

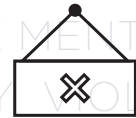
A photograph of a city skyline at dusk or dawn. The sky is a deep blue with scattered, soft white and pinkish clouds. In the foreground, there are several buildings of varying heights and architectural styles. A prominent feature is a tall, modern glass skyscraper with a distinctive tiered top. To its left is another tall building with a dark, pointed roof. In the lower right, a brick building with a grid of windows is visible, and a sign for 'bank' can be seen on a rooftop. The overall mood is serene and urban.

IC UNDERGROUND
CHURCH. NETWORK. MOVEMENT

THE WORLD SUFFERS FROM ALMOST INSURMOUNTABLE PROBLEMS.

Every day it seems there are new expressions of darkness, despair, and distance from God and His grace.

28



In 1900 there were 28 churches for every 10,000 Americans.

Today there are 11 churches for every 10,000 Americans.

3500 churches close each year.

80-85% of churches are on the downside of their life cycle.

Unchurched in the US has doubled from 1990-2004.

*Planting Missional Churches, 2016

WHY KANSAS CITY?

Founded in the 1830s as a port city along the Missouri River, Kansas City has grown into a metropolitan area that stretches across the state lines of Kansas and Missouri.

The KC Metro area has been experiencing a renaissance, pride in the city is high. An increase in size has led to benefits as well as problems for the population. According to CNN Money, the murder rate ranks ninth among big cities and tenth in the crime index. And the Kansas City Star reported that the city has become a hub for sex trafficking. Ethnic diversity is rapidly on the rise and so is the economy, but sadly, it's leaving KC more divided, racially and socioeconomically.

20+%

The combined poverty rates of the suburban, rural and urban communities of the Kansas City metro area.*

5TH

highest murder per capita rate of any city in America.*

Kansas City is considered the "Center" of the Human Trafficking Railroad in America. Kansas City ranked

#2

in study of men responding to illicit sexual ads linked to prostitution and trafficking.*

2.2 million

people in 12 counties make up the Kansas City metro.

15%

attend a church at least once a month.

85%

are not active in a faith community of any kind.

That means there are

1.9 million

unchurched people.*

* Kansas City Star, Bad Policy Worsens Trend: Poverty is More Concentrated and Spreading, Oct 2016

* 41 KSHB News, Kansas City ranks fifth among US cities in murder per capita, Oct 15, 2018

* Metro Voice News, Human Trafficking: Kansas City at Center of Dark World, March 19, 2018

* North America Mission Board Data 2017, Dan Southerland.

How will we offer hope to the despair of the world?

As the world changes the church is in decline. When the church is needed most, it is struggling to survive and to assert any influence. God has called people to bring good news and meet all of these needs, but in many cases, they are under resourced, under-appreciated and even sometimes blocked to live out that calling. These missional people are disconnected from each other, unable to collaborate in meaningful ways and at times competing for the same small pool of resources. They are at high risk of burnout and turnover.

