



Dylan attended Kids CrossFit Camp this summer with his sister Cameron. It was a great experience. His squats have improved, and now it's one of his favorite exercises. His other favorite exercise is the clean and jerk. But Dylan grew in more than muscle strength. His confidence has grown, he's made new friends and all while having fun!

He now creates workouts from the exercise that he learned at camp. He's excited about the strength and muscle that he is gaining from exercising regularly. He loves Kids CrossFit so much that he wants a barbell at home.

Emerging Leaders - Leading through Relationships

Imani has been connected to the Rainier Valley neighborhood ever since she was young - attending Emerald City Bible Fellowship (ECBF) services with her grandma. She became a key volunteer with ECBF's youth program. The skills she developed in those spaces are skills that she actively applied as an intern at Urban Impact's/ECBF Summer Camp.

Imani made sure she was ready to greet the children when they walked through the door at 9:30am. For this summer's enrichment camp, social and emotional regulation and reflection remained a common theme throughout the day. They scheduled several check-ins and activities centered around insuring the children knew how to communicate what they were feeling and why. So for Imani, as she welcomed the kids each day, it included helping each camper note how they are feeling on the program's mood board.

For Imani, interning at camp and leading these activities wasn't just about staying busy or earning a summer paycheck. It was about giving back.

"This is everything - I see myself in these kids, and I would like to equip them with the tools necessary to navigate life, especially as children of color".

In her eyes, these kids deserve to have someone who is willing to invest in them, listen to them, and walk alongside them - even if it meant having to find a ride to work and commute 30 minutes from home, regardless of how tired she was. In her eyes these kids deserve it.



Summer Camper and Intern Imani.

URBANIMPACT
Breaking Cycles, Building Hope

MY GIFT TOWARDS GOD'S WORK IN
SOUTH SEATTLE!

YES, Steve! I want to make sure that every person in South Seattle has access to the programs and services they need.

\$30

\$150

\$75

\$_____ to provide as much help as possible

Leading through Relationships

Ian's biggest goal was to create a space where kids felt safe enough to be vulnerable and explore what faith might look like for them. He knew that for a kid like Jose, who is fairly new to Christianity, this was a huge deal.

Ian's approach to Summer Youth Ministry took on many forms. Sometimes it looked like long bike rides or water balloon fights, other times it might mean playing a game of Four Square as the sun set. This all may sound random, but for Ian, everything he does in his role as a Youth Central Program Intern is intentional with goal of growing relationships where walls can come down and Jesus can be encountered in powerful ways.

"Jesus built his ministry on relationships; it was very relational. So I think spending intentional time building relationships with the kids is really important."

Youth Central began almost four years ago, when Ian came to leaders at Central Community Church and Urban Impact and asked what it would look like to start what was eventually referred to as "Jesus Club" by his peers at his high school.

Since that initial conversation Youth Central has reached kids all over the Central District as it has evolved into a weekly program with additional touch points through out the week. These touch points make all the difference.

Interning for Youth Central this summer provided Ian with an opportunity to give back and invest once again in a program he helped start. His passion is to make sure youth in his neighborhood are provided with an opportunity to encounter Jesus.

Emerging leaders like Imani and Ian are making a difference. They were committed to walking alongside kids in our summer in programs – they understand that it is all about the relationship.

This Fall Ian will be a junior in college and Imani will be starting her senior year in high school. We couldn't be prouder or more encouraged by their leadership - allowing relationships to lead to real transformation.



Summer Camper and Intern Ian taking a moment for a selfie.

Economic Development Welcomes a new Director



A message from
Steve Bury
Executive Director,
Urban Impact

This Spring we said goodbye to B.J. Stewart who served as our Chief Operations Officer and built our Economic Development program for the last 7 years. He is the new CEO of Sunshine Enterprises in Chicago, a program we aspired to model our Economic Development Program after.

In addition to building a strong foundation for our Economic Development Program, B.J., a CPA by training, guided our Operations team through annual audits, helped established our annual strategic and operational planning process, and navigated our team through the pandemic and Covid relief funding. He leaves us on strong financial footings, with solid systems to lead us on.

Many thanks to B.J. for his pioneering leadership and faithful service. He is already missed.

However, God's provision does not end with solid programs and finances. We are very excited to welcome Andre Benjamin to the team as the new Economic Development Director.

Hailing as a native South Seattle resident, Andre's affection runs deep for the Rainier Beach neighborhood.

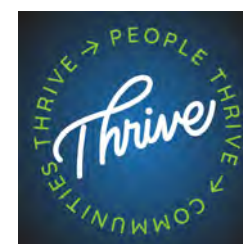
Andre has run an Executive Coaching Training and Publishing company focused on entrepreneur stewardship development. He is rapidly on boarding, excited about our mission and anticipating greatly connecting and serving our business community.

Married to the *Bride of his Youth* Ambra for 16 years, they have 3 children which they affectionately call their "3 Z's" as all their names begin with the letter Z.



Ambra, the 3 Z's and Andre enjoying some family time.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



October 1st - Noon-3:00pm Invite some friends and join us!

Your ticket gets you into the event and an amazing lunch from the local food trucks. Enjoy live music, great raffle items and an insiders look at the work of Urban Impact. Take advantage of our Early Bird price at www.urbanimpactseattle.org/THRIVE

When Communities Thrive, People Thrive

When People Thrive, Communities Thrive