

THE CEO REPORT

AN UPDATE FOR OUTREACH COMMUNITY MINISTRIES PARTNERS



Ministry Update

Cristobal's Story from WYFS

Cristobal is a freshman at Wheaton Warrenville South High School. He lives with his aunt in Warrenville, and has been a student in our Quest after-school/summer program at Warrenville Youth & Family Services since 6th grade. When he entered the program Cris was new to the community. He was very shy, and suffering from a difficult childhood. He was struggling to adapt to his new life with his aunt and he was way behind in school. A tall order!

Cris recently shared his testimony in front of 270 guests at our annual WYFS Fall Dinner. The transformation was awe-inspiring! Quest meets daily at Grace Church of DuPage—just steps away from Cris' school, Hubble Middle School. In addition to providing space for Quest, Grace provides all of the tutors for the program—22 in total. Cris's tutor was Pastor Ray. Together, they tackled his school work with a vengeance.

As Cris and Ray grew closer, Cris and his good friend Eduardo decided to accept Ray's invitation to stay after Quest for the youth group at Grace, along with many of the other Quest students. Cris professed faith in Christ in 8th grade and the personal growth in his esteem and confidence was immediately evident—so much so that he was invited by Jorge, WYFS Quest Coordinator, to accept a volunteer position as a student leader in Quest.

At the WYFS Fall Dinner, Cris and Eduardo were interviewed by Amy Miller, the teacher who referred them to Quest three years prior. When asked about his future, Cris immediately pointed to his mentor Pastor Ray and said that his plan is to attend Moody Bible Institute and become a pastor like Ray. This is evidence of the powerful, transformational change happening within our programs through God's people, as they share the Good News and show God's love. Cristobal is markedly changed from the struggling student who first came to Quest; today, he is a young man under the guidance of the Holy Spirit seeking to fulfill his God-given potential!



A Devotional Word

"When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices." – Proverbs 11:10

At first glance, this verse seems counterintuitive. It's not the tenor of the conversation these days. The Hebrew word for "righteous" is "tsaddigim." Rev. Tim Keller explains that the tsaddigim are "the people who follow God's heart and ways and who see everything they have as gifts from God to be stewarded for His purposes." This sheds light on God's truth. As we steward everything to advance God's love, His justice, and His peace, people are blessed and the whole community rejoices—"a big, robust, soul soaring exaltation," as Dr. Amy Sherman describes it.

My life's work, for almost 40 years, has been to connect the righteous—those who follow God's heart—with their mission in the community. There is no shortage of need or opportunity to deploy our kingdom resources right here in DuPage County.

Ironically, while needs increase as families move to DuPage seeking opportunities, public sector financial resources are shrinking—dramatically! To compound matters, there is a huge void in leadership to speak into these concerns.

My first take when Outreach lost significant public sector resources in July of this year was to despair. After recovering my equilibrium, my perspective changed. I realized that the vacuum of leadership and resources in the public sector created a big space for the resources of the faith-based sector—the tsaddigim of our day.

I invite you to review this report with an eye toward the opportunity that we have as people who follow God's heart, and to step into the void and lead in in our community with His love, His justice and His peace.

Save the Date!

OCC Spring Dinner: Friday, April 19, 2016

Drury Lane, Villa Park, Ill.

Keynote Speaker: Father Greg Boyle, Executive Director, Homeboy Industries

Golf, Food & Wine Experience: Monday, June 20, 2016

New venue! Butterfield Country Club, Oak Brook, Ill.



Christian Education at Puente

With parental permission, students in our after-school programs attend Christian education classes. For junior high students at Puente del Pueblo, the class meets weekly at each of two locations (Timberlake and Main Park Apartments) and for the past year we have been piloting Christian Education under the leadership of a youth pastor—more specifically, the youth pastor from Iglesia del Pueblo, the Hispanic congregation at Wheaton Bible Church.

The impact and outcomes under Pastor Wil’s leadership are dramatic! At Wil’s invitation, 14 of his 22 students came to a personal relationship with Christ in March, and are now actively growing in their faith.

It is our conviction at Outreach that we need to increase our investment in the spiritual formation of our junior and senior high students by adding a youth pastor to our team at each of our sites. With Pastor Wil as our pilot, we are convinced that the model works and our next top priority is to call a youth pastor to serve at the Outreach Community Center in Carol Stream. This will happen as soon as we have secured new Leadership Partners to underwrite this position! The following step will be to add the high school program to the Quest program at Warrenville Youth & Family Services, which will include a youth pastor as well.

We know that less than 1 out of 10 students who live in lower-income communities are engaged with a local church. It is time to take the church to our students!



Family Stabilization: Jenn’s Story

When Jenn’s husband left the family shortly after the birth of her twins, Jenn’s life took a dramatic turn. With four children to raise by herself, including one entering junior high, Jenn had to return to school to develop a career and she needed immediate help to stabilize her finances and her family life.

