

this fiscal year

.....



40% MORE

**NEIGHBORS IN NEED
ENDED THEIR HOMELESSNESS**

by connecting with



URBAN MINISTRIES
OF DURHAM



FOOD, SHELTER AND A FUTURE

The story of Tracy and Vekekia Prince demonstrates that we are all just one or two bad breaks away from homelessness. Happily, their journey also confirms that there is help, hope and a way forward for those in need, thanks to Urban Ministries of Durham – and caring individuals like you.

Durham's renaissance over the past 15 years has transformed our community into a boom town for many. Today, we consistently rank as a top-ten destination for entrepreneurs, foodies and retirees. However, the flip side of this success is that many longtime residents – already trapped in multi-generational poverty – are being displaced by gentrification.

Durham County leads the state of North Carolina with an average of 900 evictions per month. On any given night, some 350 people are experiencing homelessness in our community, with many more living on the brink. Neighbors are sleeping in cars, camping in the woods and huddling in downtown doorways. This includes children, who make up 14% of Durham's homeless population. This is unacceptable. With prosperity comes a special obligation to ensure that no one is left behind.

Your generous investment says to those we serve, “You are valued and a better life awaits you – if you commit to do what it takes.” This past year, you enabled UMD to provide 54,378 nights of shelter and helped 243 homeless individuals exit into permanent housing, a 40% increase from Fiscal Year 2016-17. As you read through this annual report, you'll see additional statistics that capture the impact of your investment, but it's stories like the Prince's that make these numbers come alive.

This year, we are working to meet the needs of nearly 6,000 neighbors, including 925 individuals who will stay in our shelter. We want to help at least 275 people exit homelessness but realize this is an ambitious goal, especially since clients are having to wait longer and longer to move out due to a shortage of affordable housing. We are collaborating with partners such as the Durham Housing Authority and Durham Congregations in Action to find creative solutions for some, but broader action is needed. With your support, we will continue to work closely with public and private partners to create an environment where everyone in Durham can obtain an affordable place to live.

Thank you for being with us – and your neighbors in need – every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Sheldon Mitchell, executive director

A REVERSAL OF FORTUNE THIS TIME, IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION



Two corporate incomes with careers in finance.

A home with a car in the garage.

Hours spent volunteering at local charities, mentoring members of a church youth group and sitting on the school board.

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Could you see yourself in this picture?

Now, look again. Only this time, a few months have passed. And you're homeless.

It happened to Tracy and Vekeia Prince.

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A job loss and a medical emergency were all it took to cast the Princes out of the middle class, through cracks every step of the way down and into homelessness. It could happen to anyone.

A self-described warrior, Tracy is a 57-year old Gulf War veteran. After nearly a decade in the army, he built a successful career in mortgage lending, where he met Vekeia at an Autism Awareness volunteer event through their employer, Chase Bank. United by their deep faith and commitment to each other, "Kee" and Tracy ran a tight ship. Life was shaping up to be pretty comfortable for the Princes five years into their marriage.

Because they had no children at home, they felt free to relocate to "write a new chapter." But shortly after moving, Tracy's company was acquired and downsized, leaving him suddenly unemployed. A bad break became a full-blown nightmare when Kee heard the words: "Honey, I'm not feeling so good."

A trip to the ER revealed that Tracy had suffered a stroke. While the damage was not permanent, he needed time to recover. Because they were between jobs, they had no health insurance. Instead of hitting the pavement to find work and housing, the Princes were suddenly drowning in debt. Looking back at how quickly events spiraled out of their control, Kee says, "We were like Job in the Bible. 'Where did [we] err?'"

When Veterans Affairs suggested they seek help at Urban Ministries of Durham, the Princes were stunned. They had never needed financial assistance before. They said, "We're used to helping." But their car had been repossessed, and their money had run out. Once they were here, Tracy and Kee realized they were no different than anyone else at UMD. "We never imagined needing food stamps or having to wear secondhand clothes. But now, we were in need."

In addition to food and shelter, the Princes were connected to resources to help them get back on their feet. Tracy obtained benefits from the Durham VA and Department of Social Services, and was able to begin preparing to re-enter the workforce through StepUp Durham and NC Works. Recently, he was hired by Amazon. With help from Dress for Success, Kee was able to quickly secure work in her now chosen field as a pharmacy tech, after landing three job interviews in one week!

Through our rapid-rehousing program, the Princes are on track to move into permanent housing in less than 30 days. For them, "this is good transitional housing." UMD has given them the chance to get their life back. And generous donors have allowed them to do so free of charge, ultimately benefiting us all.

"We're going to land on our feet and continue to serve as we have always done."

Thank you for giving the Princes and others in need the tools and time to rebuild their lives. And for many others, the resources to build a life with stability and purpose for the very first time.

MISSION

Urban Ministries of Durham connects with the community to end homelessness and fight poverty by offering food, shelter and a future to neighbors in need.

THIS FISCAL YEAR
JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018

243

People **ended their homelessness** by connecting with UMD

.....



.....

54,378

Nights of shelter were provided to homeless neighbors



.....

792

Homeless neighbors were **provided with shelter**



.....

248,028

Meals were served to hungry neighbors in the community café



.....

500+

Households per month **received groceries and clothing**

CORE VALUES

Respect: We believe in the inherent dignity and value of all people and believe no one's basic human needs should go unmet.

Collaboration: We work in concert with many other organizations to end homelessness and extreme poverty.

Accountability: Each person owns the successes and setbacks that result from their choices.



URBAN MINISTRIES
OF DURHAM

P.O. Box 249
Durham, NC 27702

919.682.0538 | www.umdurham.org

Sheldon Mitchell, Executive Director

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ANNUAL REPORT
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018

THANK YOU

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to all the caring people and organizations who made financial gifts to improve 5,792 lives in FY 2017-18. Unless you asked to remain anonymous, your generosity has been acknowledged on

UMD'S DONOR WALL OF NAMES AT

<http://tinyurl.com/UMDgivers>

4,166 *volunteers donated* **26,748**

hours to end homelessness and fight poverty last fiscal year

REVENUES

BY SOURCE

Foundations	• • •	\$913,302
Individuals	• • •	\$572,971
Government	• • •	\$564,998
Special Events	• • •	\$126,819
Communities of Faith	• • •	\$123,018
Workplace Giving & Other	• • •	\$113,922
Business, Civic & Community Groups	• • •	\$75,147
Memorials/Honoraria	• • •	\$61,417
In-Kind Donations	• • •	\$1,440,517

EXPENSES

BY CATEGORY

Community Shelter	• • •	\$1,736,410
Community Café	• • •	\$934,199
Food Pantry & Clothing Closet	• • •	\$493,738
Community Outreach & Enrichment	• • •	\$67,877
Management & General	• • •	\$293,936
Fundraising & Development	• • •	\$281,043