



Leading Urban Kids into Excellence

Turning Obstacles into Stepping Stones...

Atlanta has one of the highest High School non-completion rates in the nation and one of the highest poverty rates for children who reside in major U.S. cities. Atlanta's children face numerous challenges; however, it is important to understand that The Luke Project is not a one-stop shop where children find tidy solutions for their problems. The Luke Project is an organization that leads children ages 7-14 in making a series of wise choices that will position them to pursue excellence, discover God's plan for their life and become productive citizens. Join us, as we join God, turning obstacles into stepping stones to excellence.

HOW DOES THE LUKE PROJECT CARRY OUT ITS MISSION?

The Luke Project is a faith-based organization focused on "Leading Urban Kids into Excellence." We accomplish this through a series of strategic programs that serve children ages 7-14 who live in Atlanta's inner city primarily with relatives, an older sibling or in a single parent home. The following programs support the mission and provide the foundation for children to take the next best step toward excellence.

WHAT IS THE MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LUKE PROJECT?

Mission

"Lead urban kids into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and into becoming productive citizens."

We accomplish our mission through five strategic programs designed to enable urban kids to discover God's plan for their life, have fun and develop their character as they learn to serve, give and take personal responsibility for their life.

WHAT ARE THE FIVE STRATEGIC PROGRAMS OF THE LUKE PROJECT?



LukeSports operates a sports league offering flag football, cheerleading, basketball and soccer for Charter Schools in Atlanta. LukeSports is an incentive-based tool to enhance the student's academic performance while developing teamwork and building character and athletic skills.

LukeSports alumni success story... Courtney leveraged academic success and now attends Holy Innocents' Episcopal School.

LukePrep provides students with critical life, educational and Biblical literacy skills in an exciting and relevant format. The curriculum includes classes such as civics and art, as well as a variety of electives that include swim lessons, job exploration, budgeting and community service days.

LukePrep alumni success story... The class of 2009 produced and published a comic book for children in conjunction with Fatherhood Story Telling.



LukeCamp is a nine-week Summer Day Camp that provides tutoring, opportunities to earn field trips, Bible study, and fun culminating in a weeklong overnight camp held in the North Georgia Mountains. Activities include mountain biking, kayaking, swimming and Bible study.

LukeCamp success story... Nagi – participated in LukeCamp for four years as a child and is now a college graduate on staff with LukeCamp attending Graduate School at Georgia State University.

LukeCoach links urban youth with an adult life coach to help them turn obstacles into stepping stones of success.

LukeCoach success story... Terrell – volunteers for LukePrep as a twelve year old.

LukeAlumni connects former program participants with current staff, volunteers and mentors providing encouragement, prayer and coaching.

LukeAlumni success story... DeShawn – program participant for six years now plans to attend trade school in Kentucky.

HOW DO YOU DEFINE A WIN AND MEASURE SUCCESS AT THE LUKE PROJECT?

A “win” is when a program participant experiences positive life change by making a wise choice, taking the next best step toward excellence and begins the process of discovering God’s plan for their life. By repeating this process again and again, excellence at school, service in the community and a desire to know God becomes a way of life. The coaching and preparation they receive through The Luke Project prepares children ages 7-14 for success in high school that culminates in graduation, helps establish an expectation for attending college or trade school, joining the military or entering the work force.

Increases in the GPA of program participants and enhanced character development, as measured by individual school progress reports, serve as the yardstick for The Luke Project program success. Progress reports provide real world program results measured beyond the walls of our program. The Luke Project provides a safe place for children to build a foundation for success.

The standard of excellence goal is for a minimum of 95% of program participants to experience a “win.” We are currently at 97.5%.

HOW DO CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN THE LUKE PROJECT?

Parents and children who desire excellence, new experiences and a programmatic God-centered approach that builds character seek out The Luke Project having heard of our programs by word of mouth. To begin, participants simply complete a registration form.

HOW MANY KIDS DO YOU WORK WITH?

LukeSports – 300+ three seasons a year
LukeCamp – 50-60 nine weeks in the summer
LukePrep – 20-30 one day a week during the school year
LukeCoach – 11 one day a month
LukeAlumni – 30+ as required

HOW DO I GET PLUGGED IN AS A VOLUNTEER AT THE LUKE PROJECT?

We recommend joining us at a connecting event or on a reward field trip as an observer. Jumping in and serving in one of the five program environments is a great way to plug in as well.

Visit <http://thelukeproject.org/volunteer.cfm>

HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE LUKE PROJECT WITH A FINANCIAL GIFT?

We appreciate every financial gift regardless of the amount and recognize the importance of stewardship as we deploy the funds entrusted to The Luke Project, Inc. One-time or seasonal gifts are appreciated, but one of the most strategic and beneficial financial gifts is monthly giving. Your gift of \$42 a month over the course of 12 months sends one child to LukeCamp, our 10-week summer camp experience and one of our core programs. We stretch each dollar almost 5X further than comparable suburban camp programs, yet we impact the lives of children living in the inner city in very real and meaningful ways.

You may give online via our secure website at www.lukecamp.com or mail your check payable to The Luke Project, Inc., P.O. Box 115028, Atlanta, GA 30310.

HOW DOES WHAT I DO CONNECT ME TO THE MISSION OF THE LUKE PROJECT?



Whether you volunteer, provide financial support or pray, everyone is important. You may volunteer for one hour and encourage one child or donate \$50.00 providing fuel for a trip to expose urban youth to the North Ga. Mountains for the first time. We like to think of it as a baseball game. Your volunteer efforts, much like an individual pitch, one out, or a single inning, add up to a win for a child, the organization, the community and for you.

WHY IS THE LUKE PROJECT NOT WORKING FOR MY CHILD?

Often parents and/or children are not ready for an aggressive pursuit of excellence and find the structure, commitment and accountability too rigid. Much like an emergency room visit, a good ER doctor is going to do what is required to save a life. We believe commitment, character development, structure, personal responsibility and planting a seed to follow and honor God is the foundational medicine required for your child to experience success in this life and beyond.

HOW DOES THE LUKE PROJECT TEACH PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY?

All of our programs are designed to accomplish the following:

- Participants earn reward field trips.
- Reward field trips expose urban kids to life and opportunities outside of the city.
- Commitment is mandatory and absences from programs result in loss of reward.
- Participants earn LukeCash that they spend at the LukeStore teaching students how to make wise buying decisions.

Once a child discovers God's plan and purpose for their life they have a diminished desire to pursue habits that will be destructive to their life. Education, basic life skills and character development are all key ingredients that are taught throughout our programs to position children to take the next best step in pursuit of excellence.