

re•fine

2017 Annual Report

UrbanPromise Honduras



Summer is one of my favorite times of year. As I have adopted the hobby of gardening, summertime now brings even more smiles. Big juicy tomatoes, an abundance of cucumbers, and peppers spilling out wherever we look. Before we know it, the garden has taken over our backyard. Sometimes we just let it grow and grow, and sometimes we find ways to improve overall long-term growth by trimming back in certain areas or adding some fertilizer to others.

It has been a season of refining for UPH as we have focused on quality improvements that will best position us for success and expansion as we launch into our second decade of serving the town of Copán Ruinas. Thank you for gardening with us as we tend to these precious children of God who are entrusted to our care. You are essential to making this beauty a reality!

Blair Quining

UPH Founder & Director of Latin American Ministries

In everything we do at UPH, we strive for excellence. In 2017, we reached new levels of excellence, as many of our programs and behind-the-scenes operations were refined.

We made changes to our administrative processes that allow us to balance our books faster and spot human error with greater ease; we have continued to develop connections with the local community; and we have increased inter-departmental collaboration, which means we can support each other better while offering richer programming to our children and youth.

Through this refinement process we identified new needs, which have already changed the course for 2018 as we launched a new Wellness Program and a year-long youth internship.



Thank you for your support over the years, and 2017 in particular. I hope you enjoy the updates in this annual report and feel encouraged by the amazing work that we have been able to achieve with the help of our global community.

Hugh Stacey

Staff Transitions

Several dear staff members transitioned out of their positions in 2017, making way for excellent additions to the team. Below is a breakdown of the changes to our staff team throughout the year.

Cynthia Valdez
Youth Program Director
until August 2017

Cynthia Relyea
Administrator/Service Learning
Group Coordinator
until August 2017

Jason Irwin
Communications
Director/Service Learning
Group Coordinator
until August 2017



Silvia Alvares
2018
Administrator/Service
Learning Group
Coordinator

Marissa Thornberry
January 2017
UrbanTrekks Assistant Director/
UrbanDreamers Director
August 2017
Communications Director/
UrbanDreamers Director

Carmen Aquino
July 2017 August 2017
Bilingual Youth Director Youth Program Director

After School Program

Camp Agape

Camp Hope

87 hours of homework help

87

33 collaborating parents
(donating snacks, volunteering, etc.)

32

36 home visits

50

36

home visits

50



44

average daily attendance

47



155

combined hours of classes



Youth Leadership Program

Youth employed in:

AfterSchool Program

24

36

Vacation Camps

186

Hours of mentoring



x 12

Leaders-in-Training

High school scholarships



x 19

University scholarships



x 2

Youth nights 30

(food, games, & biblical reflection)



36 Vacation Camps

12 Leaders-in-Training

24

186

Hours of mentoring

High school scholarships

19

University scholarships

2

Youth nights 30

(food, games, & biblical reflection)

Youth volunteer hours 250

“Rosaura Vásquez,

a very shy youth in our AfterSchool Program, didn't talk much, and her voice was really quiet the few times that she spoke up in a group discussion.

Despite that, she never abandoned camp. She continued working in that area, and gradually started growing in her confidence level. During our end-of-year youth retreat, Rosaura spoke in front of the group, telling about how being in UPH had helped her, and she did so for a long time and with surprising confidence and energy. It was evident in her passion and the way she presented herself that day, that the youth program is an instrument God is using to refine these youth into the strongest versions of themselves.”

-Carmen Aquino, Youth Program Director



UrbanTrekkers

168 total youth participating

9 overnight trips

12 adults & 26 youth
volunteering locally

8 educational visits to
camps & schools

28 international
volunteers involved

174 miles running

3,168 miles cycling

Costa a Costa
coast-to-coast
cycling event

La Ceiba
annual service trip

Mt. Ceraque
Honduras' highest
mountain



San Pedro Sula & Lake Yojoa
end-of-year youth retreat

UrbanDreamers

2

50 hours learning & practice



UrbanDreamers

2
culminating
exhibits



Over 50 hours learning & practicing.