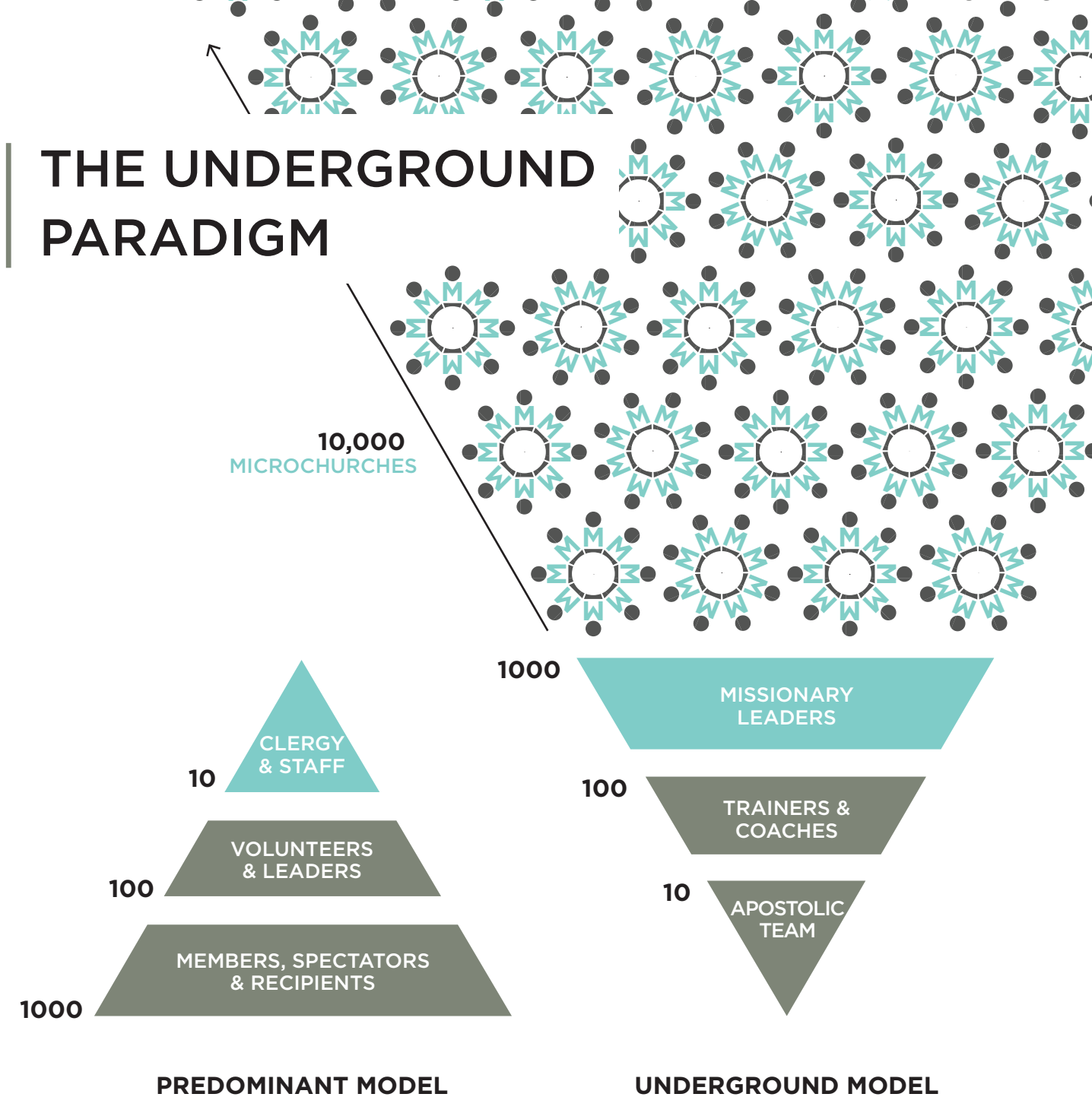
How will we empower the called to serve and love those in need?

Our best people, who most clearly represent the future of the church and the hope of the kingdom struggle to survive and continue in their essential work. They receive very little coaching, support, or even a community in the work they do. The church needs these people and these people need the church. And the lost and poor of the world desperately need them to find each other.

How will we inspire the church to rise into its fullest potential?

We believe we have discovered a way of doing church that inverts conventional notions about who can lead and that prioritizes mission over all other enterprise. The result is a form of church that revives mission, exponentially multiplying the impact of the church.

THE UNDERGROUND PARADIGM



OUR DREAM

is to see a missionary on every street and a microchurch in every network of relationships so that every woman, man, girl and boy have repeated opportunities to see, hear, experience and respond to the Gospel.

Our name is a tribute to the underground church of history, characterized by sacrificial faith in the face of danger, oppression, and even death. We honor that memory and hope to represent that church in our city and around the world.

OUR MISSION

We exist to fill Kansas City with the beauty, justice and Good News of Jesus.

OUR VISION

Our 40-Year Dream of Gospel Saturation in Kansas City is 21,000 Microchurches being equipped by hyperlocal or affinity-based Hubs.

