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# CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS



On February 14, 2021, Boy With a Ball turned 20. For many reasons, this last year has been significant, and we are excited to celebrate our global impact since 2001 and in 2020. This year's annual report is an overview of our impact in 2020 as well as our last twenty years.

# FROM OUR FOUNDER

Boy With a Ball began as the answer to a question: How can we make the world a place where young people are reached and shaped more by the good guys than the bad guys? There are over 1.8 billion young people in the world today, an all-time high and, according to UN-HABITAT, it is estimated that 60% of cities will be under the age of 18 by 2030. We believe that there is no greater cause than reaching youth and that doing so will change the world. We believe that failing to do so will lead to horrific results.

This year Boy With a Ball is celebrating two decades of this inspiring adventure to follow Jesus into our cities to learn how to reach young people and help them reach their dreams. Much has changed over these past twenty years. Where we were once a single infant team trying to find our legs and our way, we are now nine teams in seven cities and five countries across the globe including in Africa, Latin America and the United States. Where once Boy With a Ball was an idea within the hearts and minds of a few, today so many have joined together - some by going, some by giving - to work to learn, to love, to grow, to believe, to innovate and, many times, to fail together. With every step we have grown.

We are so grateful for what we have learned over these years. Step by step, failure after failure and then breakthrough after breakthrough, we discovered this powerful approach to reach hurting neighborhoods and schools we've called Love Your City. Love Your City has reached thousands and thousands of young people and their families, drawing them into mentoring relationships and small groups where they have been given an opportunity to grow. Young people have graduated from school, families have risen out of poverty and a movement of young leaders has formed whose faith has empowered them to love others with transformative results. Love Your City has also drawn together a network of over a dozen churches who are turning out to their neighborhoods to allow people to belong far before they believe.

As we turn to the future, we are poised for launching new teams in new places across the globe. We are expectant to see more churches leverage the power of Love Your City to engage their neighborhoods and by doing so, to reach and develop a next generation of leaders. Love Your City offers a way for churches to return to Jesus' way of incarnating and demonstrating the Gospel to powerfully set the stage for proclaiming it. We are working hard to develop training resources and tools that will not only help local Boy With a Ball teams step out into Love Your City but will make it easier for churches to do so as well.

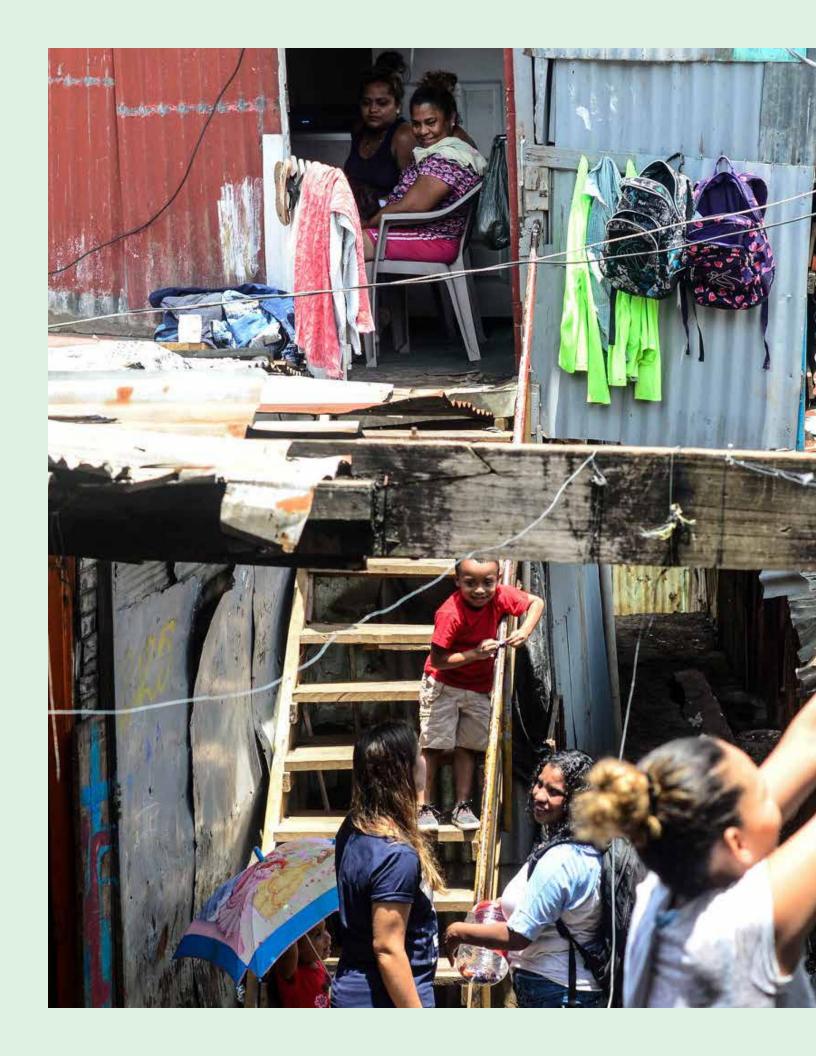
Beyond these teams and churches, we believe our next opportunity is to mobilize the many followers of Jesus in the marketplace who are not only called to mission but who are powerfully situated in their cities to make a powerful difference. Love Your City creates a space for businesses and those that lead and work within them to turn in to their communities and to impact the young people in them. We are confident that unlocking and launching this massive group into following Jesus into "living a life of love" by helping the young people in their cities will create historic change.

I want to sincerely thank you for your place in this rich story. What began as an idea and then grew into a team and then an organization is now a wonderful movement of diverse individuals, each with unique gifts and talents and each with powerful capacity to grow in faith and love as we continue together. May God guide us together into whatever additional years He will give us to leave nothing on the table but to find the way together to see as many young people as possible grow and flourish on the way to reaching their God-given potential.

