rights.

The mission of the National Council of Urban League Guilds is to stimulate, develop and promote volunteer participation and leadership within the local Urban League Guild in consistency with the goals and objective of the local affiliates. The Guild was established to support the local Urban League and its programs through four basic program functions:

- Fundraising
- Community Service
- Public Relations
- Leadership Development for Guild members

In July 2022 the National Urban League Honored Guild volunteers who have made extraordinary contributions to the growth and development of our great Urban League Movement. An exemplary Guild member was selected as the recipient of the prestigious Mollie Moon Volunteer Service Award for 2022.

This prestigious award is named after the legendary Mollie Moon, who organized the National Urban League Guild in 1942 and later helped establish the Council of Urban League Guilds in 1952. She served with distinction as President of the National Urban League Guild for almost fifty years. The award celebrates the spirit of volunteerism that has permeated the Urban League Movement throughout its long history and has become an exciting programmatic enhancement to the conference. St. Louis Guild Member, Linda Dell Frazier-Ford was selected as the 2022 Mollie Moon Winner.

⊕ GUILD
URBAN LEAGUE
of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc.

Urban League Guild Health Fair Focuses on Self Care

On the sunny Saturday of May 21, 2022, the Urban League Guild of Metropolitan St. Louis came together with other National Urban League Guild Chapters throughout the country to host a significant event in the form of National Healthy Awareness Day. The purpose of the event was to bring awareness to the importance of self-care, which was this year's theme. This free, family-friendly gathering provided attendees with freebies, educational resources, and crucial health information. Moreover, healthcare professionals in our community delivered informative presentations that highlighted the best practices for chronic disease prevention and management. The event saw the participation of over 30 healthcare providers who offered participants various screening services and education on chronic disease prevention and management. Such efforts were not only valuable but were also a necessity given the pandemic's stress and challenges that we all have faced. Danita Smith, the event's chair, believes that this event's timeliness was essential since COVID-19 has captured everyone's attention, and other critical health concerns may have been neglected. The event was a way to bring back the spotlight to self-care and disease prevention.

In addition to the National Healthy Awareness Day, the Urban League Guild co-sponsored the Salute to Women in Leadership, which was a prestigious event that honored 14 distinguished women from different professional, business, and civic categories. Among the many notable personalities that were recognized, native St. Louisan Areva Martin Esq. and two-time NAACP Image Award-winning actress Tichina Arnold were awarded the Lifetime Achievement Awards for their commendable contributions to the national and international community.



metro

**THERE'S A LOT MORE
RIDING ON METRO THAN PEOPLE.**

NEONATAL NURSE at Children's Hospital

BARISTA at Kaldi's Coffee who makes the best latte foam art

STUDENT at Washington University who works concessions at Enterprise Center

PEDIATRIC RESIDENT who you saw when your child had an ear infection

JEANICE, the MetroLink Operator who always smiles and waves

RIDE ON to healthy communities

2022 Guild Membership

Marlene Davis, President
Hyland Stuart, Vice President
Karen Stuart, 2nd Vice President
Linda Ford, Treasurer
Donna Joseph, Financial Secretary
Nakischa Joseph, Parliamentarian & Secretary
Judy Tyler, Corresponding Secretary
Reverend Edmund E. Lowe Sr., Chaplain
Wendy Wright, Historian

Alandon Pitts
Allen Niadu
Alonzo Shaw
Barbara Pepper
Belinda Carter
Betty Shackelford
Brenda L Tillman
Cassandra Hayes
Christina Dancy
Danita Smith
Denise Pearson
Dorothy Gray
Elaine Williams
Eunice Morrison
Fannie Taylor
Juanita Chambers
Kahlilah McClendon
Karen Miller
Karen Morrison
Kasan Moorehead
Kristina Hazley
Laverne P Robinson
Lawanda Smith
Linda Robinson

Lisa Collier
Lisa Gates
Loretta Person
Marcena Gunter
Melody McCellen
Michael Miles
Michele Brown
Dr. Monica Stewart
Norma Harnack
Ozella Foster
Patrice Odom
Pearlie Morris
Peggy Harris
Rhonda Meeks
Rhonda Moore
Rochelle Jones
Rose Mary Johnson
Samone Smith
Shalana (Lana) Turley
Sharon Ezell
Shirlyn Miles
Stacey McBride
Stephanie Taylor
Stephanie Thompson
Sylvia Bennett
Theresa Badgett
Twila Lee
Tyneria Hall
Urana Ballard
Victor (Vicky) Henderson

Kathi Hadley, Guild Liaison

⊖ GUILD
URBAN LEAGUE
of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc.



family

active

home

Your **healthy** life is our life's work.

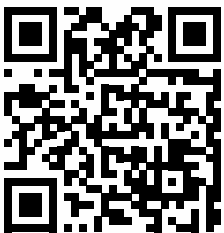
work

school

year-round

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Scan to:

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- Find and book the first available appointment
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Your life is our life's work.

Urban League Young Professionals of Metropolitan St. Louis

Young urban leaders who dedicate their time, energy, and talents to improving the welfare of St. Louis community residents have an invaluable resource in the Urban League Young Professionals of Metropolitan St. Louis (ULYPSTL), an auxiliary organization of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis (ULSTL). In turn, they are essential to the future of the Urban League and rewarding evidence of the younger generation's willingness to keep our mission alive.

ULYPSTL provides a base of support for the affiliate and its respective initiatives: increase community involvement of members through development and programs; strengthen leadership and professional development of members through organized directives; promote the Urban League and its mission; and give new members a comprehensive orientation to the Urban League movement.

ULYPSTL accomplishes its mission by:

- Developing emerging leaders through professional and leadership development.
- Establishing professional relationships with local civic, elected, and business leaders in the Metropolitan St. Louis Community.
- Engaging in community service projects that enhance the quality of life for local residents.
- Providing a collective source of mentors and role models for local youth.

2022 Join Week

Our local program takes its efforts to the national level by participating in each year's weeklong National Urban League Young Professionals (NULYP) "Join Week" initiative, which works with all young professional chapters to recruit new members to the movement and bring awareness to the important and necessary work of the movement in our local communities. Members of our ULYPSTL hosted a virtual open house mixer and trivia night, a townhall on the alumni experience, an open discussion about vaccine hesitancy and education, and a wellness event featuring yoga and meditation; participated in the ULSTL Hour of Power program; and volunteered at the annual Rise & Shine for Heat event. After the 2022 ULYPSTL Join Week events, membership in our local program increased by 13% for a total of 94 young professional members.



YP Programming

The goal of YP programming is to form a cohesive group of young professional leaders who can leverage their collective experience, education, resources, and talents in curating a culture of commitment to service and advocacy in our community. Events in 2022 saw a lively range of activities and resources.

