



Urban Youth Workers Institute  
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## MISSION STATEMENT

Urban Youth Workers Institute / Hispanic Ministry Center

UYWI exists to strengthen a new generation of Christian urban leaders for transformational ministry.

### VALUES:

- Multi-Ethnic
- Collaborative
- Relevant
- Christ-centered
- Holistic
- Relational

## CALENDAR

UYWI October 2004 Event Calendar

**10/2: Seattle RELOAD**

**10/8:** Malia Acosta's Birthday (she turns 2)

**10/9: Phoenix RELOAD**

**10/13:** Karis Acosta's Birthday (she turns 7)

**10/16: Los Angeles RELOAD/** Larry speaks at Bayshore

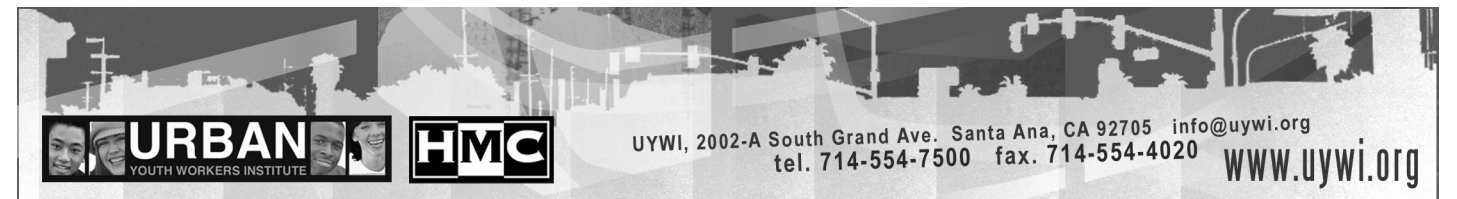
**10/20:** Kidworks Board Meeting

**10/23: Houston RELOAD**

**10/26-28:** Larry at CCDA Board Meeting and Conference in Atlanta

**10/30:** RELOAD Networking meeting in Washington DC

**10/30:** John's Learning Group Launches



October 2004

## Dear UYWI / HMC family,

We are about to embark on our BOLDEST journey yet as an organization. Many of you have been with us since our inception and have invested GENEROUSLY and CONSISTENTLY to get us to this point. To you and for you I remain ever so grateful. Recently our board, staff and I returned from a strategic planning retreat that charted the course of our bold KINGDOM VISION for the future. You will notice that our leadership development focus has expanded since we began as an organization from being Latino specific to being more URBAN and MULTI ETHNIC, hence HMC/Urban Youth Workers Institute. In the future this will call for a more official name change, but for now, the Urban Youth Workers Institute gives us a broad enough banner under which we can continue to serve Latino leaders and MORE!



Though we started here on the west coast, we really have NATIONAL INFLUENCE and IMPACT through our website, national training conference and our RELOAD training tour events. Our mission has been simplified to read: UYWI exists to strengthen a new generation of Christian urban leaders for TRANSFORMATIONAL ministry.

Our vision is to build transformational relationships with 20,000 urban leaders by 2010. We define transformational relationships as a combination of participation in training and development events along with ongoing, regular two-way communication designed to expand ministry capacity. Our macro vision is to DEVELOP THE NEXT GENERATION OF URBAN AND MULTI-ETHNIC LEADERS for the cities of our world. Our goal is to strengthen 20,000 urban leaders who will in turn help us to reach and build-up 1,000,000 (yes, a million) urban youth by 2010!

This is what our cities need! I believe that through this effort we will help to encourage a MOVEMENT OF URBAN CHURCH RENEWAL. In the last days, God will pour out His Spirit and amidst the broken backdrop of the city, God will raise up a remnant of young people out of the "ashes of the moral, social, familial, emotional" brokenness.

Please join me on this journey!!! PRAY for our speaking and administrative teams as we travel, train, encourage, coordinate and serve thousands of urban leaders across the country. If you give to support us each month, THANK YOU for BELIEVING in our mission and for STANDING with us. If you don't give, or haven't given in awhile, would you please consider becoming one of our monthly support team members?