I cannot wait to see what happens next!

In His love,

Jamie Johnson Executive Director Boy With a Ball





# LOVE YOUR CITY OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

In 2004, we walked into our first Love Your City community. At the time, we didn't realize we were putting together the puzzle pieces that led to our theory of change: Love Your City. In the years since, we have implemented Love Your City in communities across the world and seen entire neighborhoods lifted out of poverty and into a better future.



#### A COMMITTED TEAM FORMS.

Each Love Your City neighborhood begins with a team. Our teams are composed of a diverse group of leaders who want to be part of life change in their cities and are willing to give their lives to help young people reach their dreams.



#### THE TEAM GATHERS OTHERS.

In order to impact an entire community, we will need a movement. Some join as volunteers who go out into the communities to give what they have to impact others. Others join as donors who make community change possible.



#### THEY GO OUT TOGETHER INTO A HURTING COMMUNITY.

There are neighborhoods in our cities where young people and families are cut off from what they need to survive, much less thrive. But a child growing up in need isn't about poverty. It's about our inability to care—broken like this, we are all poor. And so we go out into a community and build relationships in order to reweave community.



#### SOON, MENTORING AND SMALL GROUPS BEGIN.

Week after week, relationships deepen and friendships blossom. And then, mentoring and small groups form around each other's needs and commonalities as we face life together.



#### TIME TOGETHER LEADS TO REAL LIFE CHANGE.

Where there was once need, there is now strength. And those with strength turn back to help bridge the gap from need to growth.



#### COMMUNITIES RISE WHEN LEADERS RISE FROM WITHIN.

And now the neighborhood is on its way to thriving and the movement grows across the city.

### **OUR 20 YEARS**

In 1991, Jamie, our founder, had a vision to build teams like leagues of superheroes who would go out into their cities and fight for young people. That original dream was realized in 2001 when a group of young leaders came together and formed that team. Since then, our twenty years have been full of stories—stories of young people set free, of communities transformed, of dreams realized. And for all the

impact of the last twenty years, all that we have learned has led us to believe that we are just getting started. For all the thousands of young people reached, there are still thousands more out there. For every city with a superheroic team, there are hundreds more. And so with gratitude we celebrate our history, and with hope, we look to twenty more.

# 2001 OUR STORY BEGINS

As a group of young leaders, the original Boy with a Ball team shared a dream: to impact the lives of young people in cities across the world.

<u> 2004</u>

### THE TEAM MOVES TO COSTA RICA

Looking to grow, many of the original Boy With a Ball team set out for Costa Rica to learn to implement what they had learned in a new culture.

# **2004**LOVE YOUR CITY WAS BORN

In Costa Rica, working with prostitutes and street children, the team drove by the same slum week after week. One day, one of our team members decided to go in and meet members of the community. With that (our first Walkthrough), Love Your City began.

#### 2011 VELOCITY BEGAN

Relaunching our work into San Antonio, we met Dr. Michael Karcher, who designed a cross-age mentoring program. Excited for the chance to expand our work into schools, we recruited 30 high school students to mentor middle schoolers, and Velocity was born

#### **2010**

#### **OUR THIRD TEAM**

As the work was growing in Costa Rica, one of our leaders was connected to a group of young people in Nicaragua. Dreaming of what their lives could be, the young people wrote letters to our team in Costa Rica. Soon thereafter, El Niño y La Bola Nicaragua was born.

# 2013 GLOBAL MOVES TO ATLANTA

As we continued to grow, Boy With a Ball's global team needed to be located in an international city to best serve the teams across the globe. In the Spring of 2013, we moved our headquarters to Atlanta, establishing our flagship and global training center.

#### 2013 **BOY WITH A BALL** EXPANDS INTO AFRICA

In 2013, we were connected with a young leader who dreamt of impacting young people in his home country— Nigeria. In 2013, upon his return, he started to implement Love Your City in Enugu, beginning Boy With a Ball Nigeria.

# **FIKISHA JOINS BOY WITH A BALL**

We mentored an organization in Nairobi that worked to reach street boys. As the mentorship grew, Fikisha joined Boy With a Ball as a member organization in 2014 and began to implement Love Your City in one of the largest slums in the

## 2015

#### **BWABCON BEGINS**

With leaders all across the world, we were constantly learning, innovating, and growing, and we needed a place to come together. In Spring of 2015, we held our first Boy With a Ball conference, bringing together leaders from every country and city where Boy With a Ball worked.

# 2016

#### **OUR THIRD U.S. TEAM**

In 2015, we received a call from friends in a local church in Boston who wanted to provide seed funding for our work to begin in Boston. Later that year, we were pointed to an emerging leader within the city who had a heart for young people. A group of local leaders came together, and Boy With a Ball Boston began in 2016.

#### 2018 THE REVOLUTION IN NICARAGUA

In 2018, the Nicaraguan Revolution left much of the country hurting and without hope. Our team, faced with significant challenges of their own, rose and came back after being broken apart during the unrest.

# CAMP OVERCOMERS

Throughout our history, we were learning that though the mission hasn't changed, the missionary movement has. We began Camp Overcomers with the vision to develop young people who could be leaders and missionaries in their own neighborhoods. Our first fiveday, overnight camp in Atlanta led to exponential, life-changing impact.

#### 2020 **OUR BEST YEAR YET**

2020 was known for being unexpected, and it was. Though difficult, this year helped us see that our work was essential, no matter the circumstances. Life doesn't stop, and love can't either. We are so grateful to all of our donors who made this year our most successful yet, donating over \$600,000.

