



Pictured: Katie & Dazanique // Life-on-Life 2 years

INFLUENCE. EQUIP. GROW. REACH. TRANSFORMATION. LIFE-ON-LIFE.

There are many words we could use to describe what's happening at GRIP, but the stories below do it best.

On April 12, 2016, the headlines never read “Teen NOT Shot Down in the Streets of Chicago Last Night.” Just the previous night, a teenager named Lazerick and his family got caught up in neighborhood conflict that turned physical and spilled out into the streets. Threats of retaliation were whispered throughout the neighborhood. Our team got wind of it and immediately went into action. That evening, Eddie Santos, Lazerick’s GRIP mentor, scooped Lazerick up and got him away from the neighborhood to cool him down and speak hope into his life. Later, they returned, only to find Lazerick’s block sectioned off with yellow police tape. Lazerick’s best friend had just been gunned down that very evening. By God’s grace, Lazerick was not with him—Lazerick’s life had been spared. And in the days that followed, our team continued to pursue Lazerick and communicate with his school counselors, teachers, and the other adults in his life to encourage Lazerick to stay the course. And in June, by God’s grace, Lazerick went on to graduate from high school!

Even during the week that our city was in jubilation over the Cubs winning the World Series, the Chicago Tribune announced that Chicago surpassed 600 murders, with over 3,600 people shot, year-to-date. But, the headlines never read about Lazerick’s life being spared, nor reported on any of our team’s work to mobilize hundreds of mentors like Eddie who’ve impacted hundreds of young lives this year. The newscasts didn’t share about a young man named Jerome who just made a decision to follow Jesus—a decision that will change the course of his generations forever. And, the nightly news didn’t cover the baptism of a young lady named Dajia, who was baptized by two of her mentors with whom she had been walking life for years.

See, if you only got your information from the media, you might never know that God is at work in our cities, and you might never know how valuable your partnership is in this work.



Dajia's Baptism With Her Mentors Sharon & Heidi

On my recent plane ride back from visiting Frankie—one of our former SLAM youth who is now a missionary with his family in Iraq—I started to reflect on all that God has done throughout the years of GRIP’s ministry. I’ve had a front row seat in watching God work in hundreds and thousands of young lives, volunteer mentors, donors, prayer partners, and even former youth, like Frankie. The stories of Lazerick, Jerome, and Dajia are just a few of the recent stories that flooded my mind as I celebrated the fruit that the Lord has birthed through GRIP. As I reflect, I’m only left to praise our God! How awesome and faithful is He!

Although the stories aren’t necessarily captured in the numbers, please take a moment to look at the enclosed “2016 By The Numbers” and celebrate with me all that God is doing. These numbers are a small reflection of many prayers that have been answered this past year—and we couldn’t do this work without you.

In the words of our very own Frankie Rodriguez:



Frankie & Scott With Iraqi Christian Family

“Please let them [our ministry partners] know that their work is not in vain. There’s a Puerto Rican/Dominican from Chicago in Iraq to prove it.” I hope that puts a smile on your face as it did mine.

Thank you for your continued partnership. May the Lord bless you and make His face shine upon you and your family this year!

In His GRIP,

Scott Grzesiak
Executive Director



LIFEONLIFE *Stories* // MALIK & SHANE

From high school graduation, to being imprisoned, to getting a job at the Chicago Board of Trade, 19 year-old Malik has experienced difficulty and success since meeting his mentor, Shane, at SLAM 4 years ago. *“Without Shane and his motivation in my life, I don’t think I would’ve graduated from high school,”* Malik shares.

However, shortly after graduation Malik was arrested and imprisoned for 9 days, but Shane continued to walk with him. After Malik was released, Shane hired him and Malik has now been working for Shane for the last year at the Board of Trade and is now attending college. He is also growing in his relationship with God as he is studying the Bible through Streetlights—GRIP’s Urban Multimedia Bible and curriculum. After everything Malik and Shane have gone through together, they know that their Life-on-Life relationship can endure.

