**URBAN HOPE 2020** 

# AHOUSE OF HOPE IN AWORLD OF PAIN





## **URBAN HOPE**

### IN THE EYE OF THE STORM

- PANDEMIC RESPONSE
- THANK YOU!!!
- THE SATURATE COLLECTIVE
- WEAVING KEVLAR
- VIRTUAL OUTREACH
- REROUTING THE HOUSING PROJECT TO PRISON PIPELINE

David Beidel, President

Chad McVann, CEO

Our city has been reeling from the unrelenting distress and sorrow of 2020. For the past 30 years our mission and theme song has been to build "a house of hope in a world of pain." Never have our communities needed the protection of the house of the Lord more. Behind the pandemic, the protests and the political vitriol are countless struggling and frightened children and families.

As the epicenter of many devastating medical and sociological storms, NYC suffered immensely. As is always the case, the poor experienced the greatest loss of life, employment, education and hope.

We want to thank each and every one of you who have prayed for, served with and supported Urban Hope.

Because of you: love, hope, joy and tangible care met our neighbors in distress and brought great comfort to thousands of families!

You, Urban Hope and our beautiful Carpenter King have been building the House of the Lord in the eye of the storm.

We had been preparing for a completely different 2020; our literacy collective was flourishing and expanding, our basketball championships were scheduled to be played at the Barclay Center. Our City Saturation Summits throughout the five boroughs were bearing amazing fruit. Summer Camp was just around the corner and Jesus Week was revving up to be one of the largest outreach initiatives in NYC history!

Then a microbe stopped the world.

## PANDEMIC REPSONSE





We hadn't facilitated a rescue operation since Super Storm Sandy, but our terrified, isolated and sick neighbors needed RESCUE AND RELIEF!

In March we partnered with Samaritans Purse to help build a COVID-19 field hospital in the middle of Central Park and distribute two tractor trailer loads of relief supplies. We added to the blessing two more truck loads of our <u>Jesus Week</u> Gospel resources! Through our network of churches in the five boroughs, critical care and the hope of Christ was provided to thousands of families in the highest need communities of NYC.

This began an eight month stretch of well over 30 large outreach festivals and several 5 borough distribution campaigns which supplied over 200 churches and ministries with practical, critical and inspirational resources. On Staten Island we mobilized a large outreach team which focused on the most vulnerable communities in our borough.

We coordinated weekly festivals with food, hygiene, vital resources, free COVID-19 testing, flu shots and the distribution of countless inspirational books for all ages. God transformed the most troubled neighborhoods in our city into holy sanctuaries filled with worship, love, prayer and GOOD NEWS of GREAT JOY!

We also facilitated 8 months of food delivery for locked in seniors at two Public Housing Senior Centers. launched a virtual tutoring program for struggling Public School students, began community healing "Agape Meals" and greatly enriched our web/app - <a href="SaturateNYC.app">SaturateNYC.app</a> to serve and assist our neighbors and families in the midst of the health, food and educational crisis.



## Thank you!!!

#### As a result of YOUR prayer, volunteerism and support:

110,000 meals, 50,000 face masks, 10,000 baby and children's outfits, 150,000 diapers, 325,000 baby wipes, 4000 hygiene kits, 4000 blankets, 4000 winter jackets, 800 boxes of Hope, truckloads of hygiene supplies, 120,000 beautiful and comforting children's books, coloring books, inspirational Max Lucado and Lee Strobel books, encouraging booklets, 600 Thanksgiving meals, 4000 Christmas gifts and much more...

...Flowed like living water to the most desperate and under resourced communities in the NY Metro.

Well over 9 million dollars worth of vital blessings hit the streets of our city, but the intangible impartation of the love of Christ and the hope of His presence bestowed a priceless treasure upon our neighbors in distress.