The Family Stabilization team at Warrenville Youth & Family Services swung into action. First, the case manager at WYFS organized financial help from the Warrenville Ministerium’s emergency assistance fund. Next up was counseling for Jenn and her two older children, who were troubled by all of the changes. Together, counseling and case management gave Jenn and her children the stability they needed to move forward.

As Jenn returned to work, Quest became a wonderful home away from home for her daughter Jordan. Re-engaging with her church and returning to her faith relationship with Jesus became a priority for Jenn.

Jenn shared her story of recovery and transformation at our WYFS Fall Dinner—a powerful witness to the value of our holistic ministry model: wrapping supportive services around families who are vulnerable to restore both their hope in Christ and, in their present circumstances, create opportunities for them to reach their God-given potential.

Pictured (left to right): Jenn and WYFS Director Angela Mains

Know the Facts for DuPage County

Outreach’s mission is to restore hope and provide opportunities for people to become all that God intends them to be; partner with the local church to put Christian faith into action through service to the community. Our mission focus is serving the most vulnerable children, teens and families in DuPage County. We serve people of all races, ethnicities, creeds, gender and orientation regardless of their ability to pay. Did you know that...

- 20% of households—including 27,000+ children—live in or near poverty
- 1,500+ school-age children and their parents become homeless each year
- 1,000+ teens and young adults ages 16-25 become homeless each year when family housing fails or they return to the community from residential care

- Transitional housing resources provide for less than 30% of the daily need for homeless teens, young families and young adults
- 5,000 young adults ages 18-29 are not prepared to compete for full-time employment
- Unemployment for young adults in lower income neighborhoods is 20-24%
- 4,000+ high school students live in or near poverty, many without hope for college
- Annually, more than 6,000 families face an unexpected crisis that places their housing and employment at risk
- 146,000 residents have a mental health or family life challenge; 50% of children and 70% of adults do not have access to services
- Less than 10% of families and children in lower income neighborhoods are engaged with a church or in a personal relationship with Jesus

Business Updates

Finances

Our fiscal year ended in June and this year we finished on a high note—coming in above our budget after a very successful Golf, Food & Wine event that exceeded our projections and fully funded our College and Career Scholarships for 2016!

We entered the new fiscal year with great anticipation that we could restore two long overdue part-time positions to our Community Counseling Centers and consider adding a new Junior/Senior High Youth Pastor to our staff at the Outreach Community Center in Carol Stream.

July put a hold on everything, with late-breaking news that our grant from the United Way would be reduced by 40%, effective immediately, virtually eliminating its support for mental health services for the most vulnerable families we serve. This reduction caught us by surprise, giving us two weeks’ notice to make budget adjustments!

The next week, more tough news—a reduction in two of our state grants and the elimination of the grant that helps us serve junior high students. This also caught us by surprise. In two short weeks, our new budget had a \$300,000 hole in it—a 5% reduction we are still scrambling to cover!

There is good news in these developments. First, our practice of limiting these two public sector resources to less than 20% of our annual budget actually protected us from much larger reductions. Sister agencies in DuPage and Chicago—both those that are faith-based as well as those that are non-sectarian—are eliminating entire programs, and in some cases, are temporarily closing their doors.

Secondly, as leadership and financial resources pull back from community services in DuPage County, the space for compassion ministry is wide open to the church and God’s people.

In the meantime, while we readjust the support base for Outreach by shifting more intensely toward our private sector, faith-based partnerships, we are managing our expenses within the new budget reality by freezing some open positions and reducing our health insurance costs. Fortunately, one of our social enterprises is outperforming its budget to the upside by 25%—on track to increase net income in FY16 to cover one third of our losses. Seems like God has a plan!

Social Enterprise Performance

Our social enterprises continue to receive a robust supply of donations that we resell or repurpose. The primary goal of our social enterprises is to generate net revenue to support our ministries. They also serve as work experience sites for the students in our new Employment Training Center.

FY2015 Outcomes

FY 2015 was our best year to date with net revenue from our three resale stores topping \$315,000—around 7% of total ministry revenue! Jubilee Cars received over 40 cars: 10 were repaired and re-gifted to our transitional housing residents and 30 were sold to underwrite the ministry and generate a small revenue stream—under \$10,000.

FY2016: Jubilee Furniture is on Fire!

It is hard to predict sales from year to year so we budget for the new year based closely on the outcome from the previous year. The staff, student and volunteer team at Jubilee Furniture are off to a great year.



If the trends over the first four months hold, we are on track to exceed projections for net revenue by 25%!

There are some reasons behind their success. First and foremost, generous capital contributions completed the enclosure of 4,000 square feet of warehouse and sales floor space, which opened in March of 2015. With warehouse space to process more donations and the extra floor space, sales have shot up! A marketing campaign to introduce Jubilee to donors throughout the county has yielded strong results. Finally, the entire team has been able to improve efficiency with the added warehouse space—moving more furniture onto the floor, and then quickly off the floor when it sells, improving our sales per square foot. Sounds like a real business!