“I really feel like Shane is like a brother, father, and a mentor...without Shane I wouldn’t be working, I wouldn’t be in school,” Malik says.

The importance of this opportunity for Malik and his future is difficult to express in words. He’s developed a strong work ethic, and saved finances for his future—and this all began with a Life-on-Life relationship!



LIFE-ON-LIFE SUMMARY

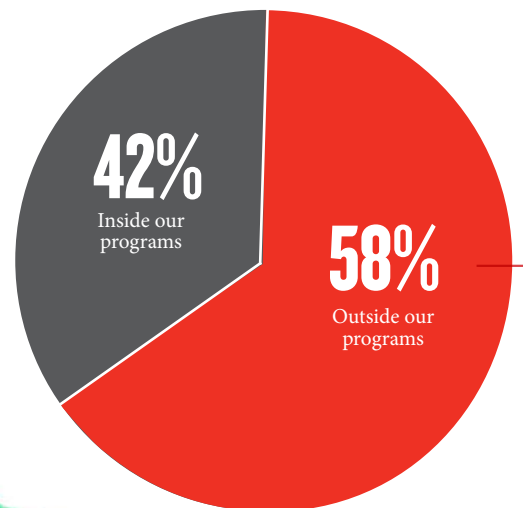
All metrics are for the program year ending July 31, 2016.

Life-on-Life is modeling what it means to be a man or woman of God—not just during a program or in a classroom—but while in our homes, running errands, playing ball, serving others in the community, or studying the Bible. And as we walk life together, we're extending to our youth an invitation to know the love of God, to know their purpose and identity, and to grow as young leaders in their homes, schools, churches and communities.

Each of GRIP's initiatives, programs and resources, has been strategically created as a means to this end: to focus on the building up of Life-on-Life relationships. A highlight from this past year was that the amount of **Life-on-Life hours spent outside of GRIP's programs continues to outweigh those spent inside the programs**. This indicates an ever-increasing depth of relationship being built between the mentors and students that leads to holistic development.

YOUTH SERVED	ADULTS TRAINED FOR URBAN OUTREACH NATIONWIDE	DISTINCT NEIGHBORHOODS REPRESENTED BY OUR YOUTH	CHURCH AND YOUTH ORGANIZATION PARTNERS	LIFE-ON-LIFE HOURS SPENT TOGETHER BY VOLUNTEERS AND YOUTH
564	2,239	45	92	24,050

BREAKDOWN OF LIFE-ON-LIFE HOURS SPENT INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OUR PROGRAMS



Pictured: Kiel & D'Shawn // Life-on-Life 1 year

GRIP BY THE NUMBERS

All metrics are for the program year ending July 31, 2016

PROGRAMS

SLAM

TOTAL TEENS SERVED	MENTORS	AVERAGE # OF TEENS PER SLAM NIGHT	TOTAL LIFE-ON-LIFE HOURS
309	108	109	20,785

GRIP THE SCHOOL

TOTAL STUDENTS SERVED	ADULT VOLUNTEERS	TOTAL LIFE-ON-LIFE HOURS
135	48	2,265

RESOURCES

STREETLIGHTS

PROJECTS RELEASED	DOWNLOADS	COUNTRIES USING STREETLIGHTS	CHURCH / MINISTRY USERS <i>National networks including Youth for Christ & Young Life</i>
10 - Colossians, Philippians, James, 1 & 2 Peter, Gospel of John, Titus, 1, 2 & 3 John	14,778	85	128

LEGACY CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE ATTENDEES	YOUTH TRACK ATTENDEES	ATTENDEES FROM
1,718	120	37 STATES

URBAN YOUTH NETWORK

MISSION	CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS SERVED	ONE-ON-ONE COUNSELING MEETINGS WITH URBAN YOUTH WORKERS
ENCOURAGE, SUPPORT, RESOURCE	36	91

