

LEXINGTON LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION



2024 Impact Report

Advancing A Legacy of Transformation





LEXINGTON LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends,

In Paul's second letter to Timothy, he reflects on the depth of Timothy's faith, tracing it back to his grandmother and mother. Paul recognizes the power of a faith passed down through generations. His message to Timothy is timeless: remain true to the teachings you have received and continue the mission of spreading the gospel.

At Lexington Leadership Foundation, we embrace this same responsibility. As recipients of the faithful work of those who have gone before us, we stand on the foundation they built, to serve Lexington with the love of Jesus. From the early apostles to Dr. John Withers (our founder) and Eric Geary (CEO emeritus), their steadfast faith has cleared a path for us to look toward the next 25 years with open hearts and big dreams.

When John moved to Lexington over thirty years ago, he carried a vision too big for words. As he often says, "God brought me here to fight systemic evil in the city." His passion for transformation has shaped our mission ever since.

As we continue advancing a legacy of transformation, we do so with a commitment to the Gospel and the mission of spreading Jesus' profound, humble love to the most vulnerable among us, while developing leaders in the process.

Before the Israelites entered the Promised Land, Moses urged them to love God with all their heart, soul, and strength. He didn't stop there. In Deuteronomy 6:7, he instructed them to, "Impress [these commandments] on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." The message is as clear today as it was then: create a generational legacy of faith.

As we weave the fabric of our faith into our daily lives, let's do so with the next generation in mind, and let's carry forward a legacy that reflects the love and power of Jesus in the way He prayed we would in John 17: *together*.

May you be encouraged by the obedient work taking place in and around Lexington Leadership Foundation, and even more encouraged by the generational fruit Jesus is producing because of it.

With ongoing gratitude,



Christian Postel
CEO | Lexington Leadership Foundation



SCAN HERE TO
READ OUR VALUES

Connecting leaders, unifying the Body of Christ, and mobilizing people to transform Lexington into a city for God since 1999.

Seeking the peace
and prosperity of
the city

Jeremiah 29:7



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LLF's relationship with MAP Foundation is a beautiful reminder that ministry is often better when done together. We are grateful for MAP Foundation's longstanding support, their investment in our city, and the love they've shown our team. As we celebrate 25 years, we do so extending enthusiastic thanks to everyone at MAP Foundation; Lexington looks more like heaven because of you.

LLF INITIATIVES



The Prayer Room

Accessible 24/7, a space fostering intimacy with Jesus and mobilizing intercessory worship throughout the Body of Christ.



Amachi

One-on-one mentoring for children impacted by incarceration, to help them reach their highest potential.



Urban Impact

Equipping youth impacted by poverty to grow, succeed and become leaders in their neighborhoods and families.



Fatherhood Initiative

Providing fathers with the tools they need to be restored and equipped to become engaged, responsible dads.



Mission Increase

Helping nonprofits, churches, and donors fulfill their God-given mission and increase Kingdom impact through coaching and training.

LLF MINISTRY LOCATIONS

Woodhill Community Center 422 Codell Dr, Lexington, KY 40509

Opened in 2018, the Woodhill Community Center is the primary hub for our youth ministries. Equipped with a full-sized basketball court, art and recording studios, classrooms, and much more, this is a place where our kids develop and become leaders in their neighborhood.



The Prayer Room 1218 S. Broadway, Lexington, KY 40504

Opened in 2015, the Prayer Room is the product of decades of prayer and intercession. Pastors, community leaders, and people from across the city visit the Prayer Room regularly for prayer, worship, and fellowship.

“There has never been a spiritual awakening in any country or locality that did not begin in united prayer.”

A.T. Pierson



Center for Fathers and Families 436 Georgetown St, Lexington, KY 40508

Opened in 2021, the Center for Fathers and Families is the primary location for our Fatherhood Initiative. This space is equipped with multiple meeting rooms and a warm, comfortable environment for fathers to connect and learn. It is situated in the Georgetown Street neighborhood, which has the highest concentration of single mothers in the city.

