

# Together, We Will Save Our Cities



National  
Urban League

## A Note from Marc Morial

**Can we save our cities?** Together, we are saving individuals, communities, and cities all across our country. In fact, donors like you helped nearly 2 million Americans gain hope and work towards prosperity last year. How? By increasing access to: jobs with a living wage and benefits; safe, decent and affordable housing; affordable healthcare; and opportunities in education.

As a dedicated supporter of the National Urban League, you know that in our cities, the need is great: our Equality Index shows that Black Americans are unfairly denied their rightful share of the American dream in terms of economic opportunity, social justice, education, and other avenues to prosperity. As a result, Black Americans are 2.5 times more likely to be living in poverty than White Americans.

The need is great, but so are our successes. In this newsletter, you will meet some of the people we've helped—and

they're not the only ones. We confront crises in over 300 communities across the country. Every day, your support lifts underserved people out of poverty and into a better future.

Your dedication to our work is crucial—and there are so many ways to get involved. Help us spread the word on social media. Volunteer at a chapter in your city. Make a gift today. Read on to meet some of the people whose lives you have changed. Thank you!

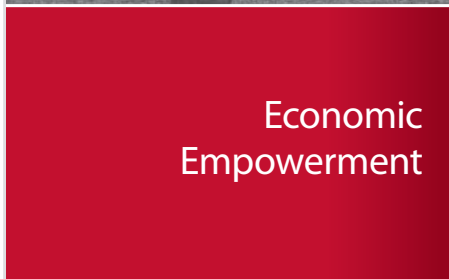
Marc H. Morial  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

## What We Do

**At the National Urban League, we're saving our cities through:**



Education and Youth  
Empowerment



Economic  
Empowerment



Health and Quality of  
Life Empowerment



Housing and  
Community  
Development



Civil Engagement  
and Racial Justice  
Empowerment



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Focus on

# Atlanta

## From Defeat to Dentistry In Atlanta



**Javon Gary's** life has been all about survival. Taking care of his baby sister while their mother worked. Learning how to survive in a rough Atlanta neighborhood. By 18, Javon had dropped out of school and had a brush with the law. By 21, he was working at a low-wage job and feeling trapped. Then he happened to see an Urban League of Greater Atlanta Urban Youth Empowerment Program poster. "I had never heard of the League a day in my life. But that poster made me want to get involved, to make something of myself. I went in the very next day," Javon recalled.

The poster that had caught Javon's eye was for our Urban Youth Empowerment Program that assists young adults between 14 and 21 who are at risk or were involved with the juvenile justice system. They prepare for entry into the workforce through education, mentoring, internships and training. Javon met with an "empowerment advocate" who helped put him on a course to succeed. His first task was taking the GED exam. Javon passed on his first attempt. Empowered, he aimed his sights on college and a career. Later, at an Urban League awards ceremony Javon told the audience, "When I came to the Urban League, I had no direction. But because of the support and guidance they provided me, I have my GED and enrolled at Atlanta Metropolitan College to study to become a dentist." Now Atlanta has a young man with direction and potentially another fine dentist.



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Focus on

# Hartford

## Countdown To College In Hartford



At Achievement First Hartford Public High School many seniors can not take their minds off prom, graduation, and summer vacation – but not **Delano Brown**. He is enrolled in Urban League of Greater Hartford's Project Ready/Mentor. Project Ready/Mentor aims to build "readiness" in urban youth, making each prepared for college and career. When we met Delano he was determined to find a part-time job and apply to college and he received help with both. Now he is preparing for his future success by taking advantage of business seminars, interview preparation, and networking opportunities. Delano has applied to a number of colleges and is waiting to hear from his top three in the coming weeks. Then he can join his classmates in thinking about senior fun! Hartford is already proud of him.





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Focus on

# Houston

## Entrepreneurial Dream Takes Off In Houston



**Tiffany Williams** had a dream of owning her own video production company. So she launched Twice Media Productions, located in Houston. But the hard part was growing her business. Then she found that the local Urban League affiliate could help. She enrolled in Houston Area Urban League's Small Business Development University – a ten-week program designed to help minority entrepreneurs obtain the necessary management skills and qualify for the financing needed to expand their businesses. Through the session Tiffany gained knowledge, visibility, and access to a number of prominent business leaders in the Houston community. It was transformational for her, her company, her industry and for Houston. She said, "Since finishing the Houston Area Urban League Small Business University, Twice Media Productions has doubled its staff, opened studio and office locations inside the Houston Area Urban League building, and greatly increased its client base to include Shell Oil Company, ExxonMobil, Houston Airport Systems, Toyota and many more."



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# Pittsburgh

## Saved From Foreclosure In Pittsburgh



**Daniel See** had a home and a good job delivering granite countertops when he needed surgery for a torn tendon. It was a medical nightmare that left Daniel in a coma and on life support for three months. Being on a ventilator for so long left him short of breath when he came home. He could not continue with his job delivering countertops and became a courier at half the pay. He could not make his mortgage payments and was at risk of losing his home when he came to Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh. Our counselor worked with him to submit a hardship letter and modification application to his loan provider. His monthly payments were reduced and his interest rate set at a reasonable fixed rate. Now there is one less foreclosure in Pittsburgh and one man able to resume his life after a devastating medical and financial blow.

## Who We Are

Founded in 1910, the National Urban League is dedicated to empowering African Americans and other minorities to enter the economic and social mainstream. Today, we have nearly 100 local affiliates in 36 states and the District of Columbia, providing direct services that impact and improve the lives of more than two million people nationwide.

At a time when families in urban communities of color are struggling to meet the most basic essentials of life, our programs, advocacy, and research are more important than ever.



**EMPOWERED™**  
I AM THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

## 3 Ways to Get Involved

**1. Make a Gift Today**—Help us save our cities by making a gift to the National Urban League today. Your tax-deductible donation will help us empower individuals and strengthen communities all over the country. To give today, please visit: [nul.org/donate](http://nul.org/donate)

**2. Volunteer**—Our volunteers have helped to increase fundraising efforts, worked as adult mentors to youth, participated in community mobilization projects and supported the staff and programs of nearly 100 local Urban League Affiliates. We provide volunteer opportunities for those who are eager to get involved and become part of the service tradition that has defined our community and our movement. Please visit: [nul.org](http://nul.org)

**3. Make a Gift for Tomorrow**—A planned gift leaves a legacy of philanthropy that impacts future generations. If you would like to make an outright bequest to the National Urban League, please use the following language:

*I hereby give, devise and bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ and No/100 dollars (\$DOLLARS) to National Urban League, a nonprofit organization located at 120 Wall Street, 8th floor, New York, NY, 10005, Federal Tax ID #13-1840489 for National Urban League's general use and purpose. Please visit: [www.nulgiftlegacy.org](http://www.nulgiftlegacy.org)*

For more information please contact:

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