

# street psalms



## CASE STATEMENT 2015-16



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# Global Training Hubs 2015



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## Mission

Street Psalms is a resource center for life-giving perspectives and practices that foster transformation in vulnerable urban communities.

*“Grace is like water; it flows downhill and pools up in the lowest places.”*



## Vision

Our dream is to see missional communities in cities around the world equipped to make tangible the vision of peace that Jesus expressed in his first public address:

*“I saw paradise in the dust of the street.”*

*- Denise Levertov*

***“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor... to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”  
(Luke 4:18-19)***



*“Is there a center that holds?”*

*- Yates*

## Values

Our core values are shaped by the life of Jesus Christ. The story of the incarnation of Jesus reveals both the divine and human, and calls forth a people with particular ways of life in the world.

**People** We gather and equip grassroots leaders.

**Perspective** We see from below, among those most excluded in society.

**Place** Cities are our classroom, parish, and playground.

**Prayer** We are contemplative activists, and active contemplatives.

**Pain** We are wounded healers, knowing pain is a gateway to transformation.

**Practice** We embrace asset-based approaches to change.

**Peacemaking** We explore and model real-world, sustainable alternatives to violence.

**Preaching** We humbly risk both words and silence in bearing witness to God’s love.

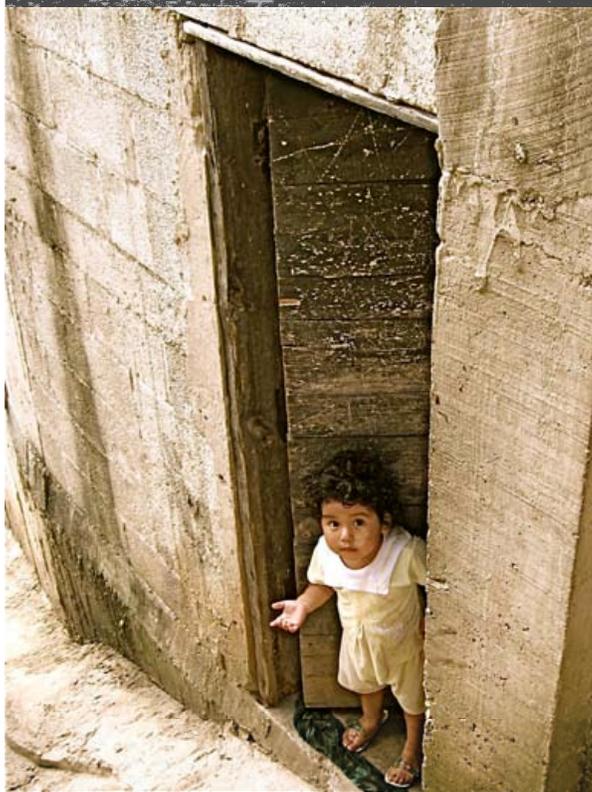
**Poetry** Poetry and jazz inspires us more than prose and classical.

**Play** We risk; we fail; we laugh together with God about it all.

*“It takes grace to see grace.”*

*- Karl Barth*

## Opportunity



Fresh winds of opportunity are blowing. There has never been a more exciting time for developing grassroots leaders who serve vulnerable urban communities marked by poverty and violence.

The hunger for asset-based, rather than deficit-based, approaches to community transformation is being met with energizing new perspectives and effective practices that take real world problems seriously. In addition, communication technologies and social media make broad-based collaboration for social change and spiritual renewal possible in practical ways that were unimaginable even a decade or two ago.

With the wind at our back Street Psalms recognizes the most powerful and renewable resource in high-risk communities resides within the communities themselves – the web of people, relationships and institutions that energize the life of the community. The critical need is to gather, train and send local leaders to activate these resources in ways that are sustainable. For us this is sacred work. At the deepest level, community leaders are “midwives of the holy.”



*“My work is loving the world”*

*- Mary Oliver*

## Programmatic Expressions

### Street Psalms Institute:

The Institute provides formal and informal delivery of training. Current formal cohorts include:

- **Training Directors**
- **Community Chaplains**
- **Organizational Directors**

The Institute also hosts local lecture series, study groups, community gatherings, training intensives, and retreats.

