

Urban Leaders Live



Urban Leaders live a different life....this newsletter will help keep you up to date and in the loop!

November 2014

Volume 2, Issue 2

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Important Dates

- 11/7 Training
- 11/11 Veteran's Day (NLF Closed)
- 11/12 Grant Writing Training at UWT Library
- 11/14 Training
- 11/21 Training
- 11/24 ULT Service Project: Food Repacking and Distribution
- 11/27-11/28 Thanksgiving (NLF Closed)
- 11/30 Happy Birthday Simone!

WELCOME TO URBAN LEADERS IN TRAINING!

Letter from the Program Assistant:

Happy Fall Everyone! In September ULT served a collective total of 3,300 hours! October served to be a busy month and an awesome one for our Urban Leaders in Training. A number of us helped paint the Northwest Leadership Foundation's new office training and kitchen space, in preparation for the NLF Open House, which was a great success. With great attendance, ULT members were crucial in organizing the event, welcoming visitors guests, served beverages and joined in on celebrating NLF's 25 years of service to city of Tacoma. ULT members also helped ActSix in calling potential applicants late into the evening to make sure they were finishing up their ActSix applications. ULT members volunteered with the Sustainable Roots garden at Roosevelt Elementary after work hours, clearing grounds of invasive species to make way for new mulch and native plant species. ULT members also served at Urban Grace Church with Phoenix Housing Network. Members stayed the night and volunteered at the Halloween party. Phoenix Housing Network is Catholic Community Services movable housing network that provides homeless families and veterans temporary housing and skill building to maximize their stability and self-sufficiency. ULT members have also found time to enjoy each other's company by going out dancing, bowling, seeing the latest film at The Grand Cinema and sitting in on local lectures and con-

ferences. ULT finished their Contextual Leadership development training with Kellie Richardson. We will miss Kellie as she leaves her Proteen Director's position at NLF to the office at the College Success Foundation. We congratulate ULT members Shanessa Prescott-Jennings (Tacoma Rescue Mission) and Saiyare Refaei who were selected to be on The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation's Youth Philanthropy Board (YPB). YPB provides a group of youth ages 15-24 with the opportunity to learn how philanthropy can make changes in the city. They will take part in civic engagement trainings and towards the end of the year they will participate in grant making and the decision processes to allocate \$75,000 of funding towards youth serving programs in Tacoma. Great things are happening. We are learning more about ourselves and Tacoma each day and we cannot wait to see what November will bring!



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Upcoming community opportunities

11/5 Food Sovereignty in the South Sound: Food Justice Faculty Lecture

- 7 pm to 8 pm

- University of Puget Sound, Wyatt 109

- This free lecture by Dr. Peine will discuss the origins of Food Sovereignty projects in the South Sound region.

11/8 Waste Not: Breaking Down the Food Equation Documentary Premiere

- 3 pm

- Theatre on the Square (915 Broadway)

11/ 11 Proteen Thanksgiving Potluck

- 4 to 7 pm

- Salvation Army

- Contact Candace Wesley at cwesley@northwestleadership.org if you plan to bring something to share.

Food Sovereignty is defined as “the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture

11/22 ActSix Phase II Event

- 7:30 to 5:30 pm

- Contact Marisol Rosado at mrosado@northwestleadership.org to be a volunteer evaluator

Bojie Mageo

Bojie Mageo has been an AmeriCorps Vista member serving the past year as the Communications Coordinator at the Foundation for Tacoma Students (FFTS). FFTS is a nonprofit that employs the collective impact model which focuses on every child along the cradle to their career continuum through data, aligned funding and a clear mission. Mageo’s main tasks have included FFTS’s launch, event planning for College Bound Saturday, and developing SummerLearningTacoma.org, the first of its kind in Tacoma.