The Membership Committee hosted spring and summer meet and greet events at local minority-owned businesses. The Advocacy Committee hosted a townhall discussion about wealth and real estate for the NULYP National Day of Empowerment initiative, and a STEAM-related book reading by a local children's author for the National Day of Service. The Community Service Committee coordinated YP volunteers at all ULSTL-hosted food and supply distribution drives and the annual Urban Expo.

In a further impressive expression of service, ULYPSTL also participated in 2022's One Hundred Neediest Cases by collecting donations and gifts for two ULSTL families in need.

With the support of the ULSTL affiliate, the YPs attended ULSTL's Annual Dinner and the Whitney M. Young Society Reception, providing insight to the overall impact of ULSTL in the community and inspires the continued engagement of young professionals in the movement.

Between Join Week and the end of the year, the YPs gained a 23% increase in membership, for a total of 116 Young Professional members, all dedicated to carrying on the important mission and service of our organization. They make us proud and reassure us that our work will continue.

2022 ULYP Membership

Anna Lisa Butler, President
Kayla Crawford, Vice President
Jonathan Babcock, Treasurer
Erica Williams, Parliamentarian
Adam Field, Advocacy Chair
Amy Haymore, Service Chair
Amber Overton, Marketing Chair
Frank Williamson, Membership Co-Chair
Xavier Woodson, Membership Co-Chair
Larry Davis, Jr., Personal & Professional Development Chair

Aaron Cannon
Abrianna Steele
Adam Hopkins
Alexandria Thomas
Alexis Bajardi
Alexus Williams
Alicha Mayweather
Amanda Holmes
Arica Davis
Ashley Langston
Ashley Parish
Ashley Richardson
Ashlie Vickers
Brandi Burse
Brittany Forrest
Brittany Radford
Brittany Raji Alberty
Brittney Bonds
Brittney Harris
Bryce Berry
Calvin Dantley
Carla Johnson
Cathajane Rieger
Chanda Wade
Chloe Colbert
Christen Griffin
Christopher Butler
Christopher Randall
Crystal Crystal
Danielle Washington
Danny Jendusa
Daytheon Jeffries
Deja Finley
Dorian Pierce
Dorian Richardson
Dr. Donte Kara, PhD
Dylan Robinson
Ebony Green
Ebony Stiles
Erica Clark

Erica McBride
Erika Huiswoud
Eugenia Jones
Evan Pardue
Felicia Hulsey
Gabriall Moore
Gabrielle Barnes
Greg Howard
Jacoby Alford
Jacquelyn Austin
Jaslynn Ware
Jazmyn Holton
JeFontè Nelson
Jenae Davis
Jeremy Jones
Jerrell Thomas
Ji'Mara Jones
John Verrochi
Jolene Hibbler
Jordyn Norde
Justavian D. Tillman
Ka'Cheena Lucas
Kayla Johnson
Keisha White
Kennee Grundy-Gray
Kia Cooper
Kia Richmond
Kiaundra Smith
Krystal Barnett
Laura Legrand
Letecia Jones
Malissa Shaw
Marcus Robinson
Michael Jones
Michael Simelton
Monika Osby
Morgan Beeler
Nicholas Skinner
Nicole Pleasant
Olivia Walls
Owens Vil
Rae' Jean Alford
Reina Stovall
Rosalind Guy
Rushanda Mccloud
Sarah Joshway
Shameika Armstead
Shanequa Tolliver
Shannon Johnson
Shannon Smith

Shaquira Blackman
Sharell Collins
Shauna Gholston
Simone Pettice
Stacey Pugh
Stephanie McCloud
Steven Clark
Sydney Smotherson
Tanesha Randall
Taneysha Howard
Taylor Gillespie
Tonna Wilson
Tre'Vien Teer
Trina Owens
Tynerrria Hall
Veronica Bell
Vincent Anderson
Wenners Ballard





Anthony Slaughter

Rene Knott

Michelle Li

Paul Cook

TODAY IN StLOUIS

WATCH WEEKDAYS 4-7 AM





MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

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Marketing & Communications

The primary focus of the Urban League's Communications Division is to tell the stories that help donors, stakeholders, clients, and partners understand the impact of the work being done every day to serve our 200,000 clients per year. We do that through media relations, donor communications, community engagement, advertising, marketing, internal messaging, visual design and communications, and social media engagement. We also support broader department-specific marketing campaigns to amplify critical messages.

COVID-19 MARKETING

As COVID-19 continued to disproportionately impact our clients and our community, a significant measure of our work focused on supporting the vaccine education and outreach of the Division of Public Safety and Community Response. We created a multi-channel marketing campaign featuring billboards, digital assets, newspaper advertisements, palm cards and posters to support messaging designed to encourage vaccine uptake and dispel common myths while promoting the Community Health Navigators.

"WHY SHOULD I USE A COMMUNITY HEALTH NAVIGATOR?"
ANSWER
 COMMUNITY HEALTH NAVIGATORS PROVIDE RESOURCES AND INFORMATION TO HELP YOU GET VACCINATED FOR COVID-19.
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URBAN LEAGUE
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 DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY

ALL IN!

The All In! Podcast

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 DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY

ALL IN!

Partnering with The National Urban League, The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Action Network, and The Coalition for Black Civic Participation, The Urban League launched the All In! Podcast and video blog to support the national All In! Against Covid campaign. The podcast features local and national health and wellness professionals, outreach strategists, Urban League profiles, and conversations with those impacted by COVID-19.

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 DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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 MASK UP
 & GET VACCINATED.**

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ALL IN!

OVER 200,000

CLIENTS SERVED IN 2022

IN 2022 ULSTL.COM WEBSITE RECEIVED HITS

OVER 90K



LAPTOP & DESKTOPS

36%



MOBILE PHONES

51%



TABLETS

13%

OUR CLIENTS AND MEMBERS DATA

HOUSEHOLD INCOME/NET WORTH

15K

Average Household Income

CLIENTS

50K

Average Household Income

MEMBERS

Including General, Guild, Young Professionals Federation and Whitney M, Young Society

EDUCATION

18%

College Education

CLIENTS

74%

College and Postgraduate

MEMBERS

Including General, Guild, Young Professionals Federation and Whitney M, Young Society

GENDER



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*Proudly Celebrates the 105th
Annual Dinner Meeting*

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT HONOREES



DR. CHARLES STEELE, JR



BOB O'LOUGHLIN



STEVE O'LOUGHLIN

visit us at www.lindendood.edu

HEAD START MARKETING

The Urban League’s Head Start/Early Head Start program launched a staff and student recruiting campaign in 2022 supported by an aggressive marketing and social media effort. The Communications Division designed billboards, palm cards, digital assets, posters, and flyers for families and prospective employees.