1
youth-led art
contest for local
children

guest artist workshops



"In 2017, UrbanDreamers held our first official student art exhibit. One of our students, *Jose*, was hesitant to fulfill the requirement of giving a brief artist's talk in front of his peers and family. Three months into the program and about to finish, he told me he would quit

instead of talking about his art in front of others. To make it easier for him, I wrote out a script, leaving blanks for him to fill in ("Hi, my name is _____. I made this piece called _____ using _____ because _____..."). The night of the exhibit, he didn't make some grand, moving speech; but he read his script. He did what he had to do, even

though it was uncomfortable. And more importantly, he was able to begin refining his critical thinking skills—a lost art in a culture where learning by copying is the norm and many young people lack a source of accountability for their decisions.”

**-Marissa Thornberry,
UrbanDreamers Director**

Service Learning Groups

Trinity Western University
Vancouver, BC, Canada

Dayspring Baptist Church
Waco, TX

St. John's Episcopal Church
& Church of the Holy Spirit
Boston, MA

St. Catharine's United Mennonite Church
Ontario, Canada

St. Luke's Church
Hilton Head Island, SC

65

Total SLG participants



a group of visitors from *Elmwood Presbyterian Church* in Northern Ireland, including former intern *Chris Acheson*

Interns

Bilingual Summer Camp

AfterSchool Program &

Service Learning Groups

Trinity Western University
Vancouver, BC, Canada

Dayspring Baptist Church
Waco, TX

St. John's Episcopal Church
& Church of the Holy Spirit
Boston, MA

St. Catharine's United Mennonite Church
Ontario, Canada

St. Luke's Church
Hilton Head Island, SC

65

Total SLG participants



a group of visitors from *Elmwood Presbyterian Church* in Northern Ireland, including former intern *Chris Acheson*

Interns

Bilingual Summer Camp

Kallie Fleming
Kentucky

Ella Patrick
South Carolina



AfterSchool Program &

UrbanDreamers

Maddie Farmer
New Jersey

Hannah Barnett
Northern Ireland

Events & Campaigns

Events & Campaigns



Scholarship campaign

February • 21 high school & university scholarships provided

Mother's Day Campaign

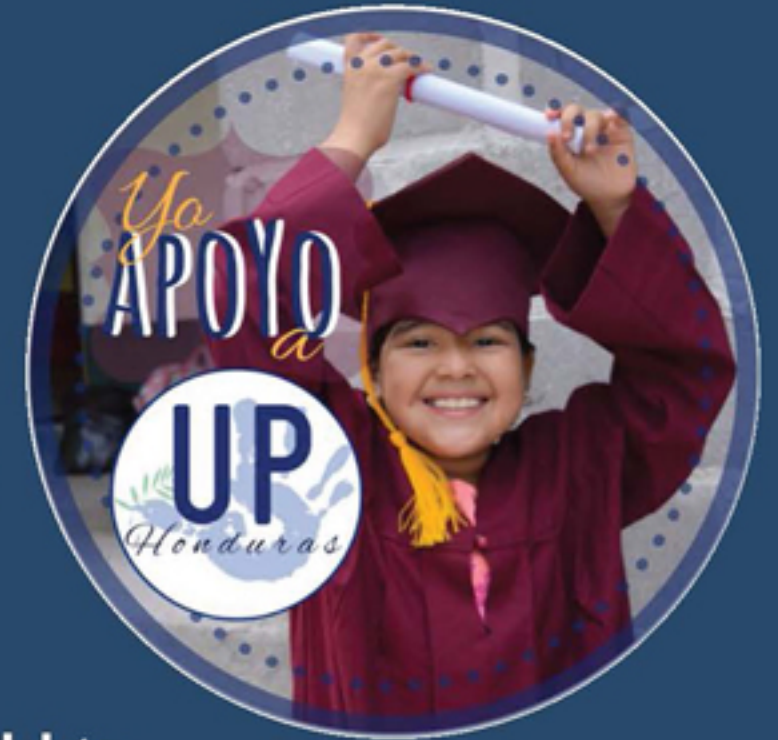
May • 115 people donated in honor of a mother within 24 hours; \$10,875 raised; covered costs of 3 months of AfterSchool Program

Summer camp sponsorship

June • 66 kids sponsored

Local donation drive

September • visited schools, businesses, and personal contacts to collect donations and give out UPH stickers



MUNAC

November • Local "Send a Child to Camp" campaign; dinner to promote child sponsorship for Vacation Camps

Giving Tuesday

November • \$32,278 raised in 24 hours

2017 in Numbers

"We do not believe in operating with a large reserve of savings. We are always *stretching and stewarding* what we have to the maximum capacity."

