#### Donor

## NEWSLETTER





## Set Up a Date

We are eager to continue this journey with you. Whether through volunteering, a shared cup of coffee, or a story exchanged over Zoom, we hope to deepen the connection that binds us together in this Kingdom work. Please email Hanna Tamang at htamang@ucachicago.org to set up an appointment.

#### 2024: A Year to Remember

Dear Friends.

As we close the chapter on 2024, our hearts are full. This past year, you helped us celebrate a milestone, a decade of grace, growth, and God's faithfulness. Through your generosity, our Year-End Appeal became more than just a campaign; it became a testament to the Kingdom purpose. It truly was a year to remember.

## 2024: A Year of Impact

Because of you, the numbers tell a story of hope: 75 students served through our Afterschool Program. \$35,000 raised during our Year-End Appeal- exceeding our goal of \$30,000. But the impact of your generosity doesn't stop here. This year, we were deeply moved by our very own alumni stepping forward to give back to Urban Christian Academy. Watching these young leaders pour into the same community that once nurtured them is a beautiful testament to the lasting impact of your support. Your kindness planted seeds, and now those seeds are bearing fruit.

### 2025: The Journey Ahead

As we step into this new year, we are reminded that God's work is never finished, it is always unfolding. \* The Summer Youth Program will return, aimed at fosterning workplace skills and providing employment opportunities for high schoolers. Through this program, students will gain practical experience, build confidence, and prepare for bright futures. \* The CELL Program (Children English Language Learners) is a program we are hoping to launch, addressing a critical need for English language development in grade 3-8. This initiative will provide students facing academic challenges due to language barriers with the skills and support to excel academically, integrate into their schools, and build a foundation for lifelong success.

### **Staff Updates: Farewell and Welcome**

It was a bittersweet moment as we said goodbye to our dedicated part-time staff member of three years, Jake Purdes. Mr. Jake began his journey with UCA in the fall of 2022, initially coming through our doors as a volunteer before officially joining our team. He mainly worked with Middle School students, particularly 6th grade, but was always ready to lend a hand wherever needed. Recently, Mr. Jake graduated from Moody Bible Institute, got married, and is now moving on to Seminary school. We are immensely grateful for the time we had with him and the significant impact he made on our students' lives. As we bid farewell to Mr. Jake, we are thrilled to welcome Machaira Hubberty to our team as a part-time staff member. Machaira will be working with our English learning students, primarily engaging in one-on-one pullout sessions with them. We are excited for the positive contributions she will bring to our UCA community.



"It was so good that our teachers offered a girls only social. I appreciated the care and opportunity for my child to learn from mentors like UCA teachers. This is one reason why I appreciate UCA. They provide these extra opportunities for my daughter to grow in positive ways."

-UCA Parent



Pictured: Machaira Hubberty; Egnlish Teacher

# **Girls Night: Building Friendships in Grades** 5-7

In mid-December, Miss Rachel, Miss Abi, and Miss Hannah hosted a delightful Girls Night for our 5th-7th grade female students, aiming to foster closer friendships. The evening was filled with snacks, beverages, and a variety of fun activities, including decorating and personalizing tote bags and pillowcases, as well as a small nail spa. The girls had an amazing time meeting new friends and reconnecting with old ones. They are eagerly looking forward to our next Girls Night, scheduled for February 13.

#### Winter Break

We hope our students and UCA families had a fantastic winter break. During the break, K-5 students had the opportunity to work on math and language arts packets, helping them stay sharp and keep up with their learning. To make it even more exciting, they earned prizes for completing the packets! After two weeks apart, both staff and students were thrilled to be reunited on January 6th. We're looking forward to continuing this academic journey together. Here's to a wonderful year ahead!