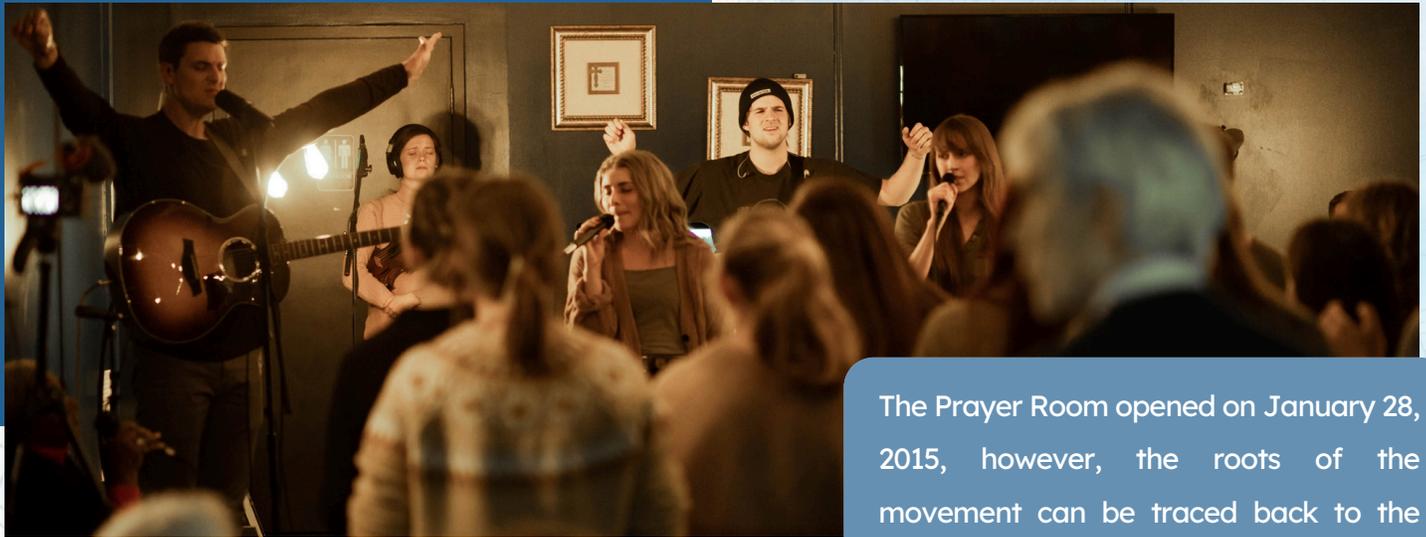


“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

2 Corinthians 13:14



LEXINGTON LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION **THE PRAYER ROOM**



Tommy Green
Prayer Room Director



Scan here to get involved or
visit lexlf.org/theprayerroom



The Prayer Room opened on January 28, 2015, however, the roots of the movement can be traced back to the inception of Lexington Leadership Foundation in 1999 when the initial founders determined to make prayer the basis from which all of our ministry endeavors proceed.

Prior to opening The Prayer Room, LLF hosted weekly, monthly, and quarterly prayer gatherings in partnership with a great variety of congregations and ministries. For instance, beginning in 2007, LLF initiated an effort called “Corridors of Prayer” which enjoined approximately 75 pastors to pray together by virtue of how their congregations were situated geographically in the city. In addition, every month for over 15 years LLF published The Trumpet newsletter, calling more than 1,000 intercessors to corporate prayer.

KINGDOM IMPACT



In 2023 ...



Over **500** individuals from congregations across the city utilized the Prayer Room

40 Volunteers supported The Prayer Room through prayer and worship from more than **20** congregations



 Vivian Lee James
Prayer Room Attendee

VIVIAN & CURT'S STORY

For years, Vivian Lee James and Curt Vernon have prayed together in The Prayer Room. Following a powerful worship session, they collaborated on a worship song that quickly went viral. Despite the growing attention, with people recognizing her even in places like the grocery store, Vivian is quick to remind us that it's all for Jesus!



WATCH THE VIDEO HERE



Scan to hear more about Tommy's vision

“

The vision of The Prayer Room is to foster intimacy with Jesus and mobilize intercessory worship throughout the body of Christ.

”

Tommy Green



“...that together with united hearts and with one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
Romans 15:6

“A father to the Fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy dwelling.”

Psalm 68:5



LEXINGTON LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION
AMACHI



Maggie Middleton
Amachi Director



Scan here to get involved
or visit lexlf.org/amachi



In 2002, city leaders Gary Fletcher and Jeff Coles formed a team to help address prisoner reentry with the hope of reducing recidivism, inviting John Withers to join. He felt led to focus upstream, on the children of prisoners, recognizing that the current statistics were alarming: Kentucky was nearly leading the nation, with the third highest rate of children with an incarcerated parent. In 2004, Lexington Leadership Foundation launched Amachi, the city's only one-on-one mentoring program for children of incarcerated parents. Amachi matches mentors with these youth, providing ongoing training and support. Without intervention, these children are 70% more likely to end up incarcerated themselves. Over 20 years, Amachi has matched thousands of mentors with youth impacted by incarceration, to help them reach their highest potential.

KINGDOM IMPACT



In 2023 ...



