

TechMission 2014



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH THE POOR

2014 | ANNUAL REPORT

48 Pleasant St. Boston, MA 02125 | Phone: 617-282-9798 Fax: 816-256-8471



2014 Annual Report

TechMission

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH THE POOR

In the past 10 years, technology and the Internet have been transforming society. As the world becomes more connected electronically, we become more disconnected relationally. America is now more segregated than it was before the Civil Rights movement, and there are now more African-Americans in the U.S. correctional system than there were slaves. But while church budgets have increased, the percentage of what churches give to the poor has decreased dramatically. We live in an age of “social leprosy” where we have become disconnected socially from each other. Leprosy destroys the body because it attacks the nervous system, so lepers cannot feel when a body part is damaged; with social leprosy, we have lost touch with the pain of others in our world.

The goal of TechMission is to function as the nervous system in the Body to connect people to the poor, and we do this by using the power of technology and the Internet to multiply resources. In the past 10 years, TechMission:

- Provided accredited college courses with **599 students taking 2,561 courses** through City Vision College
- Funded **536 full-time interns** serving over 24,000 at-risk youth and other populations through TechMission Corps and City Vision Internships
- Matched **62,996 volunteers** through ChristianVolunteering.org
- Served over **10 million unique visitors** through our websites overall
- **Provided \$69.5 million in resources to sites** only spending \$11 million (601% return on investment)

Based on the exponential growth of our past 10 years, we believe in the next 10 years we will be able to provide hundreds of millions of dollars worth of resources to ministries serving the poor by providing urban ministry resources and training to tens of millions of web visitors, placing millions of volunteers, equipping tens of thousands of urban ministry students and placing thousands of interns. By doing this, we can transform communities by connecting millions of people to the poor.

Andrew Sears
Executive Director
TechMission



TechMission 2014: At a Glance



Our Values: Jesus, Justice,
& Technology



TechMission Outcomes

	2012	2013	2014 Goal	2014 Actual	10 Year Total
Interns (FTE)	65	79	50	44	536
Course Registrations	281	436	500	477	2,561
Volunteers	9,995	3,802	9,000	5,571	62,996
Web Visitors	1,355,074	1,016,475	1,000,000	1,100,000	10,155,503
Budget	\$1,529,507	\$925,798	\$718,417	\$536,973	\$11,550,237
Resources Provided	\$10,308,619	\$7,554,877	\$8,152,050	\$5,686,315	\$69,448,294
Social Rol	674%	816%	1135%	1059%	601%

TechMission in 2014



\$5.7 Million to Ministries = 1059% Social Rol

The Tech Poverty Fighter:

How Andrew Sears at TechMission harnesses the Web to fuel urban ministry.

CHRISTIANITY  TODAY

by Eileen O’Gorman | Christianity Today Online

“If you ask the average person on the street right now what’s changing the world more than anything else, the response will probably be technology,” said Andrew Sears. “But Christians often resist technology. We are fighting battles against injustice, but are using antiquated tools. It’s like the other side has tanks and jet planes, and Christians are fighting with sticks.”

By using internet-based technology to connect people and resources, Sears and the organization he helped found, TechMission, are finding new approaches to overcome systemic poverty in the United States and beyond.

All of this is a far cry from Sears’s upbringing in inner-city Kansas City, Missouri. He spent most of his childhood living on the streets because they were safer than his home.

As a teen...he saw the destruction woven into his community and funneled all of his energy toward launching out of it.

[After graduating as valedictorian from the University of Missouri and co-founding the Internet Telephony Consortium while in grad school at MIT,] Sears was on a road to follow Bill Gates. But he woke up from 100-hour workweeks and realized he was on the run [from God]. It was at that point the gift of his technological brilliance was combined with a gift of personal and biblical insight...[As Sears’ faith took root], he began to deal with scars from an abusive past, and for the first time started imagining how modern technology could be used to overcome poverty in Jesus’ name.

Starting with a church-based computer training center at Bruce Wall Ministries in inner-city Boston, Sears saw one provision after another propelling him and his partners forward to use technology to respond to the issues woven into impoverished communities.

