

# TechMission & City Vision University

ANNUAL REPORT  
2020



Providing radically affordable online  
education to those transforming the lives of  
the poor, the addicted and the underserved.



## OUR MISSION & VALUES

Our **Mission** is to use online education to transform lives through Jesus, Justice and Technology.

Our **Vision** is to provide radically affordable online education to those serving the poor, the addicted and the underserved.

### 1. Jesus

City Vision was initially founded to provide online Christian education to staff at evangelical organizations serving the poor, as well as their program participants.

This still remains a core focus, but we have expanded to provide Christian education to students pursuing nonprofit and counseling careers.

### 2. Justice

We promote Justice through **radically affordable, practical education** focused on addressing the needs of the **poor, addicted and underserved**.

### 3. Technology

City Vision uses Technology in its **cost-effective, disruptive innovation, lean startup** approach to online education. We are pioneering a new model that could dramatically increase access to Christian higher education to those serving the poor and the poor themselves.

## WHAT MAKES CITY VISION UNIQUE?

**1. Our Focus.** All we do centers on training Christians who serve the poor, the addicted, and the underserved. We exist to help multiply the effectiveness of a movement of Christians serving these groups, not to be another Christian university. We are unique because most of our students would not have been served if we did not exist. We are a ministry that runs a school, not a school that happens to be a nonprofit.

**2. Pioneering a New Model.** We are pioneering a new model of higher education that could increase access to Christian higher education by tenfold or more, especially to the poor. We are doing this because we recognize that the system of traditional Christian higher education is not sustainable and is not meeting the needs of the poor and those that serve them.

We are a global thought leader in disruptive innovation, presenting at gatherings of educational leaders around the world. While traditional schools are locked into a model that is unsustainable, City Vision and its partners have the freedom to innovate with the affordability that can reach those who need it most.



## OUR WORK

**Transforming Individuals**  
with a Solution to the Addiction Epidemic

**Transforming Organizations**  
by Training Christian Leaders to Serve the Poor

**Transforming Educational Systems**  
by Pioneering Radically Affordable Educational  
Models for the Poor and Developing World



## OUR HISTORY

**1998**

City Vision is founded as the education arm of the AGRM, called Rescue College.

**2002**

TechMission is founded out of a Black church ministry, PREP, and the Christian Community Development Association movement and develops a partnership network of 500+ education programs in urban ministries.

**2004**

TechMission launches the TechMission Corps internship program, which later becomes City Vision Internships and places 586 full-time interns in ministries serving over 24,000 at-risk youth and others.

**2005**

Rescue College is accredited by the Distance Education Accrediting Commission with a degree completion program in Missions.

**2007**

TechMission launches UrbanMinistry.org and ChristianVolunteering.org, which grow to have 100,000+ open educational resources and become the third most-visited website among Christian organizations serving the poor, serving over 13 million visitors and placing 69,635 volunteers over the next 10 years.

**2008**

Rescue College becomes a part of the Christian nonprofit TechMission and is renamed City Vision College.

**2015**

City Vision College starts offering graduate programs and becomes City Vision University.

**2017**

City Vision launches its MBA program.

**2018**

City Vision is a finalist in the US Department of Education's "Reimagining the Higher Education Ecosystem" competition along with edX, Google & others.

**2020**

Launch of CityVisionInstitute.org which has provided free courses to over 18,000 students.



# WE TRANSFORM INDIVIDUALS WITH A SOLUTION TO THE ADDICTION EPIDEMIC

## How Our Radically Affordable Addiction Counseling Degree Changes Lives

Each year, thousands of former addicts successfully complete Christian recovery programs and establish their sobriety, but still struggle to find a job. Those that can't find jobs often are drawn back into the cycle of addiction. Many of these people not only want to maintain their own sobriety, but have a passion for helping others out of addiction. However, they can't afford the tuition of most Christian addiction counseling degrees, so the field remains closed to them. City Vision's Bachelor's in Addiction Counseling is the most affordable online Christian degree in the field, at about half the tuition of other

Christian schools. In order to make it even more accessible, it was designed with the needs of recent Christian recovery program graduates in mind. We teach former addicts that God never wastes a painful experience, and that often the best addiction counselors are those who have recovered from addiction themselves. Those who graduate from our Addiction Counseling program typically get a job counseling hundreds of individuals where they are truly living out the parable of the sower and the seed, producing a crop of "a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." (Matt. 13:8)

### Addiction Counseling Faculty

Lynda Mitton, CAC III  
Addiction Counseling Chair

Greg Kirk, CAC

Rev. Michael Liimatta, CRADC, MARS, CPS  
Founding Dean, City Vision University

Keri Grant, LMFT

Bob Rapp, MAC

Ian Howarth, LPC

Lisa Hoffman, LMHC, LCAC

Debra Pope, LMHC

## Student Success Story Jeffrey Crick



After 20 years of addiction and a period in prison, Jeffrey Crick found sobriety through one of our ministry partners, Wheeler Rescue Mission. After graduating from their recovery program, he became a student with City Vision, and was placed in an internship at another of our partners, Knox Area Rescue Ministries.