161 mentors from **25+** local congregations provided over **8,300** service hours of mentoring to youth impacted by incarceration

Over **20** group events were hosted throughout the year for mentors and mentee to participate in fun activities such as kickball, karate, and swimming



EMALI'S STORY

Emali's journey of growing in confidence and identity, inspired by the trust and care her mentor Rachel showed her, is paving the way for her to pour into her younger friend, Precious. Seeing much of her former self in Precious, Emali is now able to invest in her growth as Rachel continues to invest in her.



WATCH THE VIDEO HERE



Scan to hear more about Maggie's vision



Imagine a city where every young person knows that they're fully loved, fully valued, and has a limitless potential.



Maggie Middleton



"Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it."

Proverbs 22:6

*“They may be called oaks of
righteousness, a planting of the
Lord for the display of his splendor.”*

Isaiah 61:3



LEXINGTON LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION
URBAN IMPACT



Marcus Patrick
Urban Impact Director



Scan here to get involved
or visit lexlf.org/urbanimpact

Urban Impact was launched in 2006, empowered by the Holy Spirit and our partnerships with local churches in Lexington. It began with prayer and a mission to equip congregations with effective strategies to reach the young people in their communities. Following several youth outreach events in collaboration with churches and youth-serving organizations, we shifted to the next phase: Youth Development. After working in local schools, we introduced after-school tutoring and enrichment programs, later expanding to include sports clinics and arts camps. For youth who fully engaged in these opportunities, we introduced the third tier—Discipleship—helping them build a relationship with God and discover their passions. Ultimately, Urban Impact prepares young people to grow and succeed to become leaders in their neighborhoods, with emphasis in the Woodhill neighborhood.



KINGDOM IMPACT



In 2023 ...



2,311 youth and families were served, including **74** youth in after-school programming

76 youth were served with in-school group mentoring and **369** in camps and clubs



TEVIN'S STORY



Tevin
Urban Impact Participant

When Tevin first connected with the Urban Impact team as a child, he quickly discovered that he could be himself—a new experience for someone whose identity had been shaped by trying to fit in with his peers. It's not just Tevin who appreciates Urban Impact; his mother shares that the relationships built through the program have grown so strong, they now feel like family.



WATCH THE VIDEO HERE



Scan to hear more about Marcus's vision

“*Imagine a city where no matter where you go people are speaking positively about what happens across town. It's just hope, and happiness, and joy, and flourishing.*”

Marcus Patrick



Urban Impact empowers youth in urban neighborhoods to grow, succeed, and lead.



PRESENTED BY THE MAP FOUNDATION

WOODHILL COMMUNITY CENTER



The primary home for Urban Impact and a ministry hub for all of LLF's Initiatives, Woodhill Community Center functions as a leadership development space in the Woodhill Neighborhood.



WOODHILL INTERNATIONAL MARKET

We believe ALL families have the right to access the healthy food they need to thrive, and that all of us have something important to share with our community. WIM is bi-weekly market held at the Woodhill Community Center where local, fresh produce is available. We call it an "international" market because among the 6,000 Woodhill residents there are over 30 different nationalities represented. We have a variety of fruits, vegetables and recipes that reflect the diverse cultures of neighborhood families.

lexlf.org/woodhillinternationalmarket

15+ GROUPS & CLUBS, INCLUDING:

- ✿ Kid's Choir
- ✿ Drama Club
- ✿ Monthly Family Nights
- ✿ Peruvian Dance Rehearsal
- ✿ Futsaal Leagues
- ✿ Woodhill International Market
- ✿ UK Mobile Clinic
- ✿ Juvenile Treatment Court Group



Volunteer



Schedule
a Tour



LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

URBAN IMPACT SUB-INITIATIVE



Scan to hear about
Chloe's vision

In 2023 ...

38 youth enrolled, supported by 6 volunteers, with added support from 11 community partners and a dedicated advisory council.

HISTORY

In the 18 months before Leadership Academy's launch, 29 Lexington youth lost their lives to gun violence, including nine connected to LLF ministries. Leadership Academy addresses youth violence with an asset-based approach, recognizing each young person as a masterpiece in God's Kingdom. Youth ages 12-24 meet with mentors both in and out of school, focusing on five key pillars to help them find purpose and develop into the leaders God created them to be.



Chloe Martin
Leadership Academy Coordinator



Scan here to get involved or visit
lexlf.org/leadershipacademy



SUCCESS PILLARS

01 IDENTITY Guiding leaders through the exploration of their God-given identity helps them discover who they are and who they were made to be.

02 EDUCATION Growth in educational knowledge and exposure creates more lifelong opportunities. Leaders are empowered by understanding what is possible through diverse educational opportunities.