#### 2019 THE END OF EL **TRIANGULO**

In the Fall of 2019, our original Love Your City neighborhood was torn down. During our 15 years of work, many of the families had risen out of poverty. And so, the neighborhood was flattened because the community rose.

# 2020: OUR YEAR IN REVIEW



**TEAMS** 

COUNTRIES TEAM MEMBERS



# 2020 CONSOLIDATED GLOBAL INCOME \$891,815

















# WHERE WE WORK





# AFRICA



**4**TEAMS

**2** COUNTRIES 20,308 YOUNG PEOPLE

# BOY WITH A BALL | 2020 ANNUAL REPORT 14





2020 IN NUMBERS

2,388
YOUTH IMPACTED

906 VOLUNTEERS

13
TEAM MEMBERS

Boy With a Ball Kenya began in 2014, but the work began in 2005 with group of young leaders from Nairobi.

Barrack, Moses, and Frank grew up in Kawangware, one of Kenya's largest slums. Faced with many challenges, they had risen as leaders and dreamt of helping young boys make it out of addiction and poverty into reaching their dreams.

They started Fikisha, meaning "to reach" in Swahili, and worked to connect with street boys. In Kawangware, the population is 65% children. Unemployment is high and sanitation is an issue. Due to hunger, many children are addicted to sniffing glue as a way to deter starvation pains. Though the challenges are many, the team believed they could find a way to help young people overcome them.

In 2009, a group of traveling college students met the team. Impacted by their story, they turned to join the young men in their mission to provide opportunities in the slum for students to go to school and develop in to leaders.

The team functioned in two places: Local work was being done in Nairobi by the local leaders. On the other side of the world, the group of college students were now young professionals living in California and fighting for their cause by fundraising.

A Boy With a Ball Global board member connected Fikisha with BWAB, and our global team began a mentoring relationship around the team's finances.

In 2014, what began as a mentoring relationship turned into a partnership and Fikisha joined Boy With a Ball as a member organization.

Today, Fikisha is a strong, growing team that works in some of the world's largest slums. They work in neighborhoods, in schools, and in prisons in Nairobi, dreaming of and doing whatever it takes to help young people overcome and rise to their dreams.

# CHANGEMAKERS

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, there were no schools in Kenya.

And as schools shut their doors, young people faced an impossible question— what does this mean for their lives?

For many students, the closure of schools meant the end of their education and a premature entrance into the workforce. Teen pregnancy rose, and drug abuse spiked. Isolation set in, and for the Boy With a Ball team in Kenya, they knew it meant risking the loss of an entire generation.



In every place during every season, there have been creative innovations that change the history of Boy With a Ball. And in the fight for young people in Kenya, they needed something creative and new in order to gain ground during the pandemic.

So, the team came together with a group of tutors and volunteers. Meeting at a partner church, they gathered the young people they knew from their neighborhood and began to teach. The students rotated through twelve subjects throughout the days—some academic, some socio-emotional— and on Fridays, they focused on developing the students as leaders. Soon, the word began to spread, and parents came to meet them at the gate and ask for the chance for their student, too.

Over the course of that first semester, more than 100 students joined, and a community formed. They named them "Changemakers," because they were overcoming more than an academic gap, they were making change in their own neighborhood. Quickly, many of the group began to join in on other parts of Love Your City, participating in Walkthroughs and serving as leaders in their community.

Today, schools are in session again, and like much of the globe, they are suffering the cost of an entire year lost during the pandemic. But for a group of 100 young people in Kawangware, they face a different fight—continuing to learn to be Changemakers and helping others the way they were helped during 2020.



FIKISHA
NAIROBI, KENYA
EST 2005
17,789 YOUNG PEOPLE
IMPACTED

# Z G E R I Z



30 TEAM MEMBERS

2020 IN NUMBERS
409
YOUTH IMPACTED

101
VOLUNTEERS

In 2013, at a conference in California, our team connected with a man who dreamt of returning home and fighting for young people in Nigeria. Emeka was a man of strong faith and purpose and was moving back to Nigeria to get married. The team and Emeka continued to talk, and in 2014, Boy With a Ball Nigeria began.

Boy With a Ball is about teams working together to change a community, and Ifeanyi joined the work soon after Boy With a Ball began in Nigeria.

Nigeria is a story of incongruencies. Having emerged as Africa's largest economy and population, Nigeria faces rampant corruption and violence from extremist groups like Boko

Haram. It ranks last in the 2017 Global Youth Wellbeing Index. According to the Index, Nigerian youth face safety and security issues growing up, horrific holes in their educational system, and meager opportunities for employment in the formal economy.

To face these issues, the team began by focusing on working in Enugu's Ikirike slum, recruiting young people from local churches and universities to launch Love Your City Walkthroughs and work in local schools. The organization has grown rapidly, launching new teams in the village of Udi and Umulumgbe, enabling young people across the country to reach their dreams.

# **NOW THREE**

The dream Emeka carried with him to Nigeria is now much more than any one person could do. As the work began in 2014, a team quickly grew around Emeka in the southern city of Enugu. Young people and volunteers alike wanted to be part of this vision to change a city.

As the work was growing in Enugu, a team member named Chiamaka was continuously inspired by Love Your City. She wanted to take the work home with her to Udi, a village just south of Enugu. She started with a Walkthrough. They now implement Love Your City and have a growing tutoring center that served young people as they could not go to school during the pandemic.

Around the same time, another team member, Favour, from Enugu was going to move away to a farm in Umulumgbe to be married. As she and her husband went to the little farming community, there were families from all over the country who had moved to work on the farm. The families did not have access to education in such a rural place. She knew her purpose was to do something for them, so she started tutoring the young people in the community. They began to use Love Your City to get to know other families in their villiage and the



villiage around them. The Umulumgbe team now runs a school for those young people and is working to establish Love Your City to help their community grow.