4 ORGANIZING IDENTITIES

MISSIONARY:

An ordinary person who plants themselves among a pocket of people, plants the gospel, and makes new disciples



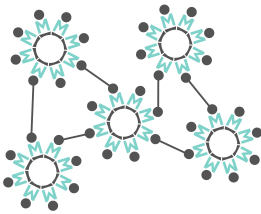
MICROCHURCH:

An extended spiritual family that lives in everyday gospel community, led by ordinary people, and owns the mission of Jesus in a network of relationships



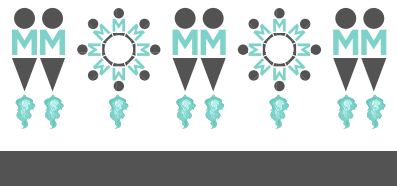
COLLECTIVE:

Four to six microchurches within a geographic area or affinity group that have shared governing elders, mission, resources, and gatherings



HUB:

An apostolic team utilizing a shared space to fuel and equip a network of missionaries and microchurches in a city or region



2-ENTITY STRUCTURE

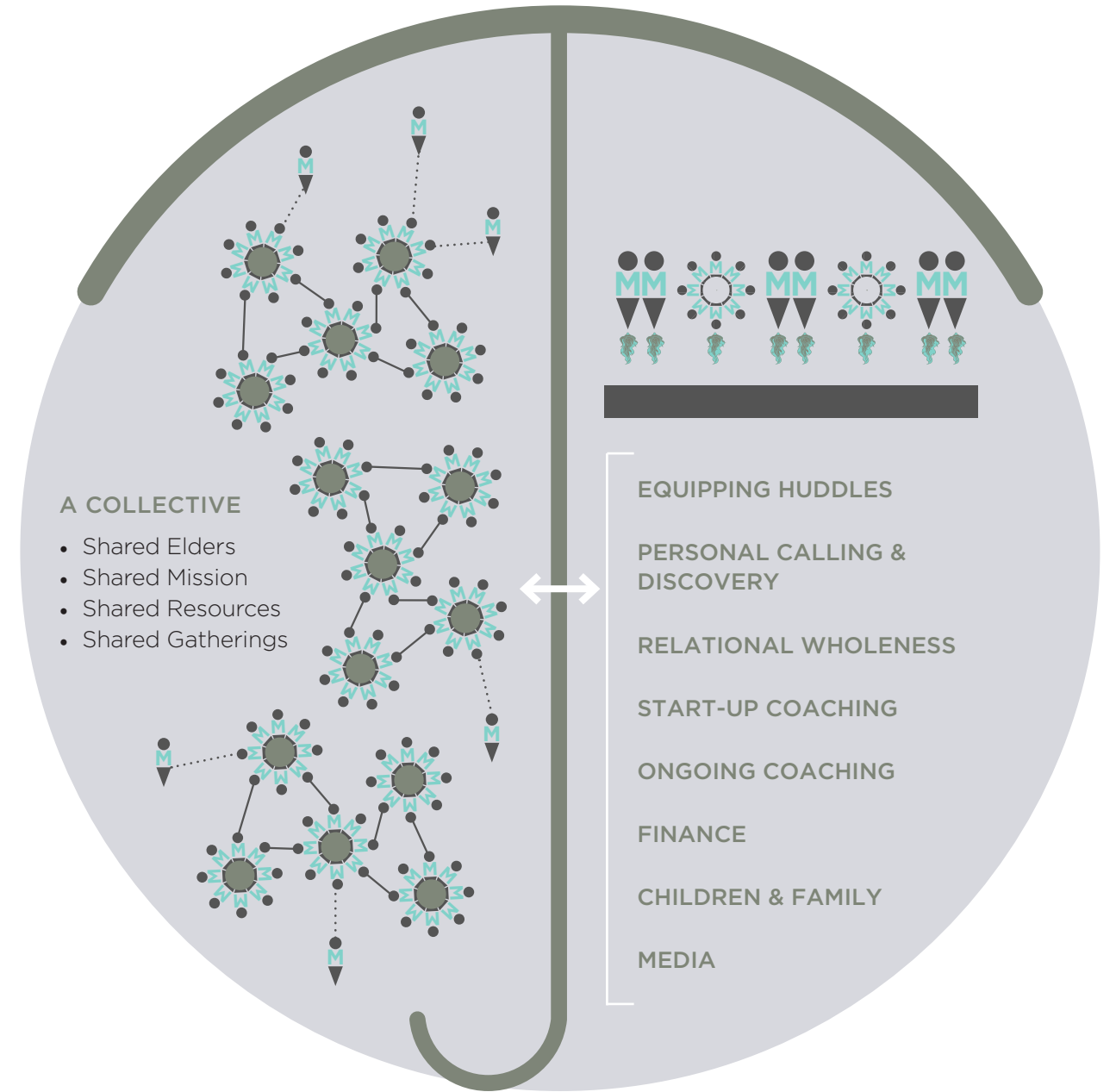
The KC Underground functions with a two-entity structure:

MISSION AGENCY:

Our mission agency equips everyday people to be loving missionaries and effective disciple-makers in new contexts.