For more information about each of these programs, please visit www.gripyouth.com/programs.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Figures are reported in dollars for fiscal years ending June 30, 2016.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

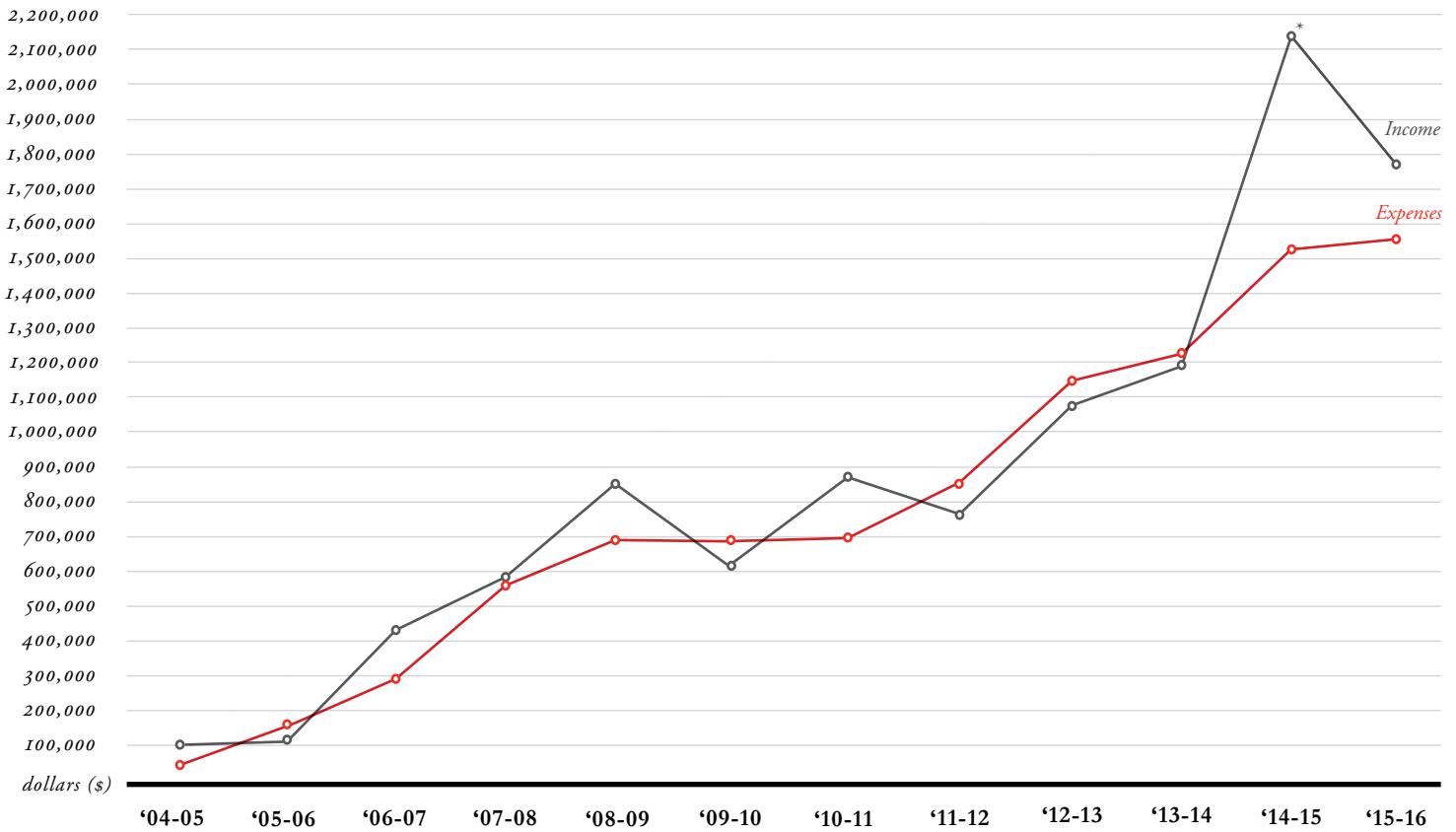
INCOME	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Donations			
<i>Individual</i>	\$ 308,354	370,011	441,027
<i>Private foundation</i>	99,427	116,906	171,769
<i>Corporate</i>	32,191	53,289	114,095
<i>Church</i>	48,457	103,462	75,572
Total Donations	488,429	643,668	802,463
Fundraising events	\$ 531,212	1,318,296 *	787,784
Program-related sales & fees (Streetlights, Miracle League, Legacy Conf.)	168,071	174,851	176,249
Corporate sponsorships/advertising	0	0	0
Interest & miscellaneous revenue	358	724	7,770
Total Income	\$ 1,188,070	2,137,540	1,774,265
EXPENSES	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Salaries & related	\$ 831,718	968,356 **	995,798
Contract services	25,261	17,690	19,407
Materials & supplies	29,252	50,724	51,049
Facility, equipment, & rent	103,730	92,400	137,016
Travel	54,249	59,284	59,154
Meetings - volunteer training, donors, staff	34,591	38,547	40,032
Insurance, staff development, & donation processing	29,842	60,245	64,653
Programming - materials, equipment, & food	38,661	53,088	77,254
Fundraising events	87,510	177,979 ***	122,873
Total Expenses	\$ 1,234,814	1,518,312	1,567,235
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (46,744)	619,228	207,030
ASSETS	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Bank accounts	\$ 284,174	883,608	1,108,412
<i>Other current assets</i>	2,297	2,388	2,268
Total current assets	286,471	885,996	1,110,679
Fixed assets	13,982	29,233	25,531
Total Assets	\$ 300,453	915,229	1,136,210
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
<i>Accounts payable</i>	\$ 0	880	358
<i>Credit cards</i>	31,316	20,852	35,274
<i>Other current liabilities</i>	600	700	750
Total current liabilities	31,916	22,432	36,382
Total Liabilities	31,916	22,432	36,382
Equity	\$ 268,537	892,797	1,099,828
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$ 300,453	915,229	1,136,210