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& EARLY HEAD START

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& EARLY HEAD START

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RACES, ETHNICITIES
AND CHILDREN WITH
DISABILITIES.**

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RECLAIM YOUR VOTE CAMPAIGN

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis partnered with the National Urban League to support the national voter registration and participation campaign using the theme “Reclaim Your Vote.” Urban League divisions were featured in the social media campaign.

Urban League Save Our Sons

RECLAIM YOUR VOTE!

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE.
Contact your local election authority for the most accurate information on casting your ballot. Voting matters!

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Urban League Human Resources

RECLAIM YOUR VOTE!

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE.
Contact your local election authority for the most accurate information on casting your ballot. Voting matters!

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VOTELESS
PEOPLE
MAKE OUR COMMUNITY
HOPELESS
PEOPLE!

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YOUR VOTE COUNTS

REGISTER TO VOTE HERE TODAY!

“5 MINUTES OR LESS”
ASK FOR DETAILS!

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TREASURE YOUR CHEST CAMPAIGN

The Communications team partnered with Schnucks Markets and Pink Ribbon Girls to support their Treasure Your Chest Campaign which was launched to encourage women of color to get annual mammograms. Digital assets featuring Urban League women sharing positive messages were created in addition to general market posters and palm cards.



Treasure Your Chest

“
I'm guilty. I'm always putting other things ahead of my mammogram. Let's do this together! Schedule your mammogram today!

Patricia A. Washington
Executive Vice President
Communications & Special Projects

Schnucks, Pink Ribbon Girls, and The Urban League are teaming up to encourage you to get your mammogram!
Schedule your exam today and get a \$50 gift card from Schnucks.
Complete details at www.pinkribbongirls.org

Schnucks **PINK RIBBON GIRLS** **URBAN LEAGUE**
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Treasure Your Chest

“
I consider getting my annual mammogram a form of self-care. We as women are excellent at caring for others; we must not forget that we're also deserving of that same special love and care. Take time to be well!”

Beth-Ann Eshelby
Vice President, Strategic Planning & Grants Management

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Complete details at www.pinkribbongirls.org

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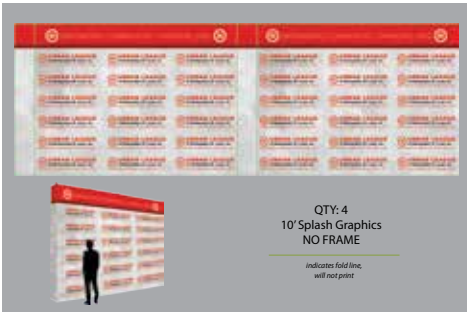
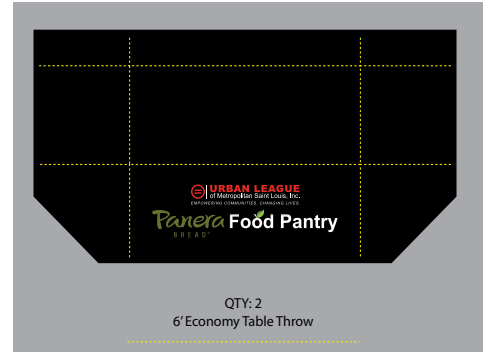
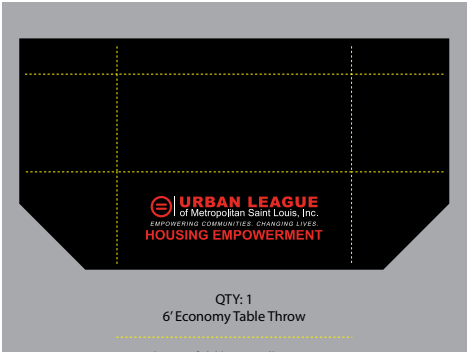


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AGENCY BRANDING

As the agency continues to grow, branding and brand identity have been prioritized. Richard Davis, Director of Multimedia and Graphic Design, created a master visual identity strategy in 2020 with the move to our new headquarters campus. Since then, new visual identity elements have been installed on major Urban League buildings including Head Start/Early Head Start signage, the center tower signage at the new Regional Headquarters, new campus signage at the Peter M. Bunce (Grace Hill) campus, and new signage at the former Commerce Bank Building on Natural Bridge Avenue in north city. The Regional Headquarters restoration also featured new wall wraps highlighting various Urban League programs and divisions. New wrapped Urban League vehicles also rolled out in 2022.



Everyone deserves the opportunity for a healthy, productive life



BJC HealthCare is working alongside community partners to improve physical, mental, and financial well-being across our region, beginning with the City of St. Louis and North St. Louis County. BJC's efforts include making local investments, supporting Black owned businesses, and hiring locally. BJC is also working to improve infant and maternal health, increase access to healthy food and physical activity opportunities, and support schools as sources of learning and wellness.

To learn more and get involved visit bjc.org/opportunity

C O M M U N I T Y H E A L T H I M P R O V E M E N T

BJC HealthCare

Urban League Honors Journalists for Black History Month

The Urban League recognized 12 African-American journalists during a special Black History Month celebration in February 2022. Honored for their history of service and outstanding contributions were:

- Robin Boyce, WSIE/STL-TV
- Sylvester Brown, The St. Louis American Newspaper, Take 5 Magazine
- Maurice Drummond, KMOV TV Anchor
- Ruth Ezell, Nine PBS Producer
- Ty Hawkins, KTVI Reporter
- Art Holliday, KSDK News Director
- Kim Hudson, KTVI Fox 2 News Anchor
- Kevin Johnson, The St. Louis Post-Dispatch Columnist
- Tim Lampley, STL-TV producer/Reporter
- Alvin Reid, The St. Louis American Newspaper Editor
- Robert Townsend, KSDK Five On Your Side Reporter
- Shirley Washington, KTVI Fox 2 News Anchor



Women Legislators Honored

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis honored African-American women who are members of the St. Louis delegation of the Missouri Legislature to close out Women's History Month. The 2022 honorees were:

- State Senator Karla May
- State Senator Angela Walton-Mosley
- State Representative LaKeysha Frazier-Bosley
- State Representative Raychel Proudie
- State Representative Marlene Terry.





McDonnell family and John Sant Tour

The McDonnell family and John Sant toured the new Regional Headquarters campus to learn more about future plans and better understand our programs and services.



St. Louis City Health Director Tour

Dr. Matifadza Hlatshwayo Davis, St. Louis City Health Director, toured the Urban League to review our COVID-19 operations and learn more about the Division of Public Safety's Community Health Navigators.