03 DISCOVERY Discovering root causes of violent behavior is an essential step to helping Leaders heal and move forward. LA de-stigmatizes counseling to help leaders process what they're bringing from their past and current realities in order for the leader within them to emerge.

04 SERVICE Service paves the path towards peace. Service to others is essential to establishing and maintaining a place of peace in which all members of a community can thrive. Leaders will engage and serve their neighborhood through ongoing service opportunities.

05 EXPOSURE Leaders will gain exposure to new experiences and opportunities to affirm that their current life circumstance does not have to be their future.

“And He shall turn the heart of the fathers to their children, and the heart of the children to their fathers.”

Malachi 4:6



LEXINGTON LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION
FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE



Jared Sloan
Fatherhood Initiative Director



As with everything at Lexington Leadership Foundation, the story of the Fatherhood Initiative begins with prayer. In response to the growing number of father-absent homes across the nation, a group of committed local fathers started meeting on the top floor of the 5th/3rd building, praying and envisioning how best to support fathers in Lexington.

With Amachi and Urban Impact flourishing, LLF prayed specifically about how to address root causes and invest in fathers. LLF developed a strategy to serve fathers in desperate need of restoring relationships with their children and was awarded federal funding to launch the Fatherhood Initiative. David Cozart, with the support from the fatherhood prayer team, was selected to lead the initiative. Fatherhood Initiative continued to thrive beyond the federal funding period. In 2021, LLF opened the Center for Fathers and Families to expand Fatherhood Initiative’s reach in the city.



Scan here to get involved or visit
lexlf.org/fatherhoodinitiative



KINGDOM IMPACT



In 2023 ...



Served **333** fathers (representing over **650** children), including **92** in recovery centers and **35** in jail

Received support from **15** volunteers across **9** different congregations in Lexington



MARCO'S STORY

Growing up in a father-absent home and battling addiction, Marco found the tools he needed through the Fatherhood Initiative to embrace his role as a father. Reflecting on his journey, he's grateful for persevering through the challenges. After completing one of Fatherhood Initiative's programs, Marco successfully gained custody of his son, marking a pivotal moment in his life - and the best is yet to come!



WATCH THE VIDEO HERE



Scan to hear more about Jared's vision

“

Our vision is for every father in our city to be restored and equipped to become an engaged, responsible dad.

”

Jared Sloan



We provide fathers with the tools they need to overcome barriers and achieve healthy, lifelong relationships.

“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds, and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God...”

Ephesians 4:11-13



LEXINGTON LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION MISSION INCREASE



Damon Mazza
Mission Increase Director



Scan here to get involved or visit
missionincrease.org/lexington

Building capacity in others—whether volunteers, families, or nonprofits—has always been in the DNA of Lexington Leadership Foundation. From the start, we’ve invested time, talent, and resources in supporting other local nonprofits through board development, fundraising, strategic planning, and new initiatives.

Last year, LLF was introduced to Mission Increase, an organization founded in 1999 in Portland, Oregon. Its vision is to help nonprofits, churches, and donors fulfill their God-given mission and expand Kingdom impact through biblically-based training, coaching, and fundraising consulting. We were drawn to the opportunity to partner with MI and bring this work—which serves 10,000 ministries across 23 cities—to Lexington. Through prayer and wise discernment from our Board, Mission Increase launched on May 21st, with 150 nonprofit leaders from 91 nonprofits in attendance.



KINGDOM IMPACT



In 2024...



Launched Mission Increase in May '24, with **150** community leaders present, representing **91** nonprofits in the greater Lexington area

Hosted **40+** consulting sessions for nonprofit leaders around the city on topics such as fundraising, event planning, and effective communication



HOW MI IS SERVING LOCAL NONPROFITS

Kim and Elise, leaders at Lexington Rescue Mission and Sayre Christian Village respectively, have both benefited from Mission Increase's capacity-building services. They share a desire to see Kingdom impact increase through the free training Mission Increase provides. Both have found the services invaluable, recognizing that Mission Increase's support is beneficial whether for small nonprofits or larger, well-established ones.



WATCH THE VIDEO HERE



Elise Hinchman
Sayre Christian Village



Scan to learn more about Mission Increase

“

We want to everyone in the Kingdom to experience the full impact of transformational giving.

”

Damon Mazza



“This service you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God”

2 Corinthians 9:12

OPERATIONAL SUMMARY



2023
Revenue*
\$1,485,250



2023
Expenses
\$1,496,175

*Net of capital improvement grant equal to \$244,000



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Gold
Transparency
2024
Candid.



25
YEARS
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