## THE SATURATE COLLECTIVE

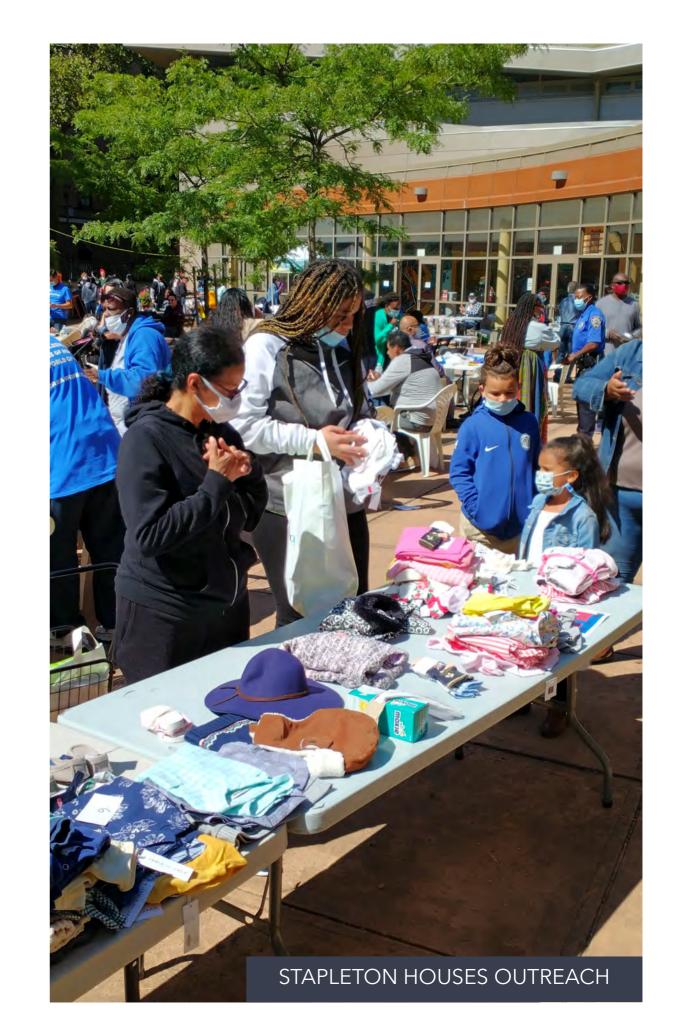
Since 2015, our <u>Saturate.NYC</u> initiative has supplied thousands of churches with millions of books and outreach resources. Each partnering church was encouraged to adopt their neighborhood, local school and Public Housing community. Our goal is to build cities where there are: "no sheep without a shepherd."

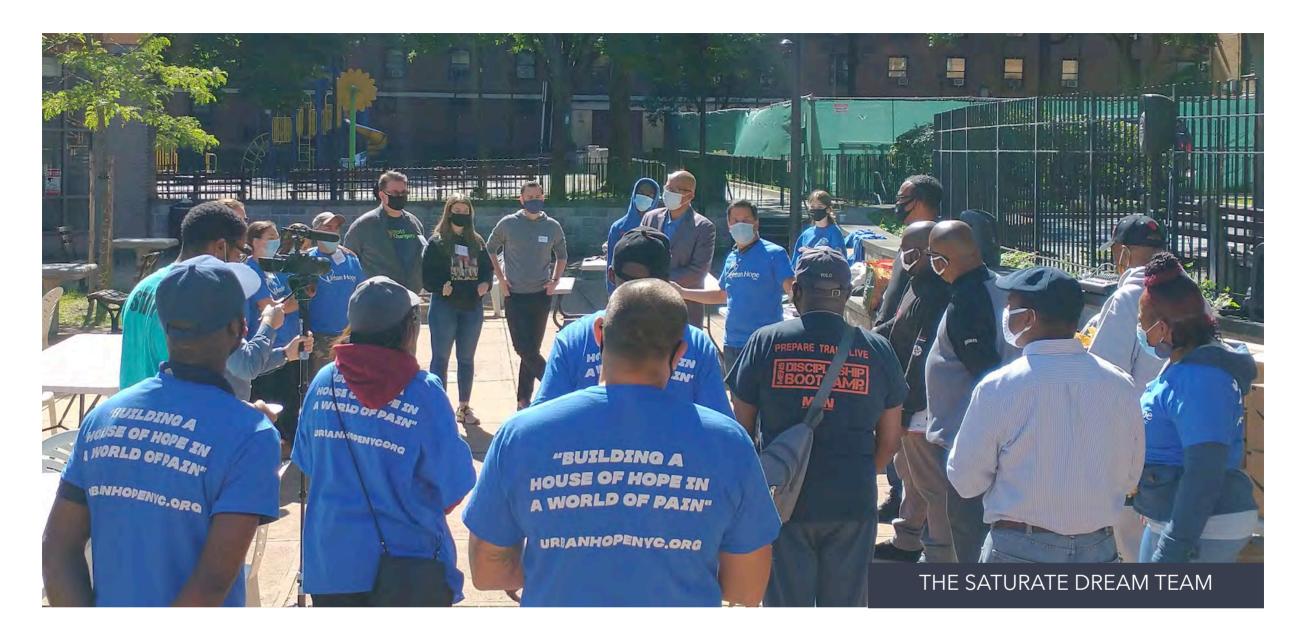
Throughout this heart wrenching year, God built a beautiful team of co-laborers in each of these sectors. We served side by side with leaders and friends from local **churches**, our "adopted" **schools** and **NYCHA** communities (NYC Housing Authority).