Sen. Karla May

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc. co-hosted a community food distribution and empowerment event in June 2022 in partnership with Greatness Unlocked: a Ten City Tour, founded by ministry leader Dr. Bill Winston, senior pastor of the Chicago-based Living Word Christian Center. The tour featured a job fair and business expo, and an expungement clinic hosted by Senator Karla May.

The community event, featuring a food and clothing distribution at two area locations, set the stage for the power-packed inspirational tour headed to the metro area June 15-18, 2022. St. Louis is the first stop on the tour, themed: Greatness Unlocked: Your Journey Starts Now! More than 1,000 people received food, gas cards, clothing, PPE and more.

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Congresswoman Cori Bush Tour

Congresswoman Cori Bush praised the Urban League’s workforce development efforts and our re-entry work during a visit to the new Regional Campus Headquarters. Congresswoman Bush is a strong Urban League partner working with us to fund major projects including the re-development of the Shops at Roberts Village (Aubert Plaza).



Berges Family Foundation Tour

Kelly Pollock, Chief Executive Officer of the Berges Family Foundation, learned more about the Restoring Hope campaign and plans for expanding our programs during a 2022 tour. The Berges Family Foundation is a major capital campaign supporter and plan to be more involved with the Urban League’s expansion and programming efforts in 2023.



Save Our Sisters Showcases New Space Supported by US Bank

Save Our Sisters hosted a special Open House event to showcase their new office and boutique space. We are extremely grateful for our multi-year, multi-faceted partnership with US BANK who presented a check to our Capital Campaign for \$200,000 in addition to the \$50,000 they have previously given for the Save Our Sons Clothing Center and over \$900,000 in tax credit support that they provided. As a result, we are proud to name the Save Our Sisters area in the building after US BANK! Special thanks to Derek Martin, Tom Wind, Zach Boyers, Bill Carson, Alex Silversmith, Frankie Eichenberger, and Kristen Polchinski. Special thanks also to Villa Lighting for the generous donation of the boutique’s chandeliers and signature lighting, Nieman Marcus and Macy’s for the furnishings and Simmons Bank for the conference table and office furnishings.





HUSCH BLACKWELL

ENERGIZING IMPACT

Husch Blackwell is proud to support the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis' 105th Annual Dinner.

As a law firm that is committed to transforming our values into actions, we celebrate the Urban League's mission to empower African Americans and others throughout our community in securing economic self-reliance, social equality, and civil rights.

[huschblackwell.com](https://www.huschblackwell.com)



2022 Booklet & Video Production

Production Staff:

Patricia A. Washington

Vice President of Communications

Richard Keith Davis, II

Director of Multimedia Marketing

Marcus B. Allen

Communications Specialist

Tom Bailey, Jr.

Vice President of Development

Robert C. Vogel

Senior Director of Development

Monica Patton

Director of Special Events

Barbara B. Bowman

Vice President - Controller

Special Thanks:

Bknott Productions Inc.

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Multimedia PR News

St. Louis American

St. Louis Business Journal

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Photography & Videography Credit:

Ashlynn Prince

Brandon Knott

Carl J. Bruce

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Colter Peterson

Colton Lava

Cornelius Dotson

Daniel Shular

Erica Brooks

Fred Williamson

Gentry Trotter

Kim Love

Laurie Skrivan

Marcus Allen

Maurice Meredith

Mead Reusing

Michael Thomas

Patricia A. Washington

Richard Keith Davis

Richard Reilly

Sid Hastings

Tim Gorry

Troy Anthony Swanson

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Regional Business Council Faith Leader Luncheon



National Development Council



Women's History Month Celebration



National Development Council



US BANK Tour



YFC Brunch



Save Our Sons South City Opening



Thrivent Grand Opening



Entrepreneurship & Women's Business Center Announcement



Simmons Bank Expansion Announcement



Save Our Sisters & St. Louis City Soccer



David Steward Family Foundation Bus Donation



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105th

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

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Emily Pitts

URBAN LEAGUE BOARD DIRECTOR
WHITNEY M. YOUNG SOCIETY

Richard Pitts

WHITNEY M. YOUNG SOCIETY



DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS

 **URBAN LEAGUE**
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Special Events & Development

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis Development & Special Events Department identifies and secures the resources and partnerships needed to advance the agency's mission, vision, and values. The Development team secures gifts from individuals, corporations, foundations, and government sources while successfully implementing the Urban League Special Events portfolio.

In 2022, the Urban League generated \$40,685,700 in revenue despite the cutback of COVID-19 funding, to mark the second consecutive year of achieving \$40 million in revenue. These results were achieved by the collective efforts of the President & CEO, Vice President of Development & Special Events and staff, the Vice President of Strategic Planning & Grants Management, and the Urban League Board of Directors and stakeholders. The Development staff worked to develop and secure new corporate revenue, grant funds and individual contributions that align with our strategic program initiatives. In line with our mission, we have continued to focus on serving our most vulnerable clients when they need us the most with COVID-19 Relief efforts, flood victim support, and community stabilization programs and services.

Building the capacity of the agency's fundraising among city, state and federal organizations plus corporations and individual contributions from community leaders will continue to be a top priority in 2023.

Board Involvement

The Urban League Board of Directors, as the agency's governing body, plays a vital role by supporting initiatives, advocating on critical issues, and assisting Urban League efforts to increase individual and corporate support. The Board sets strategic guidelines for the organizational activities. The Urban League Board of Directors consists of members elected to 3-year staggered terms. It is the largest Board in the National Urban League movement, and they unselfishly give their time, expertise, company support, resources, and personal contributions to support the agency's programs and services. See [page 159](#) for a complete Board List.



Special Events

Special Events play a key role in raising unrestricted funding to support the programs and services that are administered to the 200,000+ direct / indirect clients in the St. Louis Bi-State Region. Although 2022 continued to experience the COVID-19 pandemic, we adhered to mandated safety precautions and implemented the Annual Dinner and the Salute to Women in Leadership as hybrid live / virtual special events.

104th Annual Dinner

The 104th Annual Dinner and Report to The Community, held in April 2022 at the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel, raised \$603,607.00 to support agency programs. The pre-event reception was sponsored by Anheuser-Busch and featured entertainment by Denise Thimes, remarks from Urban League Board Chairman Mark Levison, and reception host Julio Suarez of Anheuser-Busch. Rene Knott, KSDK 5 On Your Side News Anchor, served as emcee. Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to James G. & Elizabeth Mannen Berges.