-Blair Quinius

\$300,000
\$250,000
\$200,000
\$150,000
\$100,000
\$50,000

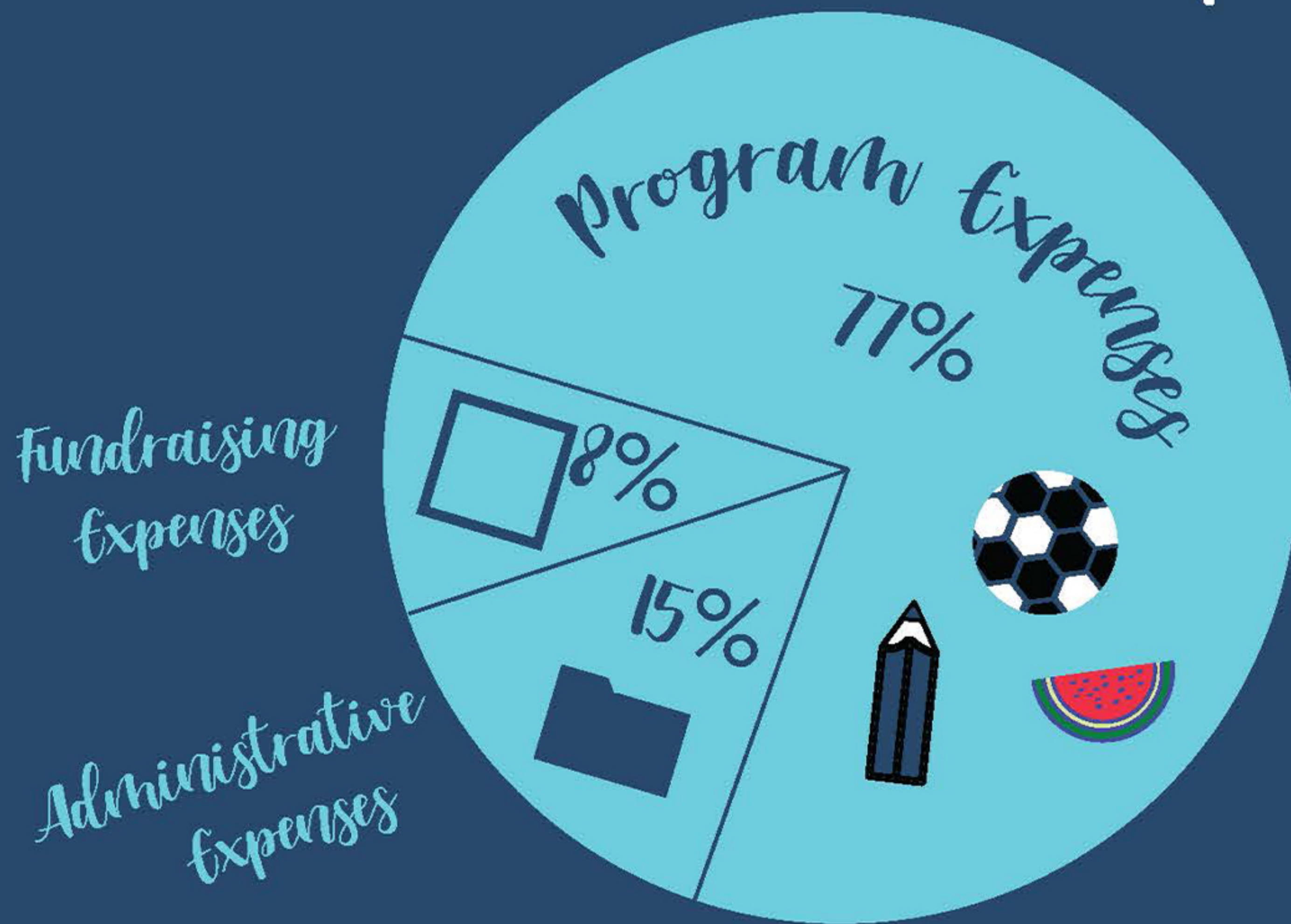
\$267,563

\$275,869

expenses

revenue

operating with a large reserve of savings. We are always *stretching and stewarding* what we have to the maximum capacity.”
 -Blair Quinius



With the passing of another year, we rejoice in the Lord’s faithfulness and in your continued support. Big things are happening in UPH, and we are so grateful for the ways we have been able to *refine* the work of our ministry in 2017. We can’t wait to see what the next years bring!



For all of this,



Thank you!