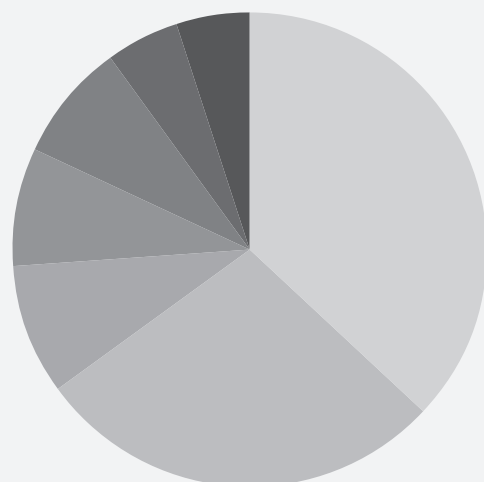


**2/3 OF OUR BUDGET COMES FROM CONTRIBUTIONS** from businesses and people like **YOU!**



CONTRIBUTIONS **66%**  
 GRANTS **28%**  
 PROGRAMS **6%**

**2016 BUDGET = \$563,600**



PROGRAM EXPENSES **37%**  
 SALARIES & BENEFITS **28%**  
 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES **9%**  
 DEPRECIATION **8%**  
 PROMOTIONAL EXPENSES **8%**  
 RENTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE **5%**  
 OTHER **5%**

Special thanks to Steensma's Lawn & Power Equipment, Stryker, and Sagesse Holdings/Greenleaf Trust for sponsoring our Fall dinner and supporting the work of Urban Alliance.



The mission of Urban Alliance (UA) is to create, foster and promote community development programs within the inner city and be a conduit for individuals, agencies, churches, and corporations to contribute to the betterment of their community. Our function is to serve the most marginalized members of the Kalamazoo community by offering employment, housing and outreach programs. We "embrace, engage and empower people" to better themselves and their community.

**Board of Directors**

Nathaniel Bull  
Allison Colberg  
Todd Kingma  
Albert Little  
Matt Luckas  
Ryan Rykse  
Dale Shugars  
Bob Withee

**UA Staff**

Nathaniel Bull  
Don Glass  
Luke Kujacznski  
Nicole Miller  
Brian Parsons  
Maurice Reynolds

**UA IS INVOLVED IN  
HOUSING  
EMPLOYMENT  
MINISTRY  
OUTREACH  
COLLABORATION  
TRANSFORMATION**

FALL 2015

**MEET MY FRIEND JOHNNY**



Johnny came to Urban Alliance fresh out of prison. Like many of our participants, he didn't really know what to expect...

Johnny's roots were in Chicago, where he had been immersed in one of the largest and most powerful Latin gangs in America and had been in and out of correctional facilities most of his adult life. Through our program, he connected with Esto (one of our volunteers) – someone with a very similar background who has successfully turned his life around.

As Johnny attended daily Momentum classes and completed his Volunteer Work Experience, relationships deepened. Esto became Johnny's mentor, and he also connected with Nate Bull. Before he knew it, six weeks had flown by and Johnny completed Momentum with perfect attendance. After graduating, Johnny had two interviews and received job offers from both employers. He has been successfully employed with Impact Label for over 30 days and is receiving rave reviews from his employer.

Johnny is just one of the many success stories that you help make happen. In fact, 86% of the men and women who landed jobs through Momentum this year have successfully completed 90+ days of employment with their new company.

Momentum represents just one facet of our work to transform urban communities one relationship at a time. Your partnership makes this possible – on behalf of Johnny and many others, thank you.



Luke Kujacznski  
Executive Director



Urban Alliance \ West Michigan

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269.348.0978  
www.uainc.org

# TRANSFORMING RELATIONSHIPS

**TRANSFORM:** *make a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance or character of*

As a faith-founded agency, UA serves some of the most marginalized members of urban communities by offering employment, housing and outreach programs. As we embrace, engage and empower people, lives are transformed.

For many, life is messy and complicated. UA staff and volunteers are committed to invest themselves in relationships like these. It may be helping to provide safe housing, a warm meal, job and life-skills training, a mentoring relationship, or just a listening ear and solid counsel. As you read the stories, know that your time and financial investment provides a solid return – people are taking great strides in improving their future, and making our community a better place for us all.