Membership

The Urban League's Development Department and Membership Committee offer a unique opportunity for individuals who share our mission, values, and vision to become members of the organization. Through our various membership options, including the Whitney M. Young Society, Urban League Individual/Corporate/Organizational Membership, the Urban League Guild, the Federation of Block Units, and the Urban League Young Professionals. Bring together a diverse group of people committed to empowering our community. We are immensely grateful to all Urban League Members for joining us in advocating for and empowering African Americans and other marginalized communities to achieve economic self-sufficiency in the St. Louis region. All Urban League memberships are tax-deductible, and we welcome anyone who shares our commitment to social justice and equity to join us in our efforts.

AGENCY HEADQUARTERS
3701 GRANDEL SQUARE
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108
(314) 615-3600
WWW.ULSTL.COM



OUR MISSION
THE MISSION OF THE URBAN LEAGUE OF METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS, INC. IS TO EMPOWER AFRICAN AMERICANS AND OTHERS THROUGHOUT THE REGION IN SECURING ECONOMIC SELF-RELIANCE, SOCIAL EQUALITY AND CIVIL RIGHTS.





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Salute to Women in Leadership

The Urban League hosted the annual Salute to Women in Leadership Gala in September 2022, at the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel with FOX 2 News anchor Shirley Washington as Mistress of Ceremonies. The event honors outstanding women who embody the mission of the Urban League. Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to actress Tichina Arnold, and Areva Martin, an award-winning civil rights attorney, CNN legal analyst, author, advocate and founder and president of Special Needs Network. There were 12 additional honorees that were selected from a wide swath of professional and civic categories, including community leaders, elected officials, educators, media, corporations, businesses, and charities.

The 2022 honorees included:

- Marilyn Bush, President of Bank of America St. Louis
- Akberet Boykin-Farr, Vice President of Diversity and Social Responsibility at Emerson
- Dr. Matifadza Hlatshwayo Davis, Director of Health for the City of St. Louis
- Gwendolyn Wilson-Diggs, Vice President of Head Start and Early Head Start for the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis
- Nkenge Harmon-Johnson, President and CEO of the Urban League of Portland, Oregon
- Ella Jones, Mayor of the City of Ferguson, Missouri
- Sonette Magnus, Partner at Thompson Coburn LLP
- Karen Morrison, Senior Manager of Advocacy, Community Outreach and Workforce Diversity at BJC HealthCare
- Pamela Morris-Thornton, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Panera Bread
- Tanya Patton, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services at Riverview Gardens School District
- LaTonia Collins Smith, President of Harris-Stowe State University
- Kristin Sobolik, Chancellor of the University of Missouri–St. Louis





**We come
together**
for reaching
goals.

 ST. LOUIS

St. Louis is where you invest in the future, and it's where we love to watch you grow. We share your commitment to a brighter tomorrow and the community we're all a part of. You make St. Louis better every day, and you inspire us to make banking easier, so we all have more time to enjoy life as we take our next step together in this place we call home.

Eric Madkins | Vice President Community Development
Urban League Board of Directors

Urban Expo Back to School Community Empowerment Festival

The Urban League and Saint Louis Public Schools jointly hosted an event at America's Center in St. Louis, which attracted over 19,000 attendees. This multi-faceted event provided critical resources to help families prepare for back to school while connecting them with valuable programs and services offered by the Urban League.

At the event, students received free book bags, haircuts, school supplies, health screenings, and vaccinations. Over 10,000 free backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed, in addition to 10,000 free bags of groceries valued at \$65 per bag. Families also had access to a wide variety of Urban League programs, including utility, rent, and mortgage assistance programs, homebuyer programs, financial literacy information, and more.

The Urban Expo featured four educational pavilions that included the St. Louis Public Schools Experience Pavilion, The Scott Credit Financial Family Feud Pavilion, The Urban League Experience Pavilion, and the Thrivent Homeownership Experience Pavilion. The event also included the Urban Expo Health Fair, Nike Rumble in St. Louis USA Amateur Boxing, the Save Our Sisters Women's Empowerment Summit, and new this year, the Urban League Warrant Recall Project.

The Urban Expo Job Fair, presented by the Regional Business Council, STL Works.com, and Poettker Construction, drew hundreds of job seekers, and over 60 companies participated. The Save Our Sons program offered free suits, dress shirts, and ties to individuals in attendance at the job fair. In total, 56 people received interview attire valued at \$16,800, and the job fair resulted in 71 interviews conducted, 27 candidates offered and accepted jobs, and 40 candidates invited back for a second interview.

Overall, the event was a huge success, providing valuable resources and opportunities for families and individuals in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area.



urban expo

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Whitney M. Young Society

The Whitney M. Young Society was founded in 2013, by Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis President & CEO Michael P. McMillan to honor donors contributing \$500 to \$5,000 or more to the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis. Since its inception in 2013, donors have contributed over \$1 million in unrestricted revenue to the organization. The annual Whitney M. Young Society Holiday Reception was held at Thompson Coburn LLP. The Urban League partnered with The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra on a new incentive providing tickets for Whitney M. Young Society contributors who joined or renewed between November 1, 2022, and January 16, 2023. New members received two tickets to attend the annual SLSO In Unison Chorus - Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Tribute Performance with a special post-performance reception at Powell Symphony Hall.



The Whitney M. Young Society provides the following Membership Levels:

- Legacy - \$5,000+
- Heritage - \$2,500
- Founder \$1,000
- Pillar - \$500

To Donate to Whitney M. Young Society, please visit www.ulstl.com



Whitney M. Young
SOCIETY



Schnucks Round Up at the Register

Schnucks, through its longtime partnership with the Urban League, hosted a Round Up at the Register fundraiser in February 2022. In-store Round Up contributions totaled \$150,000 from 112 stores, with \$118,003.48 going to the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis. Round ups in Schnucks stores in other markets supported the Urban League chapter in each respective area. Schnucks Markets, Inc. is St. Louis largest grocery chain operating 112 stores.

Ascension Charity Classic Raised \$225,000 for ULSTL

The 2nd annual Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson raised more than \$1 million for charitable organizations in North St. Louis County and beyond. The Urban League, as a primary beneficiary, received \$225,000 to support general programs.



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

The Urban League finalized a partnership with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in 2022 to support several initiatives in 2023. The total value of the collaboration is \$220,000. President, Michael McMillan, Thomas R. Bailey, Jr. Vice President of Development & Special Events, and James Clark, Vice President of Public Safety & Community Response, visited the church's operations in Utah to tour the epicenter of the organization's welfare and humanitarian efforts. The Church of Latter-Day Saints partnership includes \$70,000 to support transportation, uniforms, and specialized training through the Save Our Sons and Save Our Sisters programs, \$10,000 for Grill to Glory, \$120,000 of in-kind for three food donations and another \$20,000 in-kind for warehoused commodities over 2023 as needed.