He completed his degree with City Vision and is currently studying for an MDiv. Now, he is serving on staff at Knox Area Rescue Ministries helping others recover from addiction as Director of their Berea Recovery Program. He had prayed about his addiction, "God, I don't know how you can use this," but, he says, "through City Vision, he did."

*"City Vision provided me a way to gain an education when no one else could."*

- Jeffrey Crick

Watch Jeffrey's story at:  
<https://youtu.be/-w6ngJTIRCM>

## Bachelor's in Addiction Counseling Outcomes

### Graduation Rate:

**60%** for matriculated students

### Job + Further Education Rate:

**71%** for graduates

(60% getting a job in a training-related field and 10% going on to further education)

### Addiction Counseling Students:

**190** in past 5 years





# WE TRANSFORM ORGANIZATIONS

## BY TRAINING CHRISTIAN LEADERS TO SERVE THE POOR

### How We Support a Movement Transforming the Lives of the Poor

There is a growing movement of Christians transforming lives of the poor involving thousands of rescue missions, Salvation Army sites, CCDA sites, and more. These individuals have sacrificially given their lives for God and the poor, but are too often undertrained and overworked. They need training to serve more effectively, but can't afford many Christian colleges' high tuition.

Also, many Christian colleges don't teach the practical skills they most need. They

are strong in academic rigor, but often are not close to communities in need.

City Vision multiplies the effectiveness of Christians serving the poor by giving them practical education at less than half the cost of most Christian schools. We've brought together a world-class team of faculty and leaders that have hundreds of years of combined experience in transforming the lives of the poor. Our students don't just learn theory, they put it into practice in the organizations where they work.

*"The partnership with City Vision has been one of the most important factors to equip our team to minister to the needs of the poor. Without this partnership, we wouldn't be nearly as effective serving our most vulnerable neighbors."*

- Rev. Vann Ellison, President, St. Matthew's House

### Ministry & Management Faculty

Billy Hastings  
Dr. Amanda Forbes  
Dr. Bonita Smith  
Dr. Greg Voykhansky  
Dr. Victoria Queen

Dr. Ken Heitland  
Dr. Charles Nichols  
Lisa Cooper, MSOL  
Commissioner Jim Knaggs

### St. Matthew's House: Partnering to Transform the Lives of the Poor

St. Matthew's House is an incredibly innovative \$19 million dollar rescue mission serving the poor, homeless and addicted in Naples, FL. Each year, they provide over 513,000 meals and housing to over 1,000 individuals. Of those, 120 are placed in jobs, and 385 are placed in housing. The leadership of St. Matthew's realized a key strategy to remain effective and innovative is to invest heavily in the education and training of their staff. In the past 3 years, St. Matthew's has had over 40 of their staff and others enroll in City Vision and two of their staff have become faculty.

As a strategic partner, City Vision provides a 33% discount so tuition is only \$5,000/year. Also, many of their staff have outstanding senior management experience, enabling them to accelerate their degree by getting prior learning credit for their past experience. We plan to partner with St. Matthew's to design some of our free MOOC courses, so they could be taken by all their intensive residential recovery programs participants. As our partner, St. Matthew's can better fulfill their vision of transforming thousands of lives and becoming a national model of best practices for other organizations to replicate.



### Degree Programs

- Nonprofit Management (BS)
- Christian Ministry and Leadership (BA, AAS)
- Business (BS, MBA)

### Our Partnerships

#### Rescue Missions



- 300+ students from over 110+ rescue missions
- 30+ current/former faculty & one board member from rescue missions



#### Salvation Army

- 25+ students at Salvation Army sites
- 2 board members from senior Salvation Army leadership



#### Other Ministries Serving the Poor

- 500+ students at 100+ ministries

*These are 10-year cumulative outcomes.*

### Outcomes of Ministry and Management Programs

#### Graduation Rate:

**71%** for matriculated students

#### Job + Further Education Rate:

**83%** for graduates

(65% getting a job in a training-related field and 21% going on to further education)