### Street Psalms Press:

The Press publishes resources for our network that includes books in both print and ebook formats, as well as web-based media. Current publications include:

- **Geography of Grace** - Doing Theology from Below
- **Meal From Below** - A Five Course Feast With Jesus
- **Street Psalms Website ([www.streetpsalms.org](http://www.streetpsalms.org))** - virtual library, magazine, and classroom

### Street Psalms Community:

We nurture a religious order designed for women and men who are called to share a focused way of life embodied in the Street Psalms mission, vision, and values. Ordained members commit themselves to “seeing and celebrating good news in hard places,” and take vows of “action, reflection, and discernment.” We sometimes refer to ourselves as spiritual midwives who help give birth to the holy. Online community gatherings for ordained members are held monthly, and face-to-face gatherings happen every few years.

*“You are joy. We are all the different kinds of laughing.”*

*- Rumi*

## Impact

In the past 10 years more than 4 million dollars has been entrusted to Street Psalms to make change possible in vulnerable urban communities. As a result we have established 10 training hubs that equip more than 1,500 leaders in 1,000 organizations each year. A virtual platform connects 6,000 individuals and organizations. Global partnerships bring our work to scale in more than 100 cities worldwide. Thousands more read our books and online publications applying our principles in everyday life. The impact is viral.

**Organizational Leaders** are building sustainable organizations that transform communities from the inside out. **Pastors** and **Community Chaplains** are teaching and preaching a liberating Gospel. **Ministry Practitioners** are building innovative programs that change lives. **Social Entrepreneurs** are building businesses that provide jobs and create wealth in poor communities. **Lay Leaders** from all walks of life are functioning as spiritual midwives, helping give birth to the holy in everyday life. **Funding Partners** are doing much more than supporting the work. They are experiencing deep levels of transformation through vision trips and personal application of our perspectives and practices.

**organizational leaders**

•  
**pastors**

•  
**community chaplains**

•  
**ministry practitioners**

•  
**social entrepreneurs**

•  
**funding partners**

**1,500**

leaders trained by  
Street Psalms

**1,000**

organizations

**10** hubs

impacting

**100** cities

*“Wounds are the wombs of transformation bearing seeds of new creation. Yes, we are the midwives to the holy.”*

## Model of Change

### Gather

We gather leaders from all walks of life - to engage their city as classroom, parish, and playground.

### Train

We induct leaders with perspectives and practices that call people out of fear into freedom.

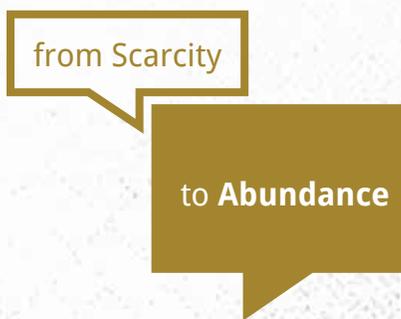
### Send

We commission leaders, blessing their heads, hearts and hands to seek the peace of the cities they serve.

**Along The Way...** leaders undergo a series of paradigm shifts that transform the message, method and manner of mission in ways that call forth Shalom.

### Key Paradigm Shifts:

#### MESSAGE



#### METHOD



#### MANNER



*“About catastrophe or how to  
behave in one what do I know,  
except what everyone knows—if  
there when Grace dances, I should  
dance.” - W.H. Auden*

## Transformational Competencies



Hope is tangible. The following competencies are the measuring stick of the hope that is at work in us. Leaders and organizations who are well served by Street Psalms will be able to do the following with and for the communities they serve:

### **Act (Hands)**

Love and serve with the vulnerable - in ways that foster mutual, enduring transformation.

### **Reflect (Head)**

Reflect deeply on both God’s liberating Word and the great gift of this world – bringing the best skills of observation, analysis, and creativity that our challenging contexts deserve.

### **Discern (Heart)**

See and celebrate the movement of God’s Spirit in hard places – so that we may live and thrive wholeheartedly in rhythm with that movement, helping others do the same.