While the initial computer training work connected urban youth with skills for viable employment, Sears realized that much more than technological training was needed to overcome the hurdles the youth were facing.

So in 2000, in partnership with other Christian Community Development Association (CCDA) leaders, Sears founded TechMission...[Since then,] TechMission has served a vital role in connecting under-resourced individuals with technological training, and also in connecting a sometimes disconnected group of urban ministry practitioners with each other.

CCDA advisory board member and TechMission founding board member Rudy Carrasco says that Sears “is a



person with huge tech credibility who also is a hard-core incarnational and relational urban ministry leader.” Carrasco...shares Sears’s passion for building on the intersection of poverty and technology. “If you say technology and poverty to most Christians, thoughts move toward, How can I get a cheap mobile phone to a poor person?” said Carrasco. “Andrew is trying to address the systemic issues involved in poverty such as: Can a kid get access to the kind of education he needs and have the support of his community, family, and church?”

“We list our values as Jesus and justice to emphasize both meeting the needs of the whole person and our affiliation with the social justice tradition of the church, like the Salvation Army, Gospel Rescue Missions, and the Christian Community Development Association,” said Sears. “The problem is that our society is structured in a way that those with the greatest physical needs are often segregated from those with the most resources.”

More than 15 years after Sears stopped running from his childhood, his organization has equipped and sent thousands of people to reach children and adults in the kinds of circumstances he once faced.

“Jesus said the summary of the Bible was to love God and love others,” Sears said. “Paul used the latest technologies to do that—Roman roads and letters—and we want to do the same.”

Read the full article online at <http://www.christianitytoday.com/thisourcity/7thcity/tech-poverty-fighter.html>

CITY VISION COLLEGE

Radically Affordable Education to Make a Living and a Life

City Vision College provides radically affordable online Christian education to underserved communities, offering degrees and certificates in Addiction Studies, Nonprofit Management, Urban Missions, and Technology & Ministry.

City Vision College was established in 1998 as Rescue College, a program of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions (www.agrm.org) intended to train those involved in urban ministry. In 2008, Rescue College became a part of TechMission and was renamed City Vision College. Its focus was broadened to Christian social services generally, with the addition of degrees in Addiction Studies and Nonprofit Management. In 2014, the college's Master's in

Technology & Ministry degree was approved, with the goal of developing future Christian technology leaders. The college also submitted for approval a Business degree aimed at giving the "bottom half" of society a way out of poverty.

City Vision is accredited by the Distance Education Accrediting Commission and is an affiliate member of the Association for Biblical Higher Education. DEAC is recognized by both the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). All faculty members have graduate degrees and are current or past practitioners in their fields with and a passion for mentoring future leaders.



Michael Liimatta
Academic Dean



Ann Marie Cameron-Thompson
Financial Aid Manager



Nancy Young
Director of Admissions



Rachael Jarboe
Program Assistant

1. Students can apply and be awarded Pell grants, federal student loans, Veterans Assistance, Workforce Investment Act, and Vocational Rehabilitation funds. The current Pell grant is \$5,730 and covers a full year of college, including textbooks.

Additional discounts are available for some students, such as international students and members of AGRM rescue missions.

2. We are approved to provide bachelor's degrees and certificates in Addiction Studies, Nonprofit Management, and Urban Missions and a master's degree in Technology & Ministry.
3. All City Vision courses are 8 weeks in length and provide practical experience in Christian social service and ministry.

BACHELOR'S OR CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Addiction Studies

Nonprofit Management

Urban Missions

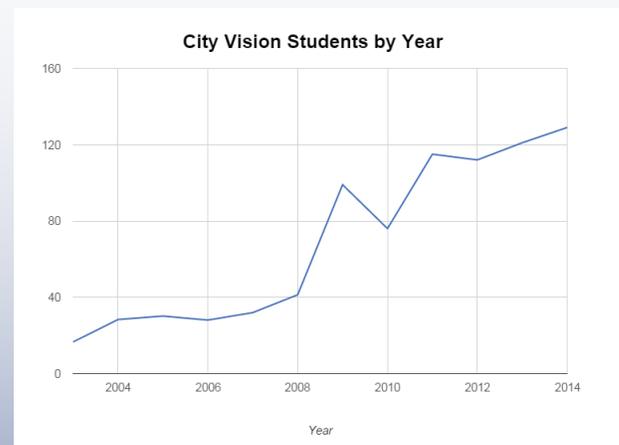
MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Technology & Ministry

More information can be found at www.cityvision.edu

Course registrations grew from 436 in 2013 to 477 in 2014.