In the midst of corruption and political turmoil, Boy With a Ball Nigeria has found God's grace and direction in a way that has lead to multiplication and impact. Our leaders in Nigeria are now faced with a new challenge—how to not only make a difference in the young people around them, but support and nurture the new teams they have planted, and the young people those teams serve.



BOY WITH A BALL
ENUGU, NIGERIA
EST 2014
UDI, NIGERIA
EST 2018
UMULUMGBE, NIGERIA
EST 2019
2,519 YOUNG PEOPLE
IMPACTED

# CENITRAL AMERICA



**2** TEAMS

**2** COUNTRIES

14,964 YOUNG PEOPLE \* 20 YEAR DATA, 2001-2020

DATA ON THIS PAGE REFERENCES 20 YEAR CUMULATIVE DATA, 2001-2020

# COSTA RICA



# **7**TEAM MEMBERS

2020 IN NUMBERS

126
YOUTH IMPACTED

**80** VOLUNTEERS

El Niño y La Bola Costa Rica was the first international Boy With a Ball team.

As the work was growing in San Antonio, our founder, Jamie Johnson, knew there was purpose for them in Latin America, and a group from the original Boy With a Ball team moved to San Jose, Costa Rica in 2004.

It was a difficult transition; the team was learning to navigate a new culture and learning what the work would look like in San Jose.

In the center of downtown, there was a slum on the side of a hill. The team passed it every day. El Triangulo was a precario of mostly immigrants living in make-shift houses made of sheets of metal. Many taxis refused to drop anyone off in that neighborhood.

In 2005, El Triangulo became the first Love Your City neighborhood. Though at the time, no one called it that.

As the team, community members, and the work grew, indigenous leaders began to rise up and lead the change.

During the miraculous transformation in El Triangulo, the team expanded their work to Los Cuadros, a second precario. They continue to build relationships and life-changing small groups like women's and youth groups. And the hope for Los Cuadros is the same as the first community— an entire neighborhood deeply connected to their families and neighbors, fighting together to reach their dreams.

El Niño y La Bola Costa Rica is where Love Your City was born. It is the place of many, many miraculous stories. And it is a substantive, experienced team, who now fights for young people across the country to be who they were made to be.

# **EL TRIANGULO**

It was 2004 when our founder, Jamie Johnson, first took notice of a squatter settlement on the side of the road just north of San Jose.

Their hearts captured, Boy With a Ball team members returned, first serving regularly within an already established organization in El Triangulo. When the team began to walk through the community on their own, handing out lollipops and meeting families, the community members were hesitant to allow these newcomers into their lives. The team prayed and continued to love, serve, and learn. Consistently. Their influence grew, and by 2006, Boy With a Ball had interns moving to Costa Rica to be a part of their work.

Connection began happening all across the community, and soon, Boy With a Ball began touching the living heart of El Triangulo. Then, a breakthrough came: Boy With a Ball invited in a team of dentists who gave services to 109 residents. It was the moment El Triangulo started to love Boy With a Ball. It changed the way they related; they accepted BWAB as a permanent piece in their community.

Soon, students from the international school began attending Walkthroughs and came up with the idea to build a tutoring center. It became a necessity as the children of the precario's education levels began rising past those of their parents'.

Beginning in a community member's home, the tutoring center was packed. They tutored in rounds to get everyone through. Western Union stepped up and helped Boy With a Ball build a building entirely of its own for the community to use and the tutoring center to have a home.

The community center came to stand for a place that the community could use to move forward,

a resource to better their situation. It worked. Because El Triangulo began to disappear.

Built in the last section of the precario to fade, the community center stood as a symbol of hope for the community. It waited to be torn down until no one needed it anymore.

As indigenous leaders rose, the team in Costa Rica worked week after week in El Triangulo.



A census taken in 2009 revealed that 40% of El Triangulo had made it out of living in the squatter settlement. The once-growing precario began to disappear. The average level of education had risen from 3rd to 6th grade. The once intimidating and omnipresent gangs had dissolved. A significant, growing number of children had realized their dreams and succeeded in going to college. As families grew, they moved out of El Triangulo and into homes in neighborhoods.

Across the years, the Costa Rican government stepped in with a plan for Boy With a Ball to scale what had happened in El Triangulo to other precarios across the country. The U.S. State Department stepped in as well with funding.

And then, in 2019, the El Triangulo was torn down. As promised, the community center was the last to go.



EL NIÑO Y LA BOLA SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA EST 2004 13,672 YOUNG PEOPLE IMPACTED



#### 2020 IN NUMBERS

# 7 TEAM MEMBERS

# 151 YOUTH IMPACTED

# 151 VOLUNTEERS

When the current director of El Niño y La Bola Costa Rica, Don Josue, first began working with the organization, he was also working with a group in Nicaragua. In his travels back and forth, he began to know a group of young people living on farms. One day as he returned from a trip to Nicaragua, he carried a pack of letters in his hands.

The letters, written by young people in Nicaragua, were crying out in hope for purpose, for education.

Their hearts broke for them; the team in Costa Rica wanted to do something but were limited in their own work. They were not confident they could expand.

Nonetheless, the team took a trip to Nicaragua. They traveled by car and by boat to arrive at a small village off Lake Nicaragua.

They met with the young people and

heard their hearts. They had dreams of getting an education, something unavailable to them because of costs. They wanted to be leaders, too, who could impact their country.

The Costa Rican team didn't know what to do, but they prayed together to see what the Lord would do.

As they returned, Western Union, a critical partner in the work in El Triangulo, were eager to support the expansion of the work to Nicaragua.

They returned to those young people and told them they could go to school, but they would have to agree to turn back to their community and fight for other young people, too.