Board of Trustees

The Trustees recently welcomed Chuck Thompson and Tim Howard to the Board of Trustees.

Chuck Thompson grew up in Wheaton, where his family served in leadership at a local church. Chuck and his wife Joi live in Oak Brook and are active at Christ Church of Oak Brook, where Chuck serves as an elder. Chuck is the Director of U.S. Distribution at Henderson Global Investors.

Tim Howard currently serves on the Community Board for Warrenville Youth & Family Services, and is joining the Trustee Board as the liaison with WYFS. Tim is a lifelong resident of Wheaton and together with his wife Joyce has raised children in Wheaton and at First Baptist Church. Tim is the Business Services Manager at Door Systems, with local headquarters in Warrenville. Please join us in welcoming Chuck and Tim to the Board of Trustees at Outreach.

OCM Trustee Board President Ben Fulton is pleased to announce that the following Trustees were selected at the November Trustee meeting to serve on the **2016 Executive Committee**:

- President: Scott Thompson
- Vice President: Steve Whitmer
- Vice President: Sue Herrmann
- Secretary: Mark Taylor
- Treasurer: Tim Feltes

We are blessed to have this team serving as our executive leaders for what promises to be an exciting new year!



JOURNEY OF HOPE

I am pleased to announce that after years of prayer and planning, the JOURNEY OF HOPE, will be presented to OCM Partners in Spring 2016.

The Board of Trustees approved this unprecedented funding effort in 2014 and it was introduced to several Leadership Partner families in 2015. With Jeremiah 29:11 as our compass, the JOURNEY OF HOPE will better position Outreach Community Ministries and the local church to meet the expanding community needs in DuPage County.

Through this comprehensive effort, we hope to address intensifying social concerns through strategic efforts in our neighborhoods, by expanding youth development, strengthening the new employment opportunity training center and increasing our endowment through planned giving.

Over the next ten years, we foresee a dramatic impact in how Outreach is able to restore hope and provide opportunities in the lives of children, young adults and families who are in great need of what Outreach can provide.

The JOURNEY OF HOPE has been enthusiastically received by our Campaign Leadership Team, co-chaired by Mark Taylor, Jamie Fellowes and Scott Thompson. I am pleased to report that \$5,018,000 has been received from our generous Leadership Partners.

In the coming months you will hear more about the value and priorities of the JOURNEY OF HOPE and we encourage you to take part in one of several informational sessions to be announced in 2016.

JOURNEY OF HOPE Priorities

The JOURNEY OF HOPE Campaign represents an investment in four strategic, organizational imperatives. The first is to strengthen our infrastructure to equip the organization for capacity expansion of services; the second is a capital investment in two facilities that are prerequisites for the expansion of our Transitional Housing services and the development of our new and very innovative Employment

Training Center for young adults; the third imperative is a campaign to develop our next generation of Leadership Partners—major private, corporate and church donors to help us expand and sustain new services; and the fourth imperative is securing the future of our organization with planned giving to our endowment funds.

JOURNEY OF HOPE Initiatives

CAMPAIGN GOAL

Neighborhood Transformation	\$2,230,000
<i>Strengthening Families</i>	
<i>Developing Youth</i>	
Safe Haven for Homeless Youth	\$1,620,000
<i>Transitional Housing for Young Men and Families</i>	
Train a New Generation	\$3,150,000
<i>Phase 1: Launch Employment Center</i>	
<i>Phase 2: Program Development</i>	
Provide for the Future	\$500,000
<i>Outreach Ministry Endowment Scholarships</i>	
<i>Compassion Ministry Center</i>	
TOTAL	\$7,500,000

The God-sized vision we are casting through the JOURNEY OF HOPE will shape Outreach, the local Church and DuPage County for years to come. Think of Outreach as a huge multi-church stewardship initiative—an intentional partnership to deploy the Church and its people with their time, talents, vocational and financial resources.

Together with Bonnie Malcolm Chrisman, VP of Resource Development, and Joe Ancell, Major Gifts Officer, we look forward to visiting with OCM Partners in 2016. In the meantime, learn more at outreachcommunityministries.org/hope. Thank you for being part of the Outreach mission and joining us in this journey.

Outreach Community Ministries Partners

· OCC · WYFS · WYO · Hearts of Grace · OCM ·

OUTREACH PARTNERS...

- Give \$1,000 or more annually
- Pray for Outreach
- Encourage others to participate as Family Sponsors or Partners
- Receive CEO updates and invitations to events

OUTREACH LEADERSHIP PARTNERS...

- Give \$5,000 or more annually
- Pray for Outreach
- Encourage others to participate as Partners or Leadership Partners
- Receive CEO updates and invitations to events

For Partner resources, visit our private webpage at outreachcommin.org/partnerlibrary