

# LIFE ON THE HILL

BUILDING A VIBRANT, UNIFIED COMMUNITY, TRANSFORMED BY THE LOVE & HOPE OF JESUS CHRIST

## GIFT-GIVING WITH A SIDE OF EMPOWERMENT

*You're helping Urban Vision bless our neighbors twofold through our "UV Economy" — by meeting needs in the short term, while equipping youth for success in the long term.*

All year long, K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students in our S.O.S. program earn "Urban Vision Dollars" in an empowering incentives system that doubles as a hands-on financial education tool. These UV Dollars are spendable at **Dignity Stores**—where children can exchange their play-money earnings for real-life purchases, like coats, school supplies, personal care items, and Christmas gifts.

Have you ever taken part in a Dignity Store? *Let's walk through one together:*

**1. Earn & Educate:** Each week, students receive the UV Dollars they've earned, and learn age-appropriate financial skills. *Paw July (left) is working on a list of everyone she wants to purchase a gift for, and her ideas about what to get them.*



**2. Make a Withdrawal:** On the big day, students stop first at the "Bank" to pull funds from their savings accounts. *Milan (above) proudly shows off his envelope full of colorful cash.*



**3. Grab a Helper:** Younger students are paired with a volunteer "shopper guide" to help them navigate the chaos, remember those money-management skills, and carry their bags. *A total of 86 volunteers served this year!*



**4. Time to Spend:** UV's gym becomes a department store, where students shop at tables packed with brand-new gifts. There are spa baskets and home goods for moms, tools and robes for dads, barbies and jewelry for sisters, Legos and basketballs for brothers... something for everyone on the list! More volunteers serve as "store clerks" to sell items, help kids with choices, and make change.



*Over 920 items were generously donated to help stock this year's store!*



**5. That's a Wrap:** After depositing any unspent funds back at the "Bank," students (and helpers) carefully decorate and label each gift, then take them home to proudly place under their trees. *This year's Christmas Store blessed a total of 104 shoppers, who were in turn able to bless others with gifts they'd purchased all on their own!*



*To all who made this Christmas Store possible by serving & donating items: **Thank You.***

**Want to get involved?** You don't have to wait until December to make an impact through our "UV Economy!"

Collect school and personal supplies to stock our ongoing **General Store**, or volunteer to help with our **Bike Sale** this spring.

Email [ThoTho@UrbanVisionMinistry.org](mailto:ThoTho@UrbanVisionMinistry.org) for wish lists and service opportunities.