It was an extraordinary season of community collaboration. A great deal of our relief and rescue efforts centered around our Public Housing Communities and the elementary schools near them. The greatest need in any city will be found at the intersection of these two overwhelmed institutions.

When the brutal death of George Floyd launched our nation into even greater unrest and polarization, we were so grateful that we were already deeply connected and in the trenches with our beloved NYCHA and School communities.

We were positioned by God's leading to be peacemakers.





THE SATURATE COLLECTIVE: 11 CHURCHES, PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS, COMMUNITY POLICE AND PUBLIC HOUSING LEADERSHIP

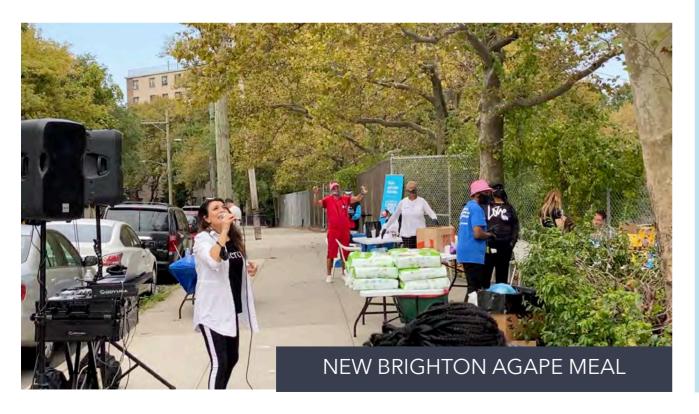
ALL SERVING AS "ONE" TO BUILD BULLETPROOF NEIGHBORHOODS.

We found the imagery of *Kevlar* to be inspiring. **Kevlar is called the thread that stops bullets**, but it can only do so when it is woven together tightly and layered repeatedly. As the world seemed to unravel, we quickly began weaving together pastors,

principals, public housing leaders, neighborhood stakeholders, medical professionals, nonprofits and community police officers to create a bulletproof sanctuary for neighborhoods that were experiencing devastating and deadly storms.



Click below to enjoy Alma Rivera worshipping on Jersey St.



#### **AGAPE MEALS**

Three days after the George Floyd travesty, we were scheduled to facilitate a large outreach event in the Arlington Houses. Prior to the national social upheaval, we were warned by police and local pastors that this was a very dangerous community to stage an event in. We were concerned about the safety of our large outreach team but knew that there was great need, so we moved forward.

It turned out to be a fantastic event! We were welcomed by all with grateful and open arms.