\$300,000 Secured for New Entrepreneurship Center

The Urban League established a new \$300,000 Entrepreneurship & Women's Business Center in partnership with Commerce Bank. Commerce Bank donated the old bank branch on Natural Bridge and made a gift to support renovation costs. The new center will be home to our SBA Women's business Center and house the Federation of Block Units. A formal ceremony and press conference announcing the project was held on April 19, 2022 with National Urban League President Marc Morial, representatives from SBA, and members of the area block units.



Volunteerism

The Urban League is fortunate to have over 1,000 volunteers to graciously donate their time and talents to ensure that the Urban League services are administered to our underserved community. In 2022, the Urban League streamlined its volunteer recruitment efforts with an identified coordinator and an upgraded process that supports volunteer needs in departments across the organization.



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www.dslue.org



Development Highlights 2022

The Urban League's \$40 million Restoring Hope Capital Campaign continued to attract significant gifts and interest in 2022 raising \$23,193,048 as of March 2023. Launched in 2020, the Restoring Hope Campaign funds the renovation and preservation of the Urban League's new Regional Headquarters Campus at 1408 North Kingshighway. Formerly known as the Victor Roberts Building, the old Sears department store building provides over 205,000 square feet of office, retail, and meeting space. The new headquarters is a vital community resource in the heart of North St. Louis consolidating many Urban League programs in one efficient location.

Major milestones and renovation updates in 2022 included:

- Construction on the new \$1 million Simmons Bank project began including construction of a new drive-through on the north end of the building and an ATM on the parking lot.
- A Centene gift of \$1 million supported the purchase of Urban League Plaza on Aubert Avenue.
- New branding lighting elements featuring the Urban League symbol were added to the center tower
- Parking lot and campus lighting upgrades were completed in addition to new campus landscaping.
- Thrivent held a special ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the new Thrivent Hub on the second floor of our new headquarters. This community space is the first of its kind outreach center for Thrivent.
- The National Development Council (NDC) hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony in August 2022 to celebrate the grand opening of the new NDC Entrepreneurship Center at the new headquarters. NDC is partnering with the Urban League on several initiatives that are designed to support minority entrepreneurs and real estate developers in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area.
- Edward Jones committed to establishing a major presence at the new headquarters including staffing a position to support financial education. Details for the new partnership will be announced in 2023.
- The Urban League and the State of Missouri are partnering with Vested Urban Farms/Fresh Harvest 365 to establish a hydroponic farming operation on the new Regional Headquarters campus. The farm project advanced in 2022 as Vested Urban Farms Greenhouse / Fresh Harvest 365 conceptual site plan drawings were completed and approved. Space was cleared for the containers housing the vertical grow houses scheduled for installation in early 2023.
- The Urban League's Housing Division moved into new suites complete with conference rooms.



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105 YEARS

Congratulations to the Urban League of Metropolitan Saint Louis, Inc. on 105 years of providing resources and opportunities to the Metropolitan St. Louis community.

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Grant Activity

Grant funding for the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis is an essential component of its sustainability and its ability to maintain, enhance, and expand its programming. In 2022, the agency recognized the benefit of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, along with funding from several departments in the State of Missouri, St. Louis City, and St. Louis County, and private donors. In total, the Grants Management office secured over \$5 million in funding for the agency.

2022 Grant Funding \$5,000,000



Housing Division

The Urban League's Housing Division was the largest recipient of grant funding, with \$2.2 million awarded to accomplish three primary goals: stabilizing homeless families by quickly providing housing and wrap-around services; preventing families from falling into homelessness by providing mortgage, rental, and utility assistance; and, empowering the community with financial literacy and homeownership counseling and workshops.

Division of Public Safety and Community Response

The Division of Public Safety and Community Response received the second largest amount of funding, \$1.5 million, which enabled the agency to stand-up community violence intervention teams, deploy teams of Community Health Navigators that saturated the community with COVID-19 education, established COVID-19 and influenza vaccination and testing sites, and provide emergency relief to flood victims impacted by the summer's devastating flooding.

Public Safety received a total of \$675,000 from various Missouri state government departments. The Urban League participated in the COVID-19 Statewide Health Disparities Initiative allowing the agency to maintain vaccination and testing sites in underserved communities in both the City and County. The division also received funding to engage in the state's Economic Distress Zone (EDZ) project which enabled the Public Safety Division to provide services and support to residents in areas with high incidents of crime and deteriorating infrastructure. A third state-funded grant, the Opioid Response Grant, added resources to the division's Urban Opioid Triage program distributing life-saving Narcan to and a pathway to treatment and recovery.

At the local level, the City of St. Louis awarded the agency \$740,000 for three initiatives. The Department of Health's Community Violence Intervention (CVI) program funded the agency so it could directly intervene with individuals experiencing violence and provide evidence-based programming to disrupt the cycle of violence. This funding expanded Serving Our Streets, the Urban League's signature community outreach and gun violence de-escalation program, into the Baden neighborhood.

As part of the continued pandemic relief effort, the Affordable Housing Commission made funding available for the Urban League's community mass food distribution events. Over 7,500 families received nutritious food that contained provisions that would last for at least two weeks.

The Division of Public Safety utilized a \$50,000 cash donation from The Pershing Foundation to provide support to residents affected by flooding caused by record rainfall in July 2022. The residents were supplied with emergency relief supplies, such as cleaning and sanitization materials, as well as food. The flooding left many homes temporarily or permanently uninhabitable, resulting in devastating financial losses and homelessness for residents. In response to the crisis, the Urban League adopted a commitment similar to their response during the COVID-19 pandemic, and The Pershing Foundation's contribution helped make this possible.

Economic Development

The Urban League's economic development efforts were greatly enhanced when Congresswoman Cori Bush chose the agency for one of her Community Project Funding projects. The Urban League received \$750,000 for re-development of the Urban League Plaza. The Plaza project entails the restoration of the property's exterior and revitalization of its interior in preparation for accommodating African American owned small business enterprises.

Education

Supporting education for our region's youth is an important goal for the Urban League. In addition to Head Start/Early Head Start, the agency also significantly supports the St. Louis City School District through its Community School Partnership program. Through a \$500,000 agreement, the Community School Partnership assigns 12 Student and Family Mentors to nine elementary schools. Mentors are vital additions to the students' support team within the schools, as they provide emotional and social support through comprehensive case management to stabilize families, reduce mobility rates, and boost attendance and parental involvement.