### Ministry & Management Students:

**375** in past 5 years



# WE TRANSFORM EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS



## Free Courses and Training for Christians Serving the Poor and Developing World

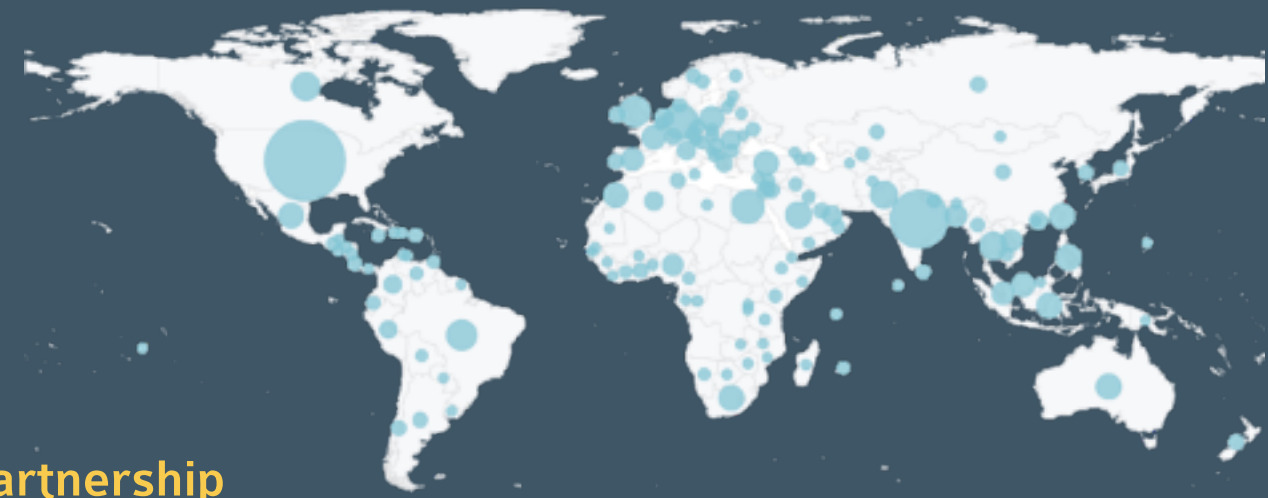
The Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) movement was started by MIT and Harvard who took their best courses and made them available in their entirety for free online. Since then over 100 million students have signed up for MOOCs. City Vision is joining this movement by providing for free some of our best courses

for Christians serving the poor and the developing world. Our first MOOC was launched on Udemy on Disruptive Innovation in Christian Higher Education with the goal of helping equip Christian leaders to educate these groups. Now we offer a number of our courses for free on our [www.cityvisioninstitute.org](http://www.cityvisioninstitute.org) website.

City Vision also provides free training resources for Christians serving the poor at [library.cityvision.edu](http://library.cityvision.edu). The site has thousands of training pages, audio and video recordings, a directory of over 100,000 Christian ministries and a Christian grant directory.

# PIONEERING RADICALLY AFFORDABLE EDUCATIONAL MODELS FOR THE POOR AND DEVELOPING WORLD

**Free Courses Taken**  
**18,444** cumulative students  
**9,356** students in 2020  
**171** countries



## Third Millennium Partnership

Third Millennium is the largest Christian massive open online course (MOOC) provider. Thirdmill has produced 27 seminary-level Bible and theology courses. With animated graphics, 350+ expert interviews from all parts of the global church, partners implementing the curriculum have impacted over 650,000 supervised students both online and offline. Thirdmill has partnered with City Vision to develop a Graduate Ministry certificate that was approved for accreditation under City Vision in 2019. Students may choose to do self-study in the free version of Thirdmill's curriculum and have that credit recognized or pay a small fee for faculty-led courses in our accredited graduate (\$125/credit) certificate in ministry.



## Radically Affordable Degree Completion Partnerships

City Vision partners with unaccredited high-quality educational programs that align with our mission to evaluate their students for prior learning credit.



## 2020 FINANCIALS

### INCOME

Tuition	\$ 359,300
Consulting	\$30,943
Foundations/Grants	\$74,081
Individual Donations	<u>\$16,203</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$480,527</b>

### EXPENSES

Contractual	\$58,503
Fringe Benefits	\$12,977
Academic Support	\$16,048
Other	\$55,141
Personnel	\$184,887
Supplies	\$3,540
Travel	\$481
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$331,557</u></b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$149,880</b>

## STAFF



Dr. Andrew Sears  
**President**



Nancy Young  
**Director of Admissions**



Drew Ferguson  
**Director of Student Services**



Evan Donovan  
**VP of Academic Administration**



Lynda Mitton  
**Addiction Counseling Chair**



Traci Hedlund  
**Financial Manager**

## BOARD

Commissioner Jim Knaggs  
**Board President**  
Harriet Hodge-Henry  
Dr. Brad Smith

Dr. Jay Gary  
Dr. Walker Tzeng  
Dr. Amanda Forbes

## 2020 GRANTS

Stewardship Foundation	\$30,000
Hodgdon Family Fund	\$5,000

**TechMission & City Vision University**  
[www.techmission.org](http://www.techmission.org) | [www.cityvision.edu](http://www.cityvision.edu)

City Vision University is the primary program and a "doing business as" (DBA) name of the 501(c)(3) nonprofit TechMission.