NETWORK OF MICROCHURCHES:

As new disciples are made in a new context, a microchurch emerges. When we have four to six microchurches in a geographic region or affinity group, we network them together in what we call Collectives. Collectives have shared elders, mission, and resources.



A DECENTRALIZED NETWORK OF MISSIONARIES AND MICROCHURCHES

A MISSION AGENCY (HUB)

KC UNDERGROUND MULTIPLICATION THIS YEAR

**+100 MISSIONARIES
FOR A TOTAL OF 310**

**+37 MICROCHURCHES
FOR A TOTAL OF 102**

**+1 HUB
FOR A TOTAL OF 11**



For the Nations Hub

For the Nations is a team of people who have a desire to see the Gospel move in and through international communities in Kansas City. Their primary focus is to engage immigrant and refugee families in Kansas City, KS through the ministry of soccer. Last year, God miraculously connected this team with a faith-based soccer club called KCK United. With 250+ youth athletes on the various KCK United teams (ranging from 3rd grade through High School), the For the Nations crew is now engaging over a hundred families representing more than a dozen nationalities. In addition to a head coach, each KC United team has an assistant coach who has been trained in the Missionary Pathway and is actively living as a missionary among the kids and families that represent their club team. This fall they're seeing Discovery Bible Studies and microchurch communities getting started among many of these teams, with the hope that the Good News of Jesus would be unleashed among the families and communities in Kansas City, KS.



Thrive Hub

Thrive Hub emerged in 2022 from a Hesed space where a couple of guys decided to extend the Kingdom by including friends and their spouses who wanted to be spiritual family together. From there, a microchurch emerged with 8 people, and then the year after grew to over 20 people. Thrive believes in the 5-fold APEST expression of shared leadership. Their mission is to encourage, equip, and activate everyday, ordinary people to discover their destiny and live fully alive from the heart Jesus gave them. They help individuals become thriving disciples of Jesus by learning how to create an emotionally healthy Kingdom culture together. Now 1 year in, they continue to make disciples that make disciples.



KCU Independence Hub

During the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, Zero Hour Ministries was ignited out of a desire to shift the tide of a hurting and lost generation through specific disciple-making trips and trainings. We believe God's people are made for more. It is the birthright of every child of God to be a loving missionary and disciple-maker where they live, work, learn, and play. Our aim is to plant the gospel in networks of relationships across the city, see disciples made, and witness Student Teams emerge in every high school in the Kansas City metro area. Zero Hour Teams are specialized Disciple-Making Teams that are filled with students who have been trained through Zero Hour to be disciple-makers who live in everyday gospel community, led by ordinary students, and who own the mission of Jesus in their school. The focus in these clubs is on missional prayer, sharing the gospel, and community. They are intended to be missional in nature to help students live as disciple-makers to bring the beauty, justice, and Good News of Jesus to Gen Z and Gen Alpha.



**Rob & Michelle Wegner
Neighborhood Microchurch**

Rob and Michelle moved into the suburbs of Kansas City nine years ago. New to the community, they knew no one in their neighborhood. But they did know God had planted them in this context for a reason. The beginning of their missionary journey in this new neighborhood was slow. Extraordinary prayer and fasting and relationship-building took place over months and even years. This hard but important work laid the foundation for the extended spiritual family they have there today. One neighbor sharing her story with them and then accepting Christ at their kitchen table led to another young man sitting in their garage asking if he could really hear from God. This led to families coming over for meals and eventually, they saw an extended spiritual family emerge: a group of neighbors gathering for worship, community, and who are on a mission to their neighbors around them. This extended spiritual family is made up of varying ages, ethnicities, and religious backgrounds. Now, there are so many people in this extended spiritual family that they are multiplying new gatherings!