It was already their dream, and they jumped at the chance. So, El Niño y La Bola Nicaragua was born.

### **OUT OF THE REVOLUTION**

Esmeralda Morales was a young, sassy, brighteyed accounting student when we first met her in 2012. She came to a meeting with one of her fellow accounting students and then never left. In 2017, as Erlin Alvarez, the founding director of Nicaragua, moved back to the Island of Ometepe with his family, Esmeralda stepped in as the director of the Boy With a Ball team in Managua. She was a recent university graduate and had grown tremendously throughout the years. Right as Esmeralda began to find her footing as executive director, an uprising in Nicaragua arose, largely centered around the university where the team was focused. In the midst of horrific and difficult circumstances, Esmeralda, along with other leaders, led the team throughout the uprising, making adjustments where necessary.

Not only did the team manage to stay together; they also grew in the midst of and due to the challenges facing them. As the revolution began to fade, the growth of Esmeralda and the team shone through and 2019 proved to be Nicaragua's best year to date.

On an upward track and full of anticipation for the new year of 2020, the Nicaragua team, along with the rest of the world faced a pandemic for the first time in 100 years.

Good leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic has been hard to come by, but the Nicaragua team once again proved up to the

task. Maneuvering a lacking governmental response and the balance of caring for families while taking precautions defined this past year, but also served to highlight the limits of what one talented leader can do.



As the dust settles from the past few years—the hardships surrounding COVID and its secondary effects, as well as lasting effects from the 2018 uprising— a few wonderful things have happened. Esmeralda is emerging as a seasoned leader, one whose character exceeds her talent. Simultaneously, a leadership core of 3 co-directors was birthed during this time, strengthening the heart and work of the team in Nicaragua.

As they celebrate their 10 year anniversary as a team, they are looking ahead once again with anticipation of this coming year - stronger than ever and poised and ready for what comes next.



EL NIÑO Y LA BOLA MANAGUA, NICARAGUA EST 2006 1,292 YOUNG PEOPLE IMPACTED

# NORTH AMERICA



**3**TEAMS

1 COUNTRY 9,307
YOUNG PEOPLE

# UNITED STATES



2020 IN NUMBERS

12
TEAM MEMBERS

292
YOUTH IMPACTED

100 VOLUNTEERS

Boy With a Ball began in the United States with a home group at the Johnsons'. As a group of young people, they would gather each week to talk about their dreams and what they faced on the way to reaching them.

Jamie Johnson, our founder, shared a vision he had years earlier: What if we could have a team like a league of superheroes who would go out to help young people in their city?

"That's us!" the group cried out, and then the first Boy With a Ball team was born. That team learned to go out and impact young people on the Southside of San Antonio. And miracles were happening first in the team, then out in the gangs, in youth groups, and on military bases. Throughout the years, Boy With a Ball San Antonio has grown and continued to learn how to better fight for their city. San Antonio is where Velocity was born. It is the original Boy With a Ball team. Years later, in 2015, a partner church reached out about beginning a team in Boston. Their city had long been a hope of ours. Home to some of the best and some of the worst educational outcomes in the country, it was exciting to have the chance to work in such a historic city. BWAB Global team members went to Boston for a summer to look for a leader and a neighborhood to begin the work. In the beginning of 2017, Boy With a Ball Boston began.

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# **GAINING VELOCITY**

It has always been a dream to be in schools. It's where young people are, and the opportunity to impact young leaders and the culture of a school is so exciting.

In 2010, as Boy With a Ball relocated their global headquarters from Costa Rica to San Antonio. Soon after the move, Dr. Michael Karcher, Boy With a Ball's scientific advisory board member and University of Texas San Antonio's professor and mentoring expert, met with Jamie Johnson. Dr. Karcher had been advising Boy With a Ball on how to measure the impact of the organization's mentoring programs, and was excited to be in the same city as the team. Over lunch, Dr. Karcher presented Jamie with an idea: "What if we did something together?"



Dr. Karcher designed a curriculum called "The Cross-Age Mentoring Program (CAMP)." The curriculum was based on the idea that young

people would mentor other young people. With the idea in hand, the team went to the Harlandale School District, and, with some hesitation, the school let them in.

Many were unsure the program would work, because they did not think high school students would have the time nor desire to mentor a middle school student. Harlandale was called a "drop-out factory" high school, according to Johns Hopkins; more than 50% of students starting as freshmen do not graduate.

Boy With a Ball team members began recruiting the 40 high school mentors needed for the program.

That first semester, they trained. The second semester, the mentors met the mentees. And it worked. The original hesitation faded as a great group of high schoolers turned to care for a group of middle schoolers.

That original group named the program "Velocity." We told them that they would be the founders, forever written into history as the first brave group to establish something that would change schools.

Years later, as Boy With a Ball Global moved to Atlanta and established Velocity there, the original high schoolers drove out to help recruit a new generation of mentors. And the things they learned in Velocity— connectedness and care— were still alive in them.



BOY WITH A BALL USA BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS EST 2016 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS EST 2001 3,734 YOUNG PEOPLE IMPACTED

# ATLANTA - HQ



2020 IN NUMBERS

13
TEAM MEMBERS

2,388
YOUTH IMPACTED

906 VOLUNTEERS

Boy With a Ball Global began years ago in Costa Rica as a result of the growing number of teams.

There was an increasing need to be in an international city in order to support the teams across the world.

The team moved from San Antonio to Atlanta in 2013. Knowing it was equally important to support the local teams while also taking part in the work of Love Your City, the Global Team went to the city and connected with different community partners who were already working on the Westside of Atlanta.

We began to implement Love Your City in a Westside neighborhood and Velocity in Atlanta Public Schools. All the while, leaders across the city kept saying, "Don't forget about Gwinnett."