Student enrollments grew from 112 in 2012 to 129 in 2013.



City Vision College: The Opportunity

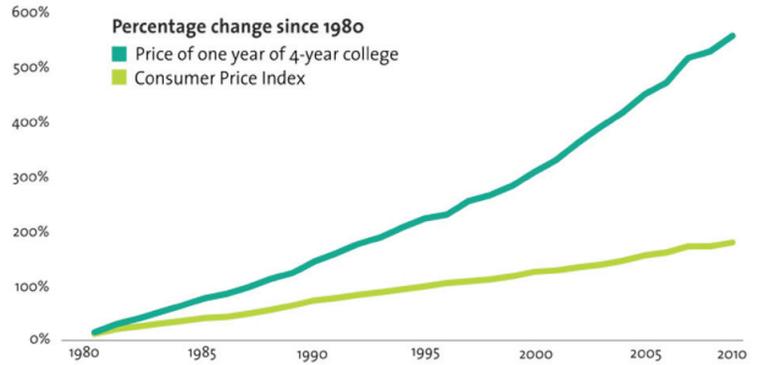
This year, as part of his preparation for the Master's in Technology & Ministry program, City Vision President Andrew Sears received his doctorate from Bakke Graduate University. The focus of his research was in disruptive innovation in Christian higher education.

His paper, and the presentations he has done since, demonstrate two key facts: higher education is essential for bringing people out of poverty, but, due to rising costs, is out of reach for precisely those people whom it could help the most. Christian colleges, for the most part, are little different than secular private schools in this regard. They educate on a small scale, typically having less than 1,000 undergraduates, and their prices are only affordable for the middle class and above.

City Vision College aims to be at the forefront of a revolution in Christian higher education - increasing access by lowering costs dramatically, through the re-use of open and low cost course materials, the efficiencies of the online platform, and use of part-time faculty-practitioners as instructors. We see this as necessary in order to close the opportunity gap that is making it increasingly difficult for the "American Dream" of class mobility to be realized.

Increase in College Tuition Over Time

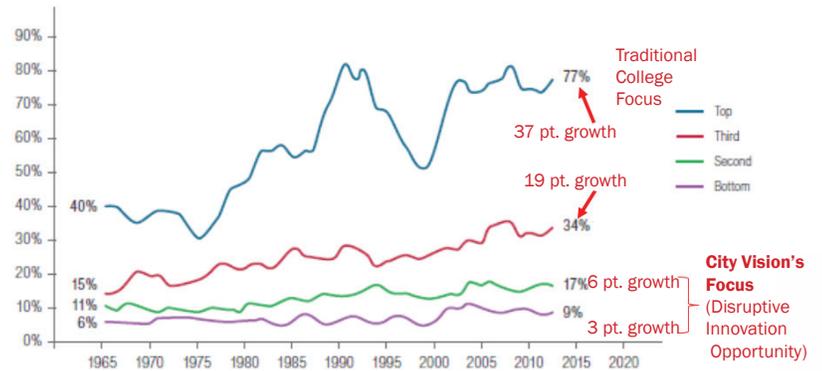
National Average Tuition \$30,994
Christian (CCCU) Average Tuition: \$24,355



Based on average annual tuition price for a 4-year college, in actual dollars
 Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Center for Education Statistics