**David & Cheryl Johnson
Neighborhood Microchurch**

Though David and Cheryl had seen a microchurch family emerge in their neighborhood, they sensed it was time to downsize. They chose to move into a maintenance-free community not far from where they lived. The microchurch family from their old neighborhood came to meet with them in their new neighborhood, yet they knew they must shift their focus to begin building relationships with the people in their new neighborhood and planting the gospel there. They began prayer walking, participating in community potlucks, going to the swimming pool to meet new people, and joining the gardening club. This missional activity opened doors for them to get to know many people in their new community. People began opening up to them about things going on in their lives and David and Cheryl were able to pray for them, listen, and serve their neighbors. Today, a couple from their new community have joined the worship gathering of neighbors from their old community. They are all on mission together to bring the Good News to their neighbors.



**James Mays
Share the Hope Missionary**

6 years ago, James found himself attending one of the first Share the Hope microchurch gatherings ever. After a life filled with what he describes as “thuggin’, druggin’, and muggin’” he fully surrendered his life to Jesus. Within the Share the Hope family (a network of microchurches emerging out of the post-incarceration and addiction communities in KC), James grew as a disciple and a disciple-maker. Over time, he launched a new Share the Hope microchurch gathering, and later stepped into a primary leadership role for the Share the Hope Hub. James has a passion for sharing the Good News of how Jesus transformed his life with anyone and everyone he encounters. He now spends his days pouring into men who have a similar background as himself, as he mentors and disciples those coming out of jail and walking through recovery. He also has a heart to launch new Share the Hope communities throughout the city, and see the Gospel saturate this entire city.



**Haylee Whitson
Missionary**

Haylee wants to be a light for Jesus wherever she goes. She also has a heart for the nations and for children. However, finding the context where she could make the most impact for Jesus seemed to be challenging. Then she learned about other missionaries seeking to plant the gospel among children by helping coach their soccer teams. Even though Haylee did not have much experience with the sport of soccer itself, they paired her with a head coach who does. That frees her up to be able to bless the children and their parents. As an assistant coach, she’s at every practice and game, but she is praying and building relationships. After each practice or game, they share a meal with the kids and their families, do a Discovery Bible Study, and have conversations about life together. Parents join in as well, so the gospel is reaching the entire family.



**Lea Wilson
Missionary**

Leah and her husband went to Bible school to be missionaries. They yearned to go overseas, but those doors never opened for them. When they moved to Kansas City, Lea knew that they were in their neighborhood for a reason. She began to go to the park with her son to play and while they were there, she began to meet mothers who were refugees from other countries. The skill of being able to speak Spanish quickly became a gift to these mothers. She quickly realized the vast number of needs in these women’s lives: clothing, food, jobs, transportation, help getting their IDs, WIC, Medicaid, and on and on. After hearing one specific mother’s story of fleeing her country to get to the States, Lea’s heart broke and she knew she had to jump into action. One by one, she began loving and building relationships and meeting the needs in the lives of these women. Now she is planting the Good News of the Gospel in these women’s lives every day by praying, listening, serving, and sharing the Good News.