I was reminded of the fact that the only time in the ancient world when Roman royalty, Jews, Greeks and slaves gathered to share a meal was at the Lord's Supper - The Agape Meal. We felt led to facilitate several **Agape meals** and **Community**Prayer Breakfasts. Our motto is: "Breaking Bread to Break Down Walls."

Hundreds have been attending these events to enjoy a wonderful meal, receive helpful resources and hear inspiring worship music from the amazing international worship artist, Alma Rivera! Every attendee was also given an opportunity to break bread and have meaningful conversations with principals, police, pastors, public housing leaders and medical professionals. The presence of Jesus in each of these gatherings has been rich and profound.

## VIRTUAL OUTREACH



Click either image to enjoy the video



2020 forced us to greatly expand our virtual outreach toolbox by enriching our web/app and launching a **virtual tutoring program.** 

Pre-COVID-19, 30% of the 1 million children in our Public Schools were not expected to graduate High School. The pandemic is currently pushing our struggling and overwhelmed educational system to the brink. We quickly retooled our Literacy Collective and launched a virtual tutoring program. The first pilot was extremely successful. We are attempting to reproduce the critical personal touch of our literacy program in a virtual world. We believe that this will help many struggling students and expand the reach of our entire program in the future because it allows for broader participation.

**SaturateNYC.app** and **GLEW.app** have been very important resources in our work, but 2020 has made them vital. When our city was on lockdown, we were able to continue ministering to thousands of our neighbors through this wonderful e-tool.

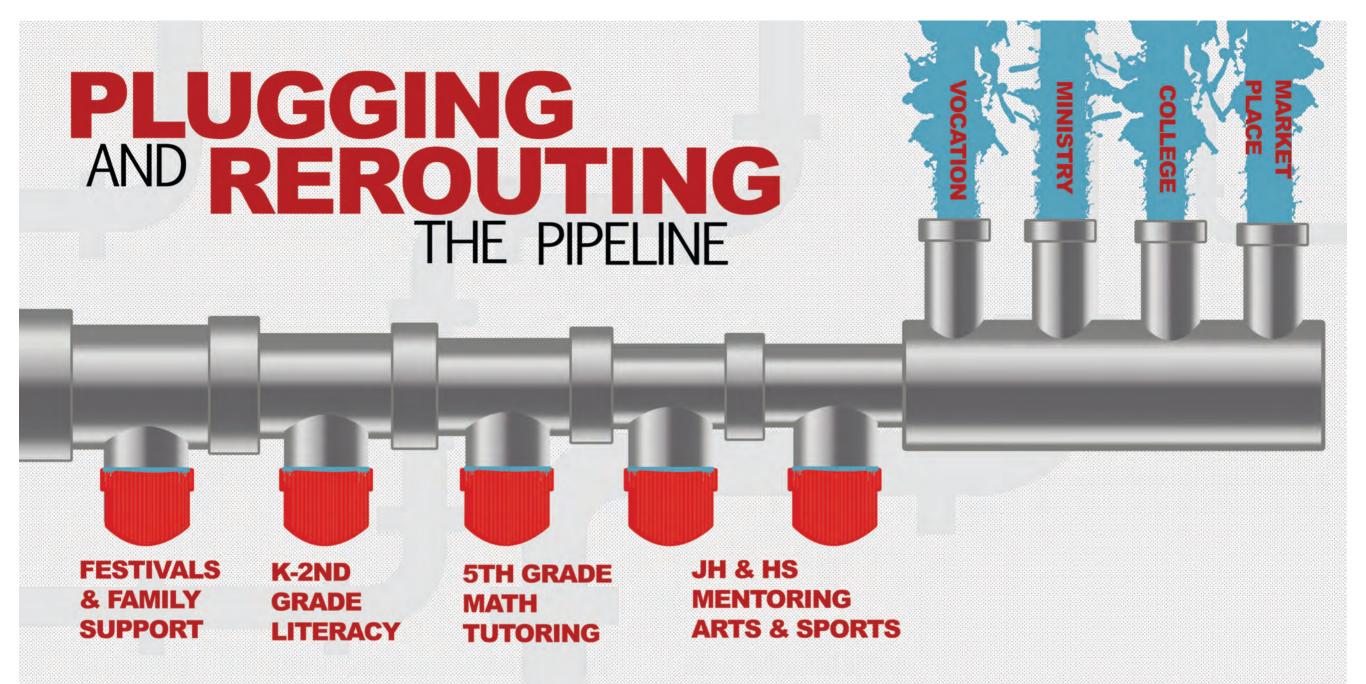
We added a **COVID-19 resource page** which includes a very robust **home-schooling component.** Now parents and children locally and internationally have access to a wealth of helpful resources and access to a free kindergarten to High School education.