Workforce Development

Another signature program of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, the Save Our Sons Workforce Development program, was the recipient of St. Louis City Community Development Block Grant funding, to the tune of \$100,000. This funding provides job skills training for men, ages 17 and older, who are chronically unemployed, underemployed, and/or lacking workforce skills. Individuals must complete a four-week pre-employment training program that provides a foundation for success. The focus of this grant is for participants to advance to either post-secondary, advanced training, or apprenticeship programs at the Community College with the intention of transitioning into employment opportunities in the healthcare, technology, transportation, and hospitality industries.

The City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding of \$90,000 enabled the agency to provide leadership training and development to block captains in the Federation of Block Units, the Urban League's longstanding grassroots neighborhood improvement organization.



Congratulations
to those honored tonight

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105th Annual Dinner Meeting

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Memorial - (1942 – 2022)

MICHAEL F. NEIDORFF

After a lengthy illness, Michael F. Neidorff passed away on Thursday, April 7, 2022 surrounded by his family and friends. A private family service will be held. At a later date to be announced, there will be a memorial service for family and friends to celebrate his extraordinary life and legacy. Michael's love and devotion for his family knew no bounds. He was a beloved husband to Noémi Neidorff, father to Peter Neidorff and the late Monica Neidorff, and brother to Susan Neidorff Reinglass and Robert Neidorff.

Michael was Centene Corporation's visionary leader for more than 25 years. He built a remarkable American business success story and his commitment to providing affordable, high quality health care to the most vulnerable people transformed lives across the globe.

Michael Neidorff joined Centene as CEO in 1996 and led the company in its remarkable trajectory from a \$40 million single health plan to a multinational \$125 billion health care enterprise serving 25 million members. Centene is ranked #24 in the Fortune 500, #57 in the Fortune 500 Global list, and #7 on the 2019 Fortune Change the World list. Centene has grown to nearly 76,000 employees serving all 50 states and 3 international countries.

Michael made diversity and inclusion a central focus of his leadership, building an international corporation where women, people of color, LGBTQ, veterans, and people with disabilities all have opportunities to lead and excel. Thanks to his strong commitment, Fortune ranked Centene as the #2 company nationally for diversity and inclusion. In 2017, Michael was named Citizen of the Year by the St. Louis Post Dispatch for spearheading a \$30 million investment in Ferguson, Missouri in the weeks following the racial unrest in the summer of 2014, bringing much needed opportunity and hope to the region and anchoring small businesses in the community.

Michael Neidorff was one of the most philanthropic individuals in the country. His philanthropy and personal generosity transformed the non-profit landscape throughout the state of Missouri and across the nation. His continual support for hundreds of not-for-profit organizations was widely celebrated.

He was dedicated to supporting arts and civic organizations. He served as chairman of the board of trustees for the National Urban League and was inducted into the Hall of Fame for Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis. For more than 30 years, he served on the board of directors for the Greater St. Louis Boy Scouts of America and on the board of Concordance Academy. Michael served as chairman of the board of trustees for his alma mater, Trinity University, in San Antonio, Texas, and in 2021, Trinity University named its business school, the Michael Neidorff School of Business in his honor.

Having had a love for the arts, Michael served on the board of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, as a trustee for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, and as Treasurer of the Kennedy Center Board of Trustees. Michael was raised in Altoona, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Trinity University and St. Francis University with a Master of Arts degree.

Memorial donations in his name may be sent to the Siteman Cancer Center, the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, or a charity of your choice.



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Memorial - (1925 - 2022)

Dr. Martin L. Mathews

Martin Luther Mathews was the co-founder and emeritus president of the Mathews-Dickey Boys' & Girls' Club. Over the past 60 years, Mathews' work had impacted over a million young lives and had been recorded in the recently released biography, "I Trust You with My Life," available on-line at ItrustYouWithMyLife.com. One of Mathews' favorite sayings was "what you do for yourself dies with you and what you do for others lives on forever." These were certainly words by which he had lived his life.

Mathews' first involvement with youth programming came at the death-bed invitation of a fellow neighborhood baseball coach who had summoned him to his house. He had molded this team into semi-pro three-state champions who won five games in one day. More importantly, the members of the Knights became successful FBI agents, educators, business people, lawyers, etc.

It was this experience and a chance encounter with Mathews-Dickey co-founder "Dickey" Ballentine under a shade tree that had demonstrated to Mathews the importance of giving ALL CHILDREN a chance. In the talk, they had learned that the children on their teams weren't getting into as much trouble as youth with nothing to do.

And, so Mathews-Dickey was founded upon this simple-yet-vital premise in 1960. Since then the Club had played an important role in the forefront of efforts to combat teen idleness. A champion for youth, Mathews had forged strong relationships with business and community leaders and had developed numerous innovative programs like the Volunteer Tutorial, which supplied youth with math, reading and language arts "study buddies" and computer literacy Instruction to tackle the digital divide through technology training.

An avid sportsman, Mathews had built strong relationships with the Junior Football and Khoury baseball leagues. He had also collaborated with Major League Baseball and the St. Louis Cardinals officials on the creation of the Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities (RBI) Program in 1992 and subsequent hosting of the first World Series.

A firm believer in youth employment opportunities, Mathews had founded Earn and Learn to help them earn money as managers, coaches, scorekeepers, and umpires. In an effort to reduce gang violence, he had collaborated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in 1992 to establish Motivation, Vocation and Preparation (MVP).

In 1982, the Club had been declared a model for the country by President Ronald Reagan. And in 1998, President Bill Clinton's White House had lauded it as a 21st Century Learning Center. U.S. Vice Presidents Joe Biden and Dan Quayle had recognized the Club's "The Sky is the Limit," "Maleness to Manhood Workshop Series," career, leadership, and mentoring programs. Mathews' advice had been frequently sought by local, national, and worldwide leaders on successfully instituting youth programming and forging corporate/community partnerships.

Under his leadership and tutelage, the Club had helped give birth to City Academy and the St. Louis Law Internship Program. Mathews had also received honorary doctorate degrees from St. Louis University, Washington University, Webster University, and the University of Missouri — St. Louis.





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TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE AND
PUBLIC SAFETY

April 6, 2023

Robert and Steve O'Loughlin

Dear Bob and Steve,

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations for being named Lifetime Achievement Honorees by the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis. Your entrepreneurship, vision and contributions to our community will have a lasting, generational impact. From founding Lodging Hospitality Management in 1986, to helping to restore our city's beloved Union Station, to updating the esteemed Westport Plaza, your pioneering spirit and generosity are impressive and evident throughout the region.

While I regret my schedule prevents me from attending the Urban League 2023 Annual Dinner, please know I appreciate all that you have done, and will continue to do, to uplift our community, provide amazing hospitality venues and create economic development opportunities for those who need it most. Your friendship is invaluable to me, and I can think of no better recipients for this prestigious honor.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Williams".