* Increased revenue due to moving annual fundraising gala from fall to spring, resulting in two galas in the same fiscal year.

** Increased salary & related expenses due to moving to a group health insurance plan in 2014-15

*** Increased development expenses due to moving annual fundraising gala from fall to spring, resulting in two galas in the same fiscal year.

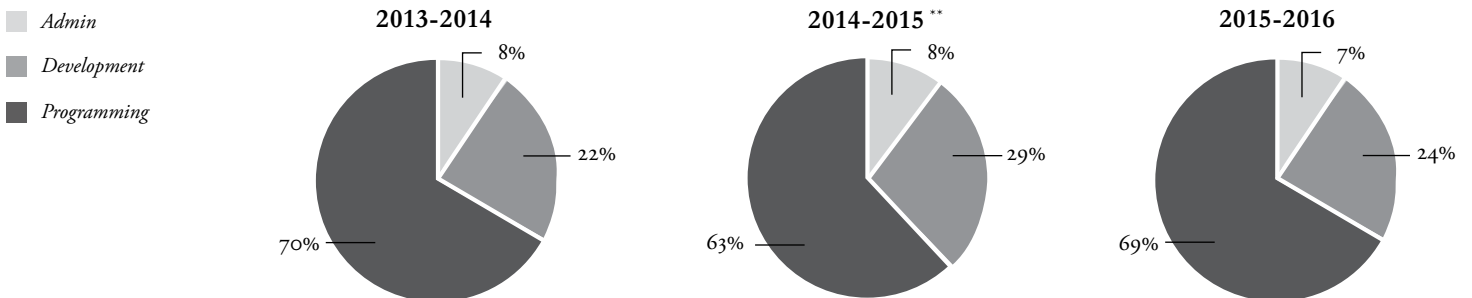
YEARLY EXPENSES AND INCOME, 2004-2016



* Increased revenue due to moving annual fundraising gala from fall to spring, resulting in two galas in the same fiscal year.

