

Urban Ministry Models/Ideas

1. Extra Good News™ – Church and CEF partnership [ETC - S/O 1999 p.16, J/F 2002 p.14-15]
2. Bethel Express Enterprises - multi-level discipleship/job placement program – Syracuse, NY
3. MTG Sportsreach™ – street events, after-school, camps, clinics [ETC magazine J/A 2002 p.12-14]
4. Rising Stars – tutoring after-school as a partnership/adopt-a-school program – Durham, NC
5. Harambee Center - John Perkins Foundation (CCDA) – Pasadena, CA
6. JC's Kitchen – praying, claiming, buying property at the city “gates” - Albany, NY
7. Community Mural Projects - mosaic art on city walls – Chicago
8. Dry Bones – Denver, CO

Extra Good News™

Every week throughout the most needy neighborhoods of Durham, North Carolina, Child Evangelism Fellowship staff and volunteers visit boys and girls as part of a comprehensive, block-by-block ministry called Extra Good News (XGN). Life-changing relationships are built through encouraging words, helping hands and kids attending the Extra Good News events.

Buses transport children to the Saturday events, which features high-energy games, live music, stories, one central Bible truth, a Gospel presentation and special activities designed to grip the kid's attention for an hour and a half. Over 6,000 children, ages 3-14, have enrolled in the weekly club since it began in January 1999.

Bethel Express Enterprises

Contact Emily Ramsdell at CEF in Syracuse, NY

MTG Sportreach™

Inspired and founded in 1996 by John Blake and Robert Brickey with a simple, but profound purpose - That boys and girls need to develop physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually to be a complete person, student, and athlete. They need to know Jesus as their Savior and develop strong Christian character to lead clean and healthy lives; to discipline their minds to focus on academics; and to be winners in life. These camps and clinics 1- Teach and evangelize with the Word of God 2- Teach basic fundamental basketball and team play 3- Introduce godly heroes from the Bible and life today 4- Build solid basketball skills and strong Christian character.

Rising Stars

This is a Christian-centered tutoring program for second graders in the lowest performing inner city schools in Durham, NC. The directors are CEF volunteers and board members. Tutoring is for one and a half hours for two days each week. The children have been incorporated into Bible club ministries, but not in conjunction with the tutoring program. Usually 20-30 students are served each semester. This ministry fosters relationships both with the family and school in order to serve their needs and have an opportunity to share Christ in a multiple of venues.

Harambee Center

Indigenous leadership development in NW Pasadena and beyond: *"Harambee" is Swahili for "Let's Get Together and Push"*. Staff and interns work with African-American and Latino children and families through after-school tutoring, Good News Clubs®, and summer day camps. This program is emulated by organizations nationwide and was recognized by President George Bush. There is a peculiar focus upon indigenous leadership development, which spans many years, with the goal of seeing students through college graduation and back into their community as leaders committed to repeating the cycle of indigenous development.

J.C.'s Kitchen

An inner-city pastor in Albany, NY has been buying property at each entry point "gate" to the city. He has set up a ministry called J.C.'s Kitchen which is a feeding center for youth only, open from 3-5 pm seven days a week. He has several large Churches plugging in with a new location to feature a worship center, dining area, and soda shop with arcade games. They go to the parks and housing projects in the summer and serve lunch for the kids as well. There is some Bible club involvement through a weekly Good New Clubs® and 5-Day Clubs® at their summer meals on wheels (an ambulance) sites. This is urban ministry at it's best; meeting needs, and a light in the community showing them a living Epistle. After eight years the Church still has not come along side this guy.

Community Mural Projects

Uptown Baptist Church facilitates community involvement to produce painted murals on the sides of buildings in uptown Chicago. This is an outreach into a specific area of the city until the project is complete. The church attempts to connect with all residents and businesses around the project in order to have opportunities to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and action. Secondly, indigenous people are encouraged to work together on such projects to visually improve the community and be empowered to seek other needed changes.

Dry Bones

Dry Bones is a ministry that seeks to build relationships that lead to new life in Christ. The primary target of Dry Bones is the large population of homeless teens living in downtown Denver. Dry Bones will connect these kids with resources, nutrition, new friends, entertainment, and the Gospel. Another large target of Dry Bones is Christian teens from across the metro area. Dry Bones creates opportunities and provides an atmosphere where relationships can be developed between those in need of Christ and those in need of sharing Christ.

Relocation transforms 'you, them and theirs' to 'we, us and ours'.

Reconciliation forces you to become intentional.

"...Integration requires civility, but reconciliation requires crucifixion." Surrender must be the primary value of a reconciler. Dr. Ronald Fowler, a pastor in Akron, Ohio states, The white folks will help you do something, but where are they when you need them just to be your brother? So we [The Church] must abandon the twentieth-century marketing strategy incorporated by evangelicalism that church growth can only happen in homogeneous settings. [[Resurrecting Hope](#), John Perkins]

Redistribution is accomplished when the Body of Christ is visibly present and living among the poor [kids we are reaching], and when we love our neighbors' families the same way we love ourselves and own families.

"Humans fundamentally need to be loved, feel significant, and be reasonably secure." Meeting these needs affirms the dignity of every person and displays the true love of God for them.

- Radical approaches to urban ministry, which are effective [church adopted schools, community centers, after-school programs, indigenous leadership development, etc.]

- How to show kids in pain that you really care [3 Rs, visitation, investment, informed]
- How to urbanize the gospel without commercializing it [separation and relevance]
- About strategies and methods being used by successful ministries across America:

Examples of proven programs/ministries – after-school, church-based outreach, adopt-a-school -- Vision for effective ministry by the church in future – day camps, summer camps, tutoring, mentoring, etc.