SENATOR BRIAN WILLIAMS
MO State Senator, District 14
St. Louis County

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Public Support			
Contributions	990,026	1,044,020	2,034,046
In Kind Contributions	1,530,000		1,530,000
Corporate & Foundation Grants	2,216,144	6,454,496	8,670,640
Memberships	171,489		171,489
Special Events (Net of Expense)	447,720	8,950	456,670
United Way of Greater St. Louis	1,342,311		1,342,311
Total Public Support	6,697,690	7,507,466	14,205,156
GOVERNMENTAL GRANTS	\$ 25,470,365	-	\$ 25,470,365
Other			
Program Service Fees	512,084		512,084
Investments	282	(492,992)	(492,710)
Miscellaneous	989,929	975	990,904
Releases From Restriction	3,959,169	(3,959,169)	-
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$ 37,629,519	\$ 3,056,280	\$ 40,685,799
EXPENSES			
Program Services			
Educational Excellence	13,725,648		13,725,648
Economic Opportunity	8,680,960	-	8,680,960
Community Empowerment	7,236,314		7,236,314
Public Safety & Neighborhood Stabilization	3,420,079		3,420,079
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 33,063,001	\$ -	\$ 33,063,001
Supportive Services			
Management and General	1,997,980		1,997,980
Fundraising and Communications	\$ 2,549,258		\$ 2,549,258
TOTAL SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	\$ 4,547,238	\$ -	\$ 4,547,238
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 37,610,239	\$ -	\$ 37,610,239
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	\$ 19,280	\$ 3,056,280	\$ 3,075,560

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	UL of Metro STL	Ferguson Fund	POB-HQ	Consolidated
Cash and Cash Equivalents	16,226,215	118,736	298,893	16,643,844
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:	-	-		-
Governmental & Other agencies	5,491,272	209,186	269,630	5,970,088
Pledges Receivable Net	7,899,120	-		7,899,120
Prepaid Expenses	1,687,701	6,027		1,693,728
Other Current Assets	20,758	1,400		22,158
Inventory	-	-		-
Investment in POB-Ferguson	2,607,466	-		2,607,466
Investments	5,464,706	-		5,464,706
Due to/Due From	(392,469)	178,766	213,703	-
FEC Intangibles	-	7,692	49,000	56,692
FEC Other Fixed Assets	-	3,025,904		3,025,904
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT: NET	11,326,950	639,393	4,985,851	16,952,194
Total Assets	\$ 50,331,719	\$ 4,187,104	\$ 5,817,077	\$ 60,335,900
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable & Accrued Exp	1,542,590	5,050	4,536	1,552,176
Short Term Notes Payable		-		-
Accrued Payroll & Related Tax	545,751	-		545,751
Deferred Income	11,688,776	-		11,688,776
LONG TERM LIABILITIES:	-	-		-
Long Term Note Payable UL Plaza	-	-		-
Long Term Note Payable - PPP	1,895,993			1,895,993
Mortgage Payable GH	96,730	-		96,730
Long Term Notes Payable - POB/FEC	-	5,790,000		5,790,000
Long Term Notes Payable - POB/HQ			5,445,000	5,445,000
Less: Unamortized Debt Issuance Costs	-	(431,028)	(100,349)	(531,377)
Total Long Term Notes Payable	1,992,723	5,358,972	5,445,000	12,696,346
Total liabilities	\$ 15,769,840	\$ 5,358,972	\$ 5,445,000	\$ 26,483,049
FUND BALANCE				
POB Member Equity	-	(1,167,243)	193,721	(973,522)
Without Restrictions & Board Designated	9,804,994	(9,675)	274,169	10,069,488
Perpetual in nature	3,984,540	-		3,984,540
Time & Purpose Restricted	20,772,345	-		20,772,345
Total Net Assets	34,561,879	(1,176,918)	467,890	33,852,853
Total Liability and Net Assets	\$ 50,331,719	\$ 4,182,054	\$ 5,912,890	\$ 60,335,900

(Unaudited)



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Urban League Locations

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ST. LOUIS, MO 63113
(314) 615-3600

ST. CLAIR COUNTY OPERATIONS

10220 LINCOLN TRAIL
FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS, IL 62208
(618) 274-1150

ST. LOUIS COUNTY OPERATIONS

8960 JENNINGS STATION RD.
JENNINGS, MO 63136
(314) 388-9840

VAUGHN CULTURAL CENTER

1408 N. KINGSHIGHWAY BLVD.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63113
(314) 615-3600

SAVE OUR SONS SOUTH CITY

2626 CHEROKEE ST.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63118
(314) 403-1333

SAVE OUR SONS EAST ST. LOUIS

2503 STATE ST.
EAST ST LOUIS, IL 62205
(618) 342-4443

FERGUSON COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT CENTER

9420 WEST FLORISSANT AVE.
FERGUSON, MO 63136
(314) 528-5200

MLK PLAZA - URBAN LEAGUE FAMILY RESOURCES CENTER

3655 PAGE BLVD
ST. LOUIS, MO 63113

NORTH SPRING COMMUNITY CENTER

929 NORTH SPRING
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108

WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER

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ST. LOUIS, MO 63133
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4323 N. GRAND BLVD.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63107

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URBAN LEAGUE PLAZA

9946 WEST FLORISSANT AVE.
FERGUSON, MO 63136

COMING SOON!

URBAN LEAGUE SENIOR LIVING

9901 WEST FLORISSANT AVE.
FERGUSON, MO 63136

HEAD START HEADQUARTERS

(HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START)
8964 JENNINGS STATION RD.
JENNINGS, MO 63136
(314) 867-9100

NORTH SPRING CENTER

(HEAD START)
911 NORTH SPRING
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108
(314) 652-2406

MT. ZION CENTER

(HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START)
1440 S. COMPTON
ST. LOUIS, MO 63104
(314) 773-0733

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CENTER

(HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START)
1437 LAUREL
ST. LOUIS, MO 63112
(314) 389-8800

MAGNOLIA CENTER

(HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START)
2725 ALHAMBRA CT.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63118
(314) 584-6363

BROADWAY CENTER

(HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START)
4040 S. BROADWAY
ST. LOUIS, MO 63118
(314) 317-0264

PATCH CENTER

(HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START)
7925 MINNESOTA
ST. LOUIS, MO 63107
(314) 584-6961

WATER TOWER CENTER

(HEAD START)
2125 BISSELL ST.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63107
(314) 584-6879

****The agency also operates several other facilities throughout the region including a community garden, storage facility, housing and other sites.****

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