Mageo has enjoyed meeting the leaders and executives of Tacoma and hearing their stories of how they rose to their level of responsibility. Working with FFTS has given Mageo the opportunity

to step up and understand the power of sweat equity. Not being a product of the School District initially

presented itself as a challenge but he learned quickly and greatly appreciated having an Urban Leaders in Training alum, Courtney Ydstie, in the office to help guide him and decompress after trainings. Mageo has been delighted to have Jared Wright accompany him in the office the last couple months as well. During his service year, Mageo was also a member of the Youth Philanthropy Board with the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation. He said this opportunity incredibly enriched his experience with their trainings and

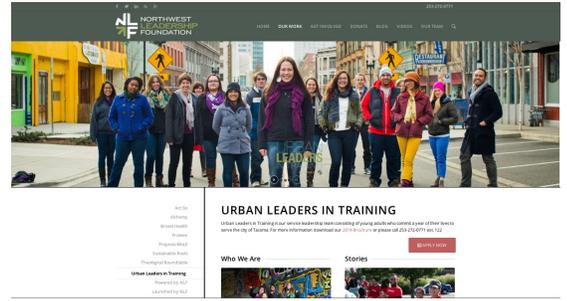
“Optimism is a super power and my AmeriCorps experience made it possible for me to claim it.”

the perspectives from pierce county youth. Mageo said that ULT has taught him about his different lenses and about his own family history and social mobility in Tacoma. Mageo said, “I am excited to represent Tacoma around the world! - I learned my leadership style and to appreciate the styles of others.” ULT provided him with the missing piece of his development and a way for him to feel empowered about making Tacoma history. Mageo’s service year is ending at the end of this month. He is currently at UW Seattle for a marketing certificate and will be working as an associate at a Seattle-based global consulting firm that focuses on scaling up social impact for businesses and non profits. Mageo said if there was one thing that he could be remembered for as part of his service with ULT would be his relentless optimism. Mageo said, “Optimism is a super power and my AmeriCorps experience made it possible for me to claim it.” We will miss you Bojie and best of luck with your future endeavors!



Photo by Saiyare Refaei

Follow Urban Leaders in Training every step of the way



“Like” and invite your friends to “Like” the Urban Leaders in Training Facebook page for more updates and photos throughout the year.

Visit <http://northwestleadership.org/urban-leaders-in-training/> for blog posts about our recent service projects.



Photos by Saiyare Refaei

“The time is always right to do what is right.”

– Martin Luther King Jr

Sojje Duxbury

Sojje Duxbury has served as a ULT member for the last two years as the Transitional Housing and Youth Access Coordinator at Urban Grace Church, first as an AmeriCorps State and National member and ending this year at the end of November as an AmeriCorps Vista member. Duxbury confronted challenges as ULT’s youngest member and youngest on staff at Urban Grace taking on two years of service after graduating from Tacoma School of the Arts. The ULT experience showed Duxbury a new side of the city that many ignore and that the people, especially, are beautiful. Duxbury has helped organize the food served at Urban Grace on Sundays and a foot care clinic for Tacoma’s homeless population. She has also provided children’s programming and was an art tutor. She has helped organize homelessness outreach by collaborating with the Associated Ministries housing access program and Phoenix Housing through the Catholic Community Services. She has been a tremendous driving force by taking on Urban Graces mission of providing hospitality and authenticity to anyone who wants to come to Urban Grace, literally and metaphorically. Duxbury has enjoyed the artistic opportunities that she has provided for the church. She has designed their liturgical art bulletins,

promotional posters for each of the seasons and a fair trade logo that is part of the legacy she will be leaving behind at Urban Grace. Over the past two years, Duxbury has learned humility and has recognized that it is ok to let people teach you because you may not have all of the answers. Her hopes and questions for the future include what she wants for herself, her art, self-promotion and how she can incorporate it with serving others. Combining these two worlds in a way she may not yet expect. Duxbury said, “ULT has been a shaping experience for me,” and went on to say, “ULT has built a foundation for the rest of my working career.” Through her experience with ULT and the Northwest Leadership Foundation she never felt that her opinion was discredited and she has valued the relationships that she has built. She has found that people are more important than their opinions. Duxbury hopes that Urban Grace will continue to provide art classes for their youth, that they will expand, maintain their stability and gain more than they will ever lose. Thank you for your service Sojje! We look forward to hearing where your journey takes you.

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