## Strategic Priorities 2015-16

### Train More Leaders

- Expand leadership training cohorts and the reach of our online resource subscriptions.
- Strengthen and expand training hubs in 10 cities, which train more than 1,500 leaders who represent 1,000 organizations.
- Add 3 new urban training hubs.

### Create More Training Tools

- Publish and distribute Street Psalms core curriculum e-book(s) worldwide (including in other languages including Spanish).
- Produce a series of short audio/video training pieces.
- Populate our virtual hub with new and existing training resources.

### Leverage More Resources

- Expand major donors and foundations.
- Expand existing individual donor base.
- Expand organizational partnerships.

*“God is working in the world  
and it is the task of the Church  
to know how God is working.*

*The Church will exclaim,  
‘Behold, here is Christ. This is  
where God is at work!’”*

*- John Howard Yoder*



*“I am because we are.”*

*- Ubuntu saying*

## Strategic Partnerships



Our partnerships represent a network of nearly 100 cities worldwide that are the end users of our training resources.

### Global Partners

- Leadership Foundations
- Christian Reformed World Mission

### Academic Partners

- Bakke Graduate University
- New York Theological Seminary
- Center for Contextual Ministry - Univ. of Pretoria

### Urban Training Collaborative City Partners

- Denver, Colorado, USA: Mile High Ministries
- Guatemala City, Guatemala: CMT Guatemala
- Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic: CTM Dominican Republic
- Nairobi, Kenya: CTM Kenya
- Pretoria, South Africa: Tshwane Leadership Foundation
- New Delhi, India: Catalyst Leadership Foundation
- Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA: Studio One-Eighty
- Marghita, Romania: Mercy Ministries

### Video and Marketing Firms

- Athentikos
- Matt Jensen Marketing, Inc.



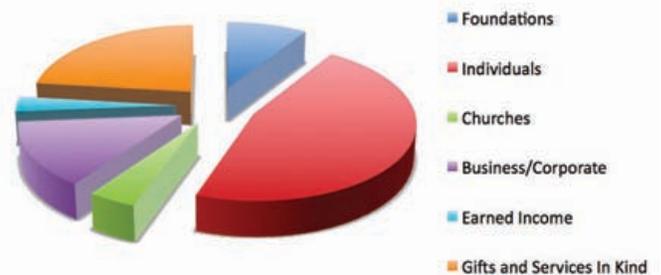
# Financial Information

From 2004 to 2015,  
Street Psalms brought  
in \$4 million of  
collective revenue.



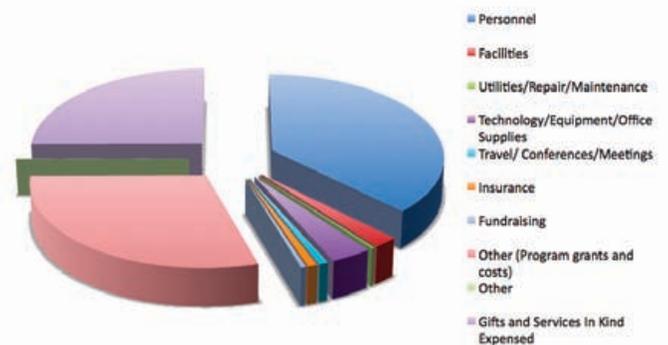
## INCOME THROUGH Q3 FY15

Foundations	42,782
Individuals	217,725
Churches	20,615
Business/Corporate	64,623
Earned Income	14,838
Gifts and Services In Kind	108,450
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$469,033</b>



## EXPENSES THROUGH Q3 FY15

Personnel	162,126
Facilities	9,000
Utilities/Repair/Maintenance	958
Technology/Equipment/Office Supplies	15,042
Travel/ Conferences/Meetings	3,358
Insurance	3,656
Fundraising	1,951
Other (Program grants and costs)	127,425
Other (Legal, accounting, licensing)	173
Gifts and Services In Kind Expensed	108,450
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$432,139</b>



Street Psalms is a U.S. 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to the highest standards of financial accountability and transparency. Financial statements are available upon request and can be viewed at [www.streetpsalms.org](http://www.streetpsalms.org).

