

Foundational Documents and Christian Identity Adopted January 10<sup>th,</sup> 2019 Document prepared by the Board of Directors



### **MISSION**

To leverage the platform of the world's sport and the influence of mentor coaches to empower children to WIN on the field and in life

### **VISION**

Community Transformation Through The Platform Of Sports And The Influence Of Mentor Coaches

### **CORE VALUES**

RELATIONAL – We invest in relationships with those we serve and those with whom we serve. We love one another through relationships as God loves us. We seek to model Christ's love in our relationships and the work we do in the community.

DIGNITY – We seek to treat all people, as bearers of the image of God, with dignity and worth. Everyone has something to give and learn from one another.

COURAGE – We celebrate acts of courageous faith.

HOLISTIC – We desire to see our families experience the abundant life Jesus offers in all aspects of life.

TOGETHER – We believe we can accomplish greater by working together. We are part of a larger mission and our work can have a significant impact in the Kingdom of God as we partner and work together with other churches, ministries, businesses and individuals for greater Kingdom impact.

#### **STRATEGY**

We pursue our mission and vision In and Through the platform of the world's sport—soccer, and the influence of Mentor Coaches. We seek to leverage a common global passion for the sport of soccer to build relationships with children and families living in vulnerable communities. Through soccer, we get to provide something they want (soccer), in order to provide something they need—a key mentor relationship that leads them to experience the transforming love and grace of Jesus Christ. Through soccer we also desire to equip and empower our children to graduate from high school and find God's plan for their lives. We also desire to partner with pastors in vulnerable communities and leverage soccer to see church planting happening.

#### **OUR MOTIVATION**

We are a Christ-centered organization built upon the Biblical truth that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that salvation can only be achieved through Him, and His gift of grace is available to all.

Since the mission of UPPER90 (formerly FCA Soccer ATL) was founded by Jorge Vallejo in Atlanta in 2011, it has been inspired and led by the Holy Spirit to work with vulnerable communities in Atlanta and Honduras to help improve their quality of life and transform hearts for Christ.

We believe that God's Word calls us to: reflect His love towards others, strengthen the faith of families as they nurture and equip their children, treat all people with dignity and equality, and work in partnership with local leaders to bring, in both word and action, the good news of Jesus Christ.

# **STATEMENT OF BELIEF**

Our Christian faith is central to who we are. It motivates us to love and serve others. We follow Jesus' example by being an active, visible, tangible expression of God's love as we work alongside the poor and oppressed. Our faith calls us to serve children in need, regardless of their faith, background and ethnicity. We partner with faith leaders throughout the world, equipping them to use the platform of soccer and the influence of mentor coaches to empower children to WIN on the field and in life.

We believe in the accuracy, truth, authority, and power of the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16-17

We believe there is only one God who eternally exists in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)

We believe Jesus Christ is God, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His death that paid for our sin through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension/rising up to the right hand of the Father and in His personal return in power and glory. (John 1:1;

Matthew 1:18,25; Hebrews 4:15; Hebrews 9:15-22; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Acts 1:9-11; Hebrews 9:27-28)

We believe that acceptance of Jesus Christ and the corresponding renewal of the Holy Spirit are the only paths to salvation for lost/sinful men and women. (John 3:16; John 5:24; Titus 3:3-7)

Salvation is wholly a work of God's free grace and is not the work, in whole or in part, of human works or goodness or religious ceremony. God imputes His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation, and thereby justifies them in His sight. (Ephesians 2:4-10)

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, who lives within and guides Christians so they are enabled to live godly lives. (John 14:15-26; John 16:5-16; Ephesians 1:13-14)

We believe in eternal life, and that through belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, we spend eternity with the Lord. We believe that in rejecting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, we receive eternal suffering in hell. (Matthew 25:31-46; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ, that all believers are members of His body, the Church. (Philippians 2:1-4)

We believe that God created all human beings in His image. Therefore, we believe that human life is sacred from conception to its natural end; that we must honor the physical and spiritual needs of all people; following Christ's example, we believe that every person should be treated with love, dignity and respect. (Psalm 139:13; Isaiah 49:1; Jeremiah 1:5; Matthew 22:37-39; Romans 12:20-21; Galatians 6:10)

The Lord Jesus Christ commanded all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to disciple people from every nation. The fulfillment of the Great Commission requires that all worldly and personal ambitions be subordinated to a total commitment to "Him who loved us and gave Himself for us."

#### PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY

We are a Christian Community Development organization, seeking to model Christ's love in our mission and vision throughout our relationships in the community.

We strive to live out the calling of Scripture to love God and love our neighbor in all that we do.

God has entrusted us with a platform that brings people together – soccer. We strive to leverage that platform to develop relationships with unchurched communities and build bridges that sustain the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We learn from and work alongside all those in our community and celebrate the diverse backgrounds of our refugees and immigrant friends.

We aim to help without hurting through our consistent, reliable presence throughout the community. Our ministry of presence allows us to display the love of Christ to those we get to serve.

We seek to empower communities of faith to become friends of refugees and immigrants through ministering in a humble manner that honors others.

## **Foundational Scriptures:**

Matthew 22:37-39

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Matthew 28:19-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

John 10:10(b)

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

John 14:12-14

"Truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

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## **Ministry Partners**

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