Gwinnett County is part of metro-Atlanta. With its incredible density of diversity, our seasoned Global Team was positioned uniquely to work in such a multi-cultural county.

After years in the city, the Velocity class graduated and the Love Your City neighborhood was torn down. Many of the doors in Atlanta began to close.

And so they turned to Gwinnett. Gwinnett is home to over 100 nationalities, languages, and groups. Understandably, the county school system struggled to support the sheer multitude of diversity. There are many neighborhoods riddled with crime and disconnection— families floating in an unknown culture.

In the three years in Gwinnett, the team has implemented Velocity in two schools and have a growing, strong Love Your City community in one of the hardest neighborhoods in Gwinnett.

They continue to grow and implement new systems to support local teams, too, serving as the flagship organization for all the teams across the globe.

#### CAMP OVERCOMERS

Camp Overcomers was originally launched in 2018 as a children's camp for the community around Covenant Life Church in Gwinnett County. In 2019, Camp Overcomers evolved to fill a void in the summer camp landscape: a camp where the campers would not simply play games and do self-serving activities, but would be challenged to serve and pour out to others. This camp would be about more than coming and participating in a mountaintop experience; it would help young people develop into community leaders, as they would help run a kids camp at both Covenant Life Church and in the Love Your City community in Norcross, GA.

Upon recognizing the benefit such a camp would have on youth beyond just our church, we invited the young people we worked with through Velocity and Love Your City in Norcross, Georgia.

Though a Christian camp, many of the students that came (most of whom were scholarshipped by many generous donors) were not from a faith background— some came from Buddhist, Hindu, or atheistic households. Regardless, they chose to come, participating daily in service and devotionals, and nightly in worship and teaching. Having arrived in two groups— the churched and the unchurched— by the final night, most of the students were at the altar, together crying out to God and having real encounters with Jesus.

In the midst of a summer camp, a miracle happened: three different groups of young people became one house of believers. At the end of the camp, we heard many of them weepily asking how they could not lose this feeling? How could their hearts stay close? How could they be connected?

In response, we invited them all to join our church's youth group, tripling the weekly attendance. The barriers of wealth, culture and preconceived notions of religion were dropped, and young

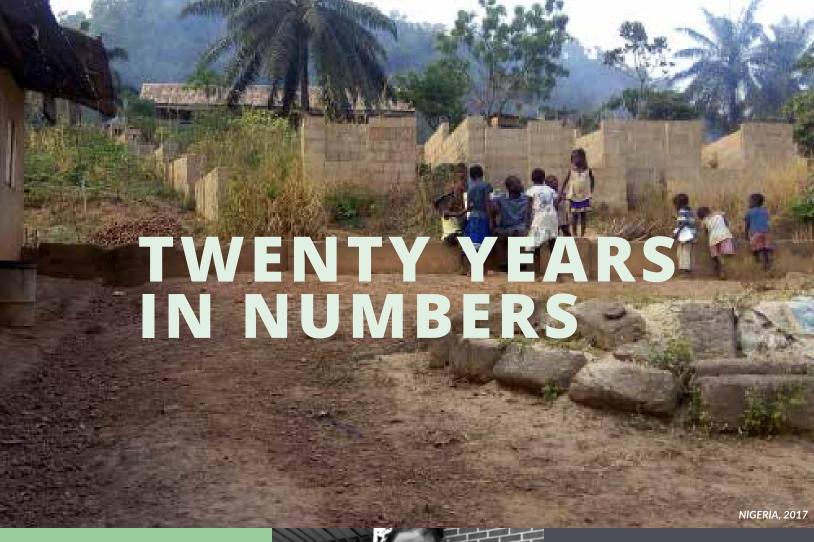
leaders began to develop. Youth from the church, Velocity, and Love Your City began to rise as leaders among their peers, as they, through mentoring relationships, began to grow and help the group.



As the summer of 2020 approached, and the pandemic still rampan, we were confronted with the question of what to do with the second year of Camp Overcomers. With what God had done at camp the year prior, we didn't want to succumb to circumstance and compromise the opportunity to see Him show up for this group of young people. So, in faith, we pivoted Camp Overcomers from being an in-person camp to being a digital camp for young people from Texas, Alabama, South Carolina, and Georgia. Though different than originally imagined, Jesus showed up, impacting a group of 55 young people and their families. His Holy Spirit came, and did a miracle in a moment that could have been surrendered. As we dropped off a couple of the boys from the community where we do Love Your City their mom came out to our car and said she "hadn't seen them awake so early and so excited for anything since COVID-19 began." By God's grace we saw a group of young people come to a place of life in the midst of a time defined by loss.



BOY WITH A BALL-HQ ATLANTA, GEORGIA EST 2013 5,573 YOUNG PEOPLE IMPACTED **BOY WITH A BALL IS** 



**6**VELOCITIES



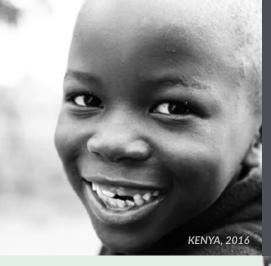
2,210

MENTORING
RELATIONSHIPS



372,382
VOLUNTEER
HOURS





**44,579**YOUNG PEOPLE

# 9 TEAMS



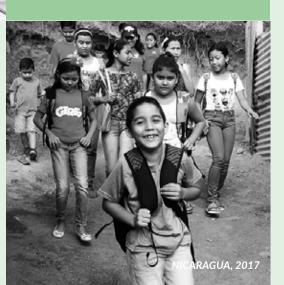
10
TUTORING
CENTERS

# TWENTY YEARS.

THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE, VOLUNTEERS, AND DONORS.
HUNDREDS OF SMALL GROUPS & INNOVATIONS.
ONE STORY.