# Street Psalms Staff

## Kris Rocke, Co-Director

Kris lives with his wife, Lana, and their two sons Grant and Mitchell in Tacoma WA. He has served in urban ministry since 1985 and is the founder of Street Psalms. He earned a B.A. in English at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA, an M.Div. at Palmer Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, PA, and a D.Min. in Transformational Leadership for the Global City from Bakke Graduate University in Seattle, WA. Kris is also an ordained member of the Street Psalms Community and swears he heard God laugh once.



## Scott Dewey, Co-Director

Scott grew up in the hills of rural Colorado, hanging out with coyotes and rattlesnakes. He vowed never to live where he could see his nearest neighbor, which in retrospect demonstrates God's sense of humor in leading us along in life. As a Wheaton College student (B.A. in Biblical Studies, Ancient Languages) he fell in love with the streets of Chicago and has thrived in cities ever since—Bangkok, Denver, and Marghita, Romania. Scott and his wife, Melanie, together with their four grown children, have been deeply shaped and enriched by life in these vibrant and diverse urban communities.



## Joel Van Dyke, Latin America Liaison

Joel Van Dyke has lived and served in Guatemala City since 2003 with his wife Marilyn and their children Joel and Sofia. He recently joined Street Psalms staff for Latin America through a generous arrangement with Christian Reformed World Missions (CRWM) with whom he works in Urban Transformational Network Development. Until 2014, he directed the work of Street Psalms partner CMT Guatemala that he founded as a career missionary with CRWM. Prior to moving to Central America, he pastored for 15 years in Philadelphia. He obtained his B.A. in Psychology and Social Work from Calvin College and his M.Div. with concentration in Urban Mission from Westminster Theological Seminary. Most recently, he completed a D.Min. in Transformational Leadership for the Global City from Bakke Graduate University. Joel is also a "wannabe" sports fisherman and a baseball enthusiast who loves playing with his son and coaching his son's team in Guatemala.



## Stephanie Dunlap, Communications Director

Prior to joining Street Psalms, Stephanie was Communications and Marketing Manager for Mile High Ministries, a close partner of Street Psalms. She has run a program for at-risk youth and was an award-winning journalist for an alternative newsweekly in her home city of Cincinnati, OH. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with Honors in Creative Writing and Dramatic Arts.



## Lana Rocke, Office Manager

When she's not working as a critical care nurse, Lana joins her husband Kris at Street Psalms. The Rockes and their two sons lives in Tacoma, WA.



*“Faith is believing in advance what only makes sense in reverse.”*  
- Philip Yancey

## History

Since 1999, there have been four faces to our organization.

### Philadelphia Roots

MUD Inc. Street Psalms traces its roots to 1996 as a youth worker training initiative of the Pew Charitable Trust in Philadelphia, jointly managed by Kingdomworks and Center for Urban Resources. In 1999 the project became its own organization, incorporated as MUD (Making Urban Disciples) Inc. Kris Rocke was the founding director. MUD Inc. continued to train and equip youth workers in urban churches throughout the greater Philadelphia and Camden area.

### Urban USA Expansion

Center for Transforming Mission. In 2001, when money ran dry, MUD Inc. was mothballed but not disbanded. The board continued to meet to discern the way forward. Between 2002-2005, under the direction of Kris Rocke, the work of MUD Inc. became a joint program of Bakke Graduate University and World Vision to train urban youth workers in 9 U.S. cities. In 2005, MUD Inc. was renamed Center for Transforming Mission (CTM).

### Global Reach

CTM Resource Center and International CTM Partnerships. Between 2005 and 2013 Center for Transforming Mission trained more than 3,000 in 26 cities and 14 countries. We established program offices in three international locations: Guatemala, Dominican Republic, and Kenya. In June of 2013 Center for Transforming Mission became four independent organizations: CTM Kenya, CTM Dominican Republic, CTM Guatemala, and CTM Resource Center located in Tacoma, WA.

### Resourcing Focus

Street Psalms. CTM Resource Center took on the name Street Psalms to help transition our former identity and role from an organizational headquarters for the international programs, to our current primary focus as a resource center that serves the CTM network as well as numerous other organizations.

What began as a training initiative focused on developing local youth workers in Philadelphia has become a resource center that serves a network of grassroots leaders in cities throughout the USA and abroad.