Our staff and vision have grown tremendously since we first began, and frankly, it takes more financial RESOURCES to run our operation today. Rest assured that we run a tight ship and our audited financial statements are available for your perusal. I think you'll find true what one executive recently said, "I can't believe how much true ministry you get done on that budget!"

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## Collaborative Effort Leads Urban Youth Group to Olympics

**“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work.”**

**- Ecclesiastes 4:9**

“God will use you in ways that you can’t imagine in Greece,” these words spoken prophetically by pastor Manny Rodriguez of Action House ministries and fellow learning group member. Manny is involved in the drama-training group housed at the Dream Center. He brought a team to help train twenty-two team members from the First Baptist Church in Downey, CA where I serve as Pastor to students. His words came to fruition while we served as missionaries to Greece during the 2004 Summer Olympic Games. They helped train our team in drama and dance that was culturally relevant and appealing to the Greek community.

This came about after Manny and I had the privilege of being in the same learning group sponsored by Urban Youth Workers Institute. Besides enjoying mutual encouragement and strength, we were able to collaborate to develop a drama and dance team that served well and effectively in Greece. Manny and I had often mentioned collaborating in ministry and when I mentioned needing help to train young missionaries, he offered his team to train my kids.

In a short time, we discussed goals and objectives we had for the mission trip. We moved on from the idea stage united in a collaborative effort. As a result, we had a tremendous experience in Greece. God moved in the manner Manny first spoke at our initial training session. Our team performed the

dramas and dance routines nightly and were well received by the Greek and International community. This provided countless one to one witnessing opportunities. We distributed hundreds of Gospel tracks and CDs with the Gospel message in fourteen different languages. Furthermore, God opened opportunities to perform two nights on official Olympic stages and distribute Gospel tracts to the audience freely. Several international televisions filmed our group and some requested interviews where our students were able to share that our purpose for being there was to share the Gospel message. Stewart Shepherd, of Focus on The Family, followed us for one night and did some interviews with some of our student and Greek students as well. Since we’ve been back, a Canadian television station requested some of our film to do a special program focusing on outreach at the Olympics. Manny’s words came true! God did use our team in ways that we could not have imagined. Our learning group offered mutual encouragement, mutual strength, as well as mutual support and laid the foundation for our collaboration.

I praise God for our learning group and the personal benefits it offered me, and I am equally thankful that out of this group I was able to do collaborative ministry that sent the Gospel throughout the world.

*Written by Job Lara, Youth Pastor at Downey First Baptist in Downey, CA*

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Enclosed you will find a RELOAD brochure outlining the details of our 2004-2005 TRAINING TOUR. I trust that you will be excited to see and share how your Kingdom investment is being LEVERAGED ACROSS THE COUNTRY. Notice however, that the price we charge is low because of the clients we serve. We want to strengthen them for TRANSFORMATIONAL ministry in the city and realize that as bivocational leaders, their resources are genuinely limited.

By FAITH, we are launching this bold initiative, which will cost our organization an additional \$100,000. Would you please CONSIDER making an INVESTMENT to help underwrite this Kingdom initiative? Thank you for considering this opportunity.

Much love to you all!

**Larry Acosta, D. Min.**

President, Urban Youth Workers Institute and HMC

## UYWI Staff



*from left to right: John Lewis, Celina Camarillo, Julie Herrick, Larry Acosta, Ben Eash, Bobby Duran, and Zajid Cova (missing: Carla LaFayette)*



**Dr. Larry Acosta**

Founder/President



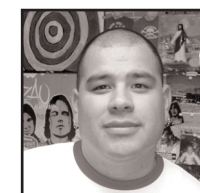
**Celina Camarillo**

Executive Assistant/Development Coordinator



**Zajid Cova**

Director of Accounting and Finance



**Bobby Duran**

Production Coordinator/Partnerships



**Ben Eash**

Executive Director of Communication & Marketing



**Julie Herrick**

Office Manager/UYWI Coordinator



**Carla LaFayette**

Executive Director of Training & Events



**John Lewis**

Vice President of Leadership Development