## MEET AMANDA.

Amanda came to Urban Alliance with an extensive felony history derived from long-term drug addiction. She had recently been released on parole and was told about the Momentum program by her parole agent. Amanda had already made the decision to turn her life around, but was seeking an instrument to assist her with that change. She found what she was looking for at Urban Alliance.



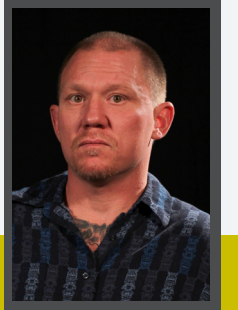
Amanda had very little work experience to build upon, but was motivated to do whatever it took to find sustainable employment. Through the multiple development exercises that students go through in Momentum, Amanda began to learn more about her specific skills and abilities. To her surprise, she emerged as a natural leader within the group. In week 3 of the program, she found out that she was pregnant. In spite of a very rough early pregnancy period, she continued to faithfully attend the classes.

Amanda graduated, earned a National Career Readiness Gold Certificate and was immediately hired. Her plan is to work at Jersey Giant until after she delivers, then to get a full-time position in a manufacturing company. She has successfully completed 90 days of employment (where she is absolutely loved), and is recently married. She and her husband are excitedly awaiting the birth of their son, and establishing a bright future as a family and as productive members of our community. Your partnership has impacted Amanda's life – thank you!

## MEET DAN.

Dan moved to back to Michigan after serving a 16-yr. stint in the Arizona State Prison System. He ended up at the Gospel Mission after burning through all his money in failed attempts to find employment in Kalamazoo and heard about Urban Alliance.

Dan was skeptical after learning about the commitment the program required, but decided that he would at least give it a shot because, in his words, "nothing else has worked for me." You see, Dan had a long list of violent felonies and drug charges in his past that were causing employers to be skittish about giving him a shot. He had no form of transportation other than the bus and he was homeless - all significant barriers to his success and all of which made him the perfect candidate for the Momentum Employment Program.



He completed the 6-week program with perfect attendance (actually, he was consistently 30 minutes early every day for class). UA staff assisted him in getting a free mobile phone and a Michigan State Driver's License (he only had an expired Arizona license), and he made the courageous decision to stop smoking.

Dan now works at Sigma Machine. His Momentum Career Coach purchased a bicycle for him so he could ride back and forth to work. Once Dan started receiving a paycheck, Momentum staff worked with him in developing a spending plan, and after a month he was able to purchase a car from Urban Alliance for \$500.00 (donated to UA by a faithful partner). Your partnership has impacted Dan's life – thank you!

## COMMUNITY IMPACT

2015 (through October)

**113** INDIVIDUALS SERVED THROUGH THE PROGRAM

- 98% UNEMPLOYED
- 42% HOMELESS
- 81% TESTED POSITIVE FOR DRUG USE
- 96% EX-OFFENDERS
- 75% CAME FROM GENERATIONAL POVERTY
- 63% PARENTS OF CHILDREN

**76%** SUCCESSFULLY GRADUATED FROM THE PROGRAM

**90%** OF GRADUATES WERE PLACED INTO EMPLOYMENT WITH AN AVERAGE STARTING WAGE OF \$11.94/HOUR

**90** VOLUNTEERS

**600** HOURS CONTRIBUTED AS INSTRUCTORS, COACHES, STEERING TEAM MEMBERS, AND MOMENTUM MOMS.

**\$13,200** IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION VALUE

**3,606** MOMENTUM STUDENTS CONTRIBUTING VOLUNTEER HOURS IN SERVICE TO THE KALAMAZOO COMMUNITY

**\$79,801** IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MOMENTUM TO THE KALAMAZOO COMMUNITY

**MOMENTUM PROGRAM = MAXIMUM IMPACT**

## HOW CAN YOU SERVE WITH URBAN ALLIANCE

### WAYS TO SERVE:

1. BEING A MOMENTUM COACH/MENTOR
2. PROVIDING CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS FOR HOUSES / VOLUNTEERING WITH CONSTRUCTION
3. MAKING CHILI FOR WINTER STREET MINISTRY
4. BEING AN INSTRUCTOR FOR MOMENTUM
5. PRAYING FOR URBAN ALLIANCE
6. PROVIDING A MEAL ON A FRIDAY FOR MOMENTUM MOMS

Contact Maurice Reynolds, UA Volunteer Coordinator at 269-409-1289 for more information.