**Brandon & Courtney Kelly
Missionaries**

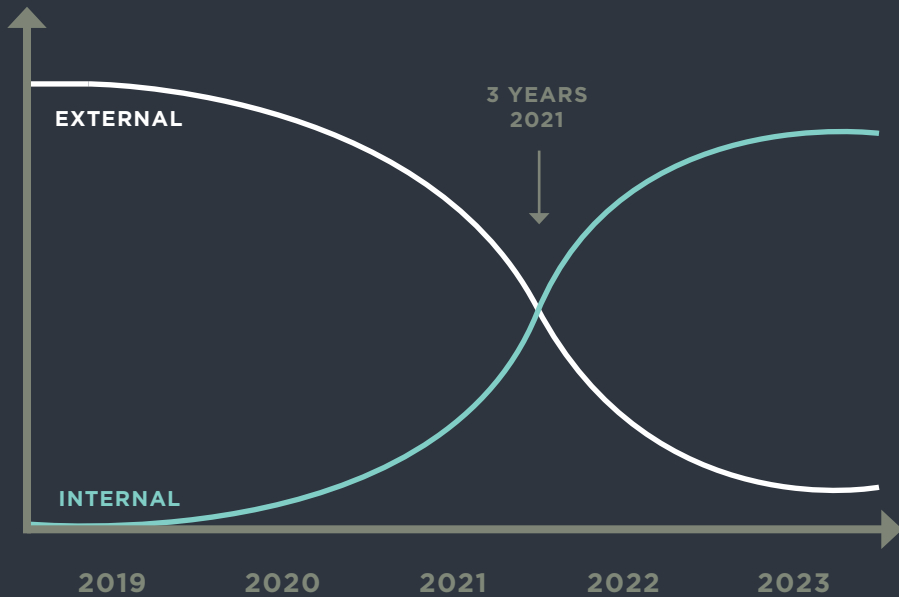
Brandon and Courtney live off the main town square in a suburb of Kansas City. They’ve recently become much more intentional about planting the gospel in their neighborhood. They decided one of the best ways to get people out of their houses and interacting together was a block party. They took over 60 flyers around to their neighbors. They were able to meet and speak with some neighbors and for others, they left the flyer in the door. God brought nearly 50 people to the block party! Many spiritual conversations were had. From this intentional reaching out to the community, they now have a DBS with one neighbor, are serving a single mom by letting her borrow their car, and are able to let other neighbors serve them. Recently, they took dinner to one neighbor who is fostering and adopting children. Then, that neighbor brought his children to Brandon and Courtney’s for dinner. Intentional prayer and action is leading to spiritual conversations and beautiful relationships. Neighbors are now asking about another party, so they are planning one for next month.

WILL YOU HELP US

multiply a movement of disciples, microchurches, and hubs in Kansas City and around the world?

INCOME

2019: 576,871
 2020: 596,394
 2021: 578,565
 2022: 497,591
 2023: N/A



Your giving is an investment in a movemental expression of church that must be rediscovered and reestablished in order to advance the mission of Jesus in post-Christian, post-modern, post-covid America.

The Kansas City Underground is committed to equipping other city movements. Your gifts will have a multiplied impact.

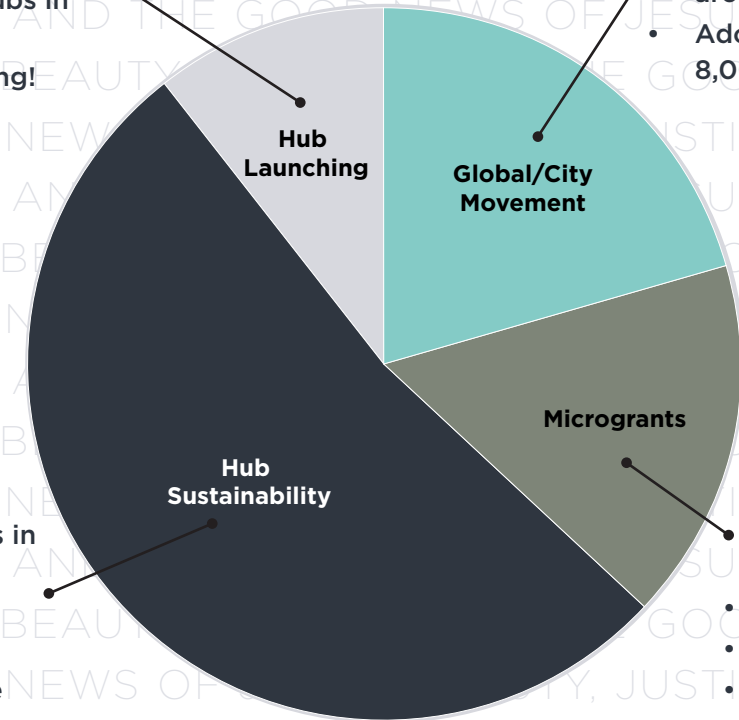
Vital Aspects of Hub Development Available for Partnership. All the gifts empower the core equipping teams which launch disciple-makers, missionary formation and microchurch leaders.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PARTNERS TO INVEST

\$242,000

for multiplying hubs and microchurches

- Equipping Teams
- From 1 to 11 Hubs in four years
- Let's keep going!
- Funding DMM & CPMS who are friends on mission
- Adopt A Village: 8,000 new churches



2024 BUDGET

KC UNDERGROUND

finance@kcunderground.org



KCUNDERGROUND.ORG