RICA, 2017



# WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED

In twenty years, there have been too many stories to count. And each story has impacted our hearts, changed us, grown us, and led us to new places. These are some of our most impactful stories— the ones that have changed our history and our lives.



#### NINE TEAMS 2001- TODAY

Boy With a Ball began with a dream to create a team like a league of superheroes who could transform their city with their unique gifts. Boy With a Ball is now made of teams across the world, and it is an honor to have each and every single person who gives their life to transform others.



# THE COMMUNITY CENTER 2009

It was the idea of a volunteer to begin tutoring in El Triangulo. A high school student, she identified the learning gap between young people and their grade in school. What began as tutoring a few in a generous woman's home became rounds and rounds of tutoring all day. There was a need to have a place in the community—a center that would serve the community and its needs. At the time, a friend from Auburn University reached out looking for a project for his class. Their group designed a building that would stand two stories tall in a plot of land at the entrance to the community. The promise when we built it was that it would be the last building to be torn down when the community no longer needed it. In 2019, when El Triangulo was flattened, the last to go was our community center, fulfilling a promise to a group who had risen out of poverty and into a new life.



#### MARKETPLACE LEADERS 2001- TODAY

Love Your City requires every part of a city to work. In order to truly impact a place, you need businesses and their leaders to play an integral role. Without businesses, our cities would be impossible. Without great people, businesses do not thrive.

Boy With a Ball throughout its history has had historic business partners invest in Love Your City. In 2008, Western Union partnered with us to help pay for the tutoring center. Later, they also helped launch our team into Nicaragua.

Intel helped build our first evaluation database and created the original "Boy With a Ball Name" video.

One of our most consistent and impactful partnerships, Barnhart Crane, has funded our work in Africa for many years. They have mentored other business partners. They have supported and invested in our growth continuously. There are many, many others who have taken what they have from the marketplace to change their community. And in doing so, they have changed us.



# SIX VELOCITIES 2011- TODAY

We always dreamed about being in schools with young people. Velocity gives us the ability to develop and fight for leaders in schools. Beginning in San Antonio, Velocity has now grown into three places— Atlanta, Kenya, and San Antonio



#### AASCA 2009

As our work grew in Costa Rica, we were invited to conduct a four-day leadership conference for student leaders within the Association of American Schools of Central America (AASCA), a group of Central America's finest private schools. This conference gave Boy With a Ball the chance to form the next generation of leaders in Latin America as it was filled with the children of current world leaders who were on trajectories to rise to lead their countries.



#### CARSI GRANT 2014

The Central American Regional Security Initiative (CARSI) was a U.S. State Department program aimed at countering terrorism grown within Latin American slums. Boy With a Ball was miraculously contacted and encouraged to apply. We were then funded for three years in support of our efforts in the El Triangulo slum and to expand into Los Cuadros, a second, larger precario just north of San Jose.



## THE WORLD BANK 2016

On October 4, Boy With a Ball was invited to present Love Your City at the World Bank Civil Society Policy Forum as part of a workshop entitled, "Behind the Profiles: What can we do to prevent radicalization?" The issues of radicalization, religious fundamentalism, and violent extremism have been a major concern of the international community for decades and have hampered development in many countries.

The session was organized as a collaborated effort between Coast Interfaith Council of Clerics Trust, Boy With a Ball Global and the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers with its partners Finn Church Aid and KAICIID International Centre. In the session, Jamie Johnson demonstrated the better impact that can be achieved through local and global collaborations and networks that consist of and work with youth and religious and traditional actors in addressing violent extremism and promoting peace, security and development.



# LYC CON

As the global work grew, it became increasingly important to talk together— to share what we were learning in our own contexts with each other. In 2013, we gathered leaders from across the world in our global HQ, Atlanta. At the time, we called it "BWABCon," and the conference served as a place for leaders to come together to learn, pray, and build relationships. Still evolving, we now know it as the Love Your City Conference, and it is growing as a conference for leaders in the marketplace and churches.



# THE END OF EL TRIANGULO 2019

When El Triangulo was to be torn down, there were mixed emotions. The home to so many life— changing stories, we had grown to love the winding pathways of the precario. But it was time. Families had grown, many had risen out, and the El Triangulo community was no longer limited to the three acres beside the highway. The end of El Triangulo is a symbol to us of the impact Love Your City can have on a place. It is possible to care for a neighborhood so deeply that an entire community will rise into who they were made to be.



# WHEN THREE GROUPS BECAME ONE 2019

As we spend time in communities, we build deeper and deeper relationships. A few years in to Love Your City in Gwinnett, we started to see Velocity students and young people from the community have faith encounters, and there was a need for a small group for them. When we launched Camp Overcomers as a youth camp in 2019, young people from churches, Velocity, and our Love Your City neighborhood participated, and a community formed. Soon after, Covenant Life Church in partnership with Boy With a Ball created a 3-in-1 youth group, where young people from across the city were welcomed regardless of their background or their faith. The youth group continues to grow and be a place for young people from anywhere to learn about Jesus and their faith.

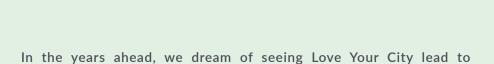


# THE YEARS AHEAD



We are so grateful for each of our twenty years, and we cannot help but dream of the next years to come. Our vision for the future is to grow to help more young people reach their dreams.





We want to impact

exponential growth in every place we work.

# 50,000 YOUNG PEOPLE

& 100,000 by 2030.

We hope to expand into 24 new teams across the world by 2030. And as we grow, we look to the new strategic partnerships with foundations, organizations, and businesses in every place we go.