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES, 2015-2016

		ADMIN		DEVELOPMENT		PROGRAMMING		TOTAL	
Salaries & related	\$ 82,639	8%	\$	180,541	18%	\$	732,618	74%	\$ 995,798
Contract services	10,085	52%		0	0%		9,322	48%	19,407
Materials & supplies	4,876	10%		25,883	51%		20,290	40%	51,049
Facility, equipment, & rent	2,778	2%		9,220	7%		125,018	91%	137,016
Travel	575	1%		1,236	2%		57,344	97%	59,154
Meetings - volunteer training, donors, staff	2,424	6%		9,296	23%		28,312	71%	40,032
Insurance, staff development, & donation processing	9,892	15%		24,653	38%		30,108	47%	64,653
Programming - materials, equipment, & food	0	0%		0	0%		77,254	100%	77,254
Fundraising events	0	0%		122,873	100%		0	0	122,873
Total Expenses	\$ 113,269	7%	\$	373,701	24%	\$	1,080,265	69%	\$ 1,567,235



** Increased development expenses due to moving annual fundraising gala from fall to spring, resulting in two galas in the same fiscal year.



GROWING PARTNERSHIPS

GIVE

Monthly donors have been absolutely vital for GRIP to execute our ongoing initiatives and to plan future strategic projects.

Partner with us as a monthly donor to fuel our continued growth. Your monthly donation is critical to help as we break the fatherless cycle through Christ-centered, Life-on-Life relationships.

Please give your gift today and help us continue to change lives.

Online: gripyouth.com/give

Mail: GRIP Outreach For Youth,
P.O. Box 10310, Chicago, IL 60610

VOLUNTEER

You can use your skills, abilities, and talents to serve at GRIP. We have a variety of volunteer needs, including:

- Adult mentors
- Administrative support
- Web developers
- Sound technicians
- Video/photography and editing
- Graphic design
- Grantwriting
- Business and defense attorneys

Visit gripyouth.com/volunteer for a complete list of opportunities and to sign up.

PRAY

Prayer is one of the pillars of GRIP's ministry. Thank you for praying for us! If you would like to receive weekly prayer requests via email, please sign up at gripyouth.com/pray

OUR STAFF

DAVE BRECHEISEN	<i>Program Director</i>
JOSH BURNS	<i>Marketing Communications Manager</i>
BRIAN DYE	<i>Mentorship Director</i>
MELODY FABIAN	<i>Female Mentorship Coordinator</i>
SCOTT GRZESIAK	<i>Executive Director</i>
JACKIE HILL-PERRY	<i>Female Mentorship Coordinator</i>
APRIL JOUETT	<i>Administrative Coordinator</i>
LOREN LA LUZ	<i>Streetlights Project Manager</i>
AARON LOPEZ	<i>Streetlights Production Manager</i>
THAD NICHOLS	<i>Development Manager</i>
JOHN PENDLETON	<i>GRIP The School Coordinator</i>
DUSTY PETERSON	<i>Finance Manager</i>
SHAWN PROCTER	<i>GRIP The School Program Director</i>
NICK RIVERA	<i>Urban Youth Network Coordinator</i>
ESTEBAN SHEDD	<i>Streetlights Project Director</i>
JOE SOLOMON	<i>Church Relations & Volunteer Coordinator</i>
MICHAEL SPATARO	<i>Multimedia Manager</i>
CHRISTINA TRINA	<i>Project Manager</i>
KEITH WOODLEY	<i>SLAM Program Manager</i>

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RICHARD WOO	<i>Wealth Management Advisor, NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL</i>

“Learn to do good;
Seek justice
...Defend the fatherless...”

-Isaiah 1:17



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