



Center for Urban Education Ministries Newsletter

"Relentlessly Strengthening Urban Education"



"Collaboration"

Let's collaborate! Working with someone to achieve a goal or produce a result makes sense as a definition of collaboration. Collaboration requires leadership. And we are just the right institution to lead. The Center for Urban Education Ministries is collaborating with schools and other institutions to transform students' lives. This work is incredibly hard, exhausting, and even complex. These areas of continuous improvement require collaboration. Together, we can strengthen your school or organization. Together, we can improve your outcomes. And together, we can ensure all students are succeeding.

-Dr. Steve Gerner, Executive Director/CEO

Visit our
Website

RECRUITMENT

SUPERHERO Health

In Chicago, we are partnering with the Chicagoland Lutheran Educational Foundation (CLEF) to increase students' healthy choices and overall health. Pat Braun, the parish nurse for CLEF, goes into classrooms teaching students about health in an engaging fashion with songs, activities, and a superhero theme. The classroom teachers are given the book, *"SUPERHERO EDUCATOR: How to Teach with Superior Skills & Success"*, and then participate in professional development led by the Center for Urban Education Ministries on themes of teacher health, engagement of students, and communication. Teachers and students alike are finding this work to be transformative-seeing real results due to these collective efforts. The goal is to expand this health curriculum and teaching to other schools.

RESOURCES

Two books that are helpful for faculty and staff discussions are CULTURIZE by Jimmy Casas and Paul

Tough's **WHATEVER IT TAKES**.

From **CULTURIZE** - "We need you to be that change. The kind of change that when you look into the eyes of a student whose inner voice is saying, "I don't think I can do this," your eyes, your voice, your actions, say, "Yes you can!"...you can reawaken their spirit and influence them in meaningful ways that will instill a sense of belonging and a belief that they have something positive to contribute."

From **WHATEVER IT TAKES** - "...the more significant advantages that middle-class children gain, these researchers argue, come from more elusive processes; the language that their parents use, the attitudes toward life that they convey."

Click here to see more CUEM
Resources

RECOGNITION

The **Jake Nelson Achiever Award** is strengthening urban education and honoring a truly special man.

Jake Nelson was a loving son, brother, grandson, nephew, and friend to many. He was also a fierce competitor in football, basketball, baseball, and golf. He also loved to spend time in the outdoors. Above all, he was a true follower of Jesus. His Christian faith, as well as, spending time with family, friends, and his dogs, was always of the utmost importance to him. As a product of both the Lutheran educational system and urban schools, Jake was excited to follow a calling into the business world, joining his family in the restaurant business. However, in November 2020, Jake was called home to be with his Savior forever. The Center for Urban Education Ministries established The Jake Nelson Achiever Award in his loving memory.

The Jake Nelson Achiever Award honors select 8th graders attending an urban school, who perform academically and behaviorally at a high level, and plan to attend a Lutheran high school.

This year, the Jake Nelson Achiever Award went to a student at Walther Christian Academy in Chicago and Concordia Prep in Baltimore. Watch for student profiles and information in our future newsletter.

Reflections from Mel Keischnick

(CUEM Board Member, Emeritus)

"Day by day with humor, cajoling, patience, prayer, and fierce determination, teachers do whatever one can do to make the beginning of another term not just tolerable and bearable, but enjoyable and enlightening."

Partner With Us!

**Have an educational resource
or story to share?**

Connect with us at
cuem.national@gmail.com to have
your information highlighted
through our various platforms.



We need your financial support
for CUEM. Your contribution will
help us in "relentlessly
strengthening urban education."

Checks can be received at:

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