We want to enhance our online #mvmt platform to help the Love Your City movement grow within teams, churches, businesses, and communities.

We are excited to continue and deepen our relationships with leaders in churches and the marketplace. And we hope to grow into trusted guides for anyone looking to love their city.

We hope for more churches launching Love Your City in their communities, loving and impacting their own neighbors. We hope for marketplace leaders leveraging their skills and positions to be Love Your City leaders.

We dream of deeper, substantive growth where we are and exponentially wider across the globe. We are encouraged by our last twenty years and excited for the next twenty to come.



# 2020: OUR YEAR IN FINANCES

TOTAL REVENUE 2020: \$1,853,299

INCOME BY DONATION \$891,815

48%

INCOME BY VOLUNTEER HOURS \$961,484\*

52%

\*COVID-19 reduced our volunteer hours due to social distancing policies across the globe.

**ANNUAL REVENUE COMPARISON** 

2017: \$1,472,383

INCOME BY DONATION \$478,008

**INCOME BY VOLUNTEER HOURS** 

\$994,375

2018: \$1,746,254

S526,135

**INCOME BY VOLUNTEER HOURS** 

\$1,220,118

2019: \$2,345,685

\$726,252

**INCOME BY VOLUNTEER HOURS** 

\$1,619,433

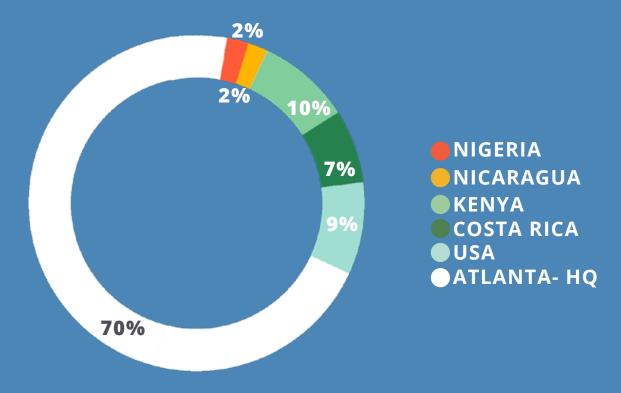
2020: \$1,853,299

INCOME BY DONATION \$891,815

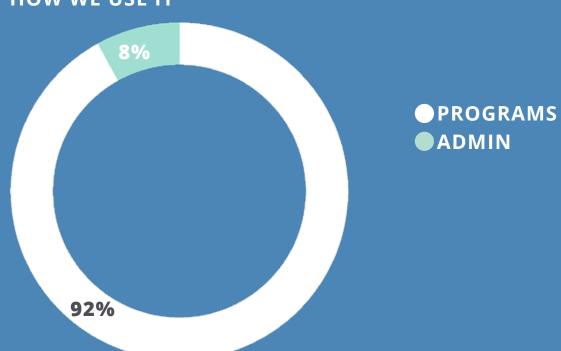
**INCOME BY VOLUNTEER HOURS** 

\$961,484

#### **INCOME BY TEAM**



#### **HOW WE USE IT**



# OUR COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT



In 2020, Boy With a Ball had a record-setting year thanks to donors who gave more than \$800,000 to support our mission to develop youth and transform cities. We are grateful for our community of support who fights for our mission to go deeper, to grow wider, and to love more young people in communities across the globe.

#### BUSINESSES

We believe that the marketplace is a mission field, and we are so grateful for those of you who use your business for impact. Thank you to each and every one of our business partners who give their services and donations to support Love Your City locally and globally.

#### CHURCHES

The Church is a vibrant, full, exciting place, and it exists both in and out of its structured walls. Boy With a Ball has always been supported by churches' care and support of our mission. Thank you to our many church partners who give to support local teams in their areas and to those who support the mission across the Earth.

#### **FAMILIES**

As a donor, you are an essential part of the mission. So many of our donors involve their whole family in caring for Love Your City, and it grows the movement. Thank you for giving, for involving your children by volunteering and for setting up fundraisers. We exist to help all young people reach their dreams.

#### **FOUNDATIONS**

Our foundation partners are major supporters who believe in our work and share in part of the mission to transform cities. We are so thankful for the continuous and growing support of foundations who expand our goals and our work in Africa, Latin America, and the U.S.

#### **INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

You are creative, caring givers, and we are so grateful for all you do. Thank you for giving monthly, for giving individual gifts throughout the year, for taking part in the movement, for loving us with such purpose. We are grateful for your love and support and for believing in the importance of loving where we live.

#### **LOCAL TEAM SUPPORTERS**

For so many of you, there is a connection to one of our local teams, and you give to care specifically for that place. Boy With a Ball's mission only works because of leaders who believe that one community in one neighborhood can change a city to change a nation. Thank you for taking part in the efforts to love cities in Africa, Latin America, and the U.S.

# **OUR BOARD**



MARK WOODRUFF, MD Board Chair Think. Whole Person Healthcare Family Physician



CAREN WOODRUFF Quarterlife Coaching Executive Coach



CHRIS HYATT Lead Pastor Covenant Life Church



ROGER HYATT Caprock Communications Retired



ED LIEBENTHAL, DDS Liebenthal Dental Retired



SUE LIEBENTHAL, DDS Liebenthal Dental Retired



GORDON GREEN Board VP Engage2Excel Chief Strategy Officer



PHILIP RINCON Miami-Dade County Procurement Contract Director

# **OUR STAFF**



JAMIE JOHNSON Founder Executive Director



ANNA CURRIE Chief Operations Officer



CHRISTINE TORRES Chief Marketing Officer



NINA BYARS Volunteer Coordinator



JOSIAH JOHNSON Fundraising Director



MOLLY JOHNSON
Director of Communications