### THE PROJECTS TO PRISON PIPELINE Family Instability **3rd Grade** H.S. Jr. High 5th Grade Math Literacy Dropout 0-3 Years TEEN PREGNANCY CRIMINALITY INCARCERATION DEATH

#### SYSTEMIC DEVASTATION REQUIRES SYSTEMIC HEALING

The impact of slavery, the Jim Crow South, Red Lining, racially motivated political deals and city planning, converged and culminated in the isolated cities of despair known as Public Housing. Many residents have heroically battled the brutal tide, but millions more succumb and are lost in the powerful undercurrents of poverty, addiction, criminality and incarceration. Bringing holistic restoration to Public Housing may accomplish more to reverse the devastating effects of racism than any other initiative.

Above are several drop-offs in the pipeline. Tragically, hundreds of thousands of children are trapped in a whirlpool that too often washes them into societal oblivion before they reach 3rd grade! If a child cannot read by this time, they are statistically doomed to poverty or criminality. If a child's home is unstable and their parents cannot read, they have a 70% chance of also struggling with Illiteracy. Targeted care at junctures like this can greatly decrease the downward spiral.



#### THEY WILL REBUILD THE ANCIENT RUINS AND...RENEW THE RUINED CITIES THAT HAVE BEEN DEVASTATED FOR GENERATIONS. Isa. 61:4

We see a clear path forward to bring transformational hope and healing to our NYC Public Housing Communities and the elementary schools adjacent to them. Every child bears the image of God and brings living water into the world. Through a strong city-wide collaboration of churches and non-profits, we can **plug** the devastating early drop-offs. With each plug, we can **reduce** the flow of failure and increase the **water pressure** upwards towards **success and flourishing**.

Helping 3rd graders read and 5th graders with basic math skills will reroute a child's pipeline from a high probability of incarceration to a high probability of College graduation!

We are working passionately to plug each downspout as we reach out to our local schools and Public Housing complexes. In addition we are serving collaboratively with multiple churches and ministries to strategically partner and scale these efforts in the most challenging Public Housing complexes of NYC.

## BECOME AN URBAN HOPE BUILDER!

We need 2,000 "Hope Builders" to financially partner with us at: \$25 - \$100 per month.

These "Hope Builders" will enable us to greatly expand our community outreach, mentorship and literacy initiatives in 20 NYCHA communities, reaching 5000 families and children!

#### **PRAY - VOLUNTEER - SUPPORT**

**URBANHOPENYC.ORG** (paypal and stock donation)

Urban Hope, 77 Alaska St. Staten Island, NY 10310

URBANHOPENYC@GMAIL.COM

FB/IG "UrbanHopeNYC"

DAVID.BEIDEL@GMAIL.COM 917 293 5553

CHAD.MCVANN@GMAIL.COM 929 605 7547

THANK YOU 2020 LEGACY PARTNERS!

HOPE FOR NEW YORK

SUSAN MCDOWELL

LUZERNE FOUNDATION

RICHARD ORLANDO

FRANK MIGLIAZZO

ANNE MARY COLEMAN

**KENT YODER** 

DR. HELEN KIM

THEODORE ATLAS FOUNDATION

SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

NORTHFIELD FOUNDATION

ANKOM TECHNOLOGY