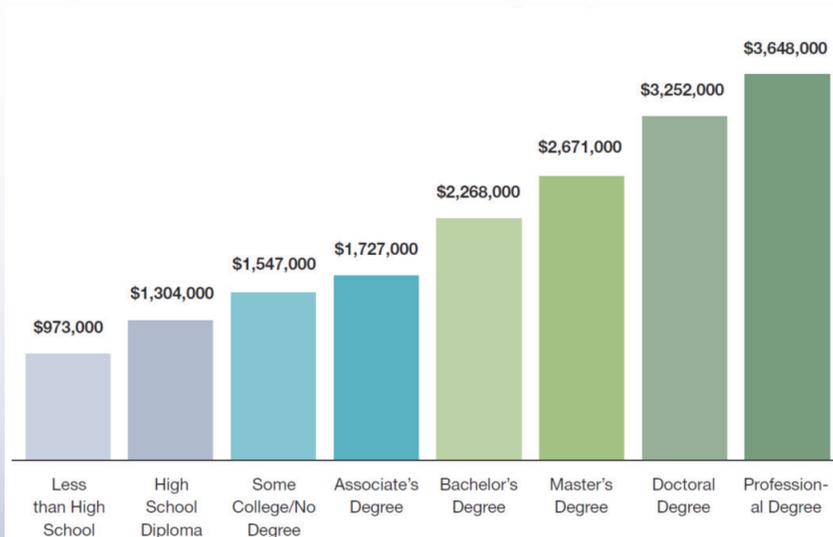
Mother Jones

Bachelor's Degree Attainment: A Widening Gap



The Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education (2015, January). Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States 45 Year Trend Report. <http://www.pellinstitute.org/>

Expected Lifetime Earnings by Education Level



See the full Disruptive Innovation in Christian Higher Education playlist at <https://goo.gl/8boCJL>

CITY VISION COLLEGE

Real Impact Stories

Nancy Young's Story: Counseling People from a Christian Perspective



Nancy Young is a 2013 graduate of City Vision University with a Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies, and is now City Vision's Director of Admissions. Her own experience at City Vision is the best advertisement she can give as she speaks to people with potential interest in the school. When interviewed in

2013, she said the following, "I already had a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice," before coming to City Vision, "but my time at City Vision has been the best time in my life. It's good to be trained in how to connect with people. Even though I've been a social worker for over 20 years, being able to be in a Christian environment and learn how to counsel people from a Christian perspective has just been a best case scenario...I encourage anybody who's out there who feels like they want to help to go out and get trained in how to help and let God speak to you through that training."

Over the past few years, we've recorded video testimonials of City Vision College students, faculty, and ministry leaders at the AGRM convention. Find more on our website, www.cityvision.edu

Tina Cook's Story: Helping Others Invest in Their Own Lives



Tina Cook graduated from City Vision in 2014, and now serves as community resource specialist and office manager for the Family Resource Center in Athens, GA. Her own experience of homelessness and addiction, along with the practical tools provided by City Vision's Addiction Studies program, have prepared her not

only to meet the immediate needs of FRC's clients, but to start them on the path to self-sufficiency. When clients come into the center, Cook does an assessment and tries to go beyond the immediate need, like help paying rent, to see if they may need budgeting classes or help finding a job.

"When people are in fear or crisis mode, it's hard for them to look at the big picture," Cook said to *Faith & Family* magazine. "That's where I come in."

Eric Gardner's Story: Running a Mission by City Vision Principles



Eric Gardner runs the men's addiction recovery program at the Wheeler Mission in Indianapolis, IN. When interviewed at the AGRM Convention in 2013, while still completing the Addiction Studies program, he said his City Vision training has been

"more than valuable to our addictions program here in Indianapolis. I'm...able to be more confident in what we do, able to work with men on a deeper level, and able to dispense the knowledge that I have gained here at City Vision to the staff here at Wheeler."

City Vision has enabled him to "in a more informed way, deal out best practices to those that Jesus loves so deeply and ultimately [to] help men see long lasting success in Christ in overcoming their addictions." He concludes by saying, "I'm really grateful for my opportunity to be a student here."



CITY VISION BUSINESS PROGRAM

City Vision College's Business program empowers the "bottom half" socioeconomically, by giving them the skills to rise up out of poverty.

City Vision submitted our proposal for a Business program to our accreditor in the second half of 2014. This program is intended to give the "bottom half" socioeconomically practical skills to make a living and a life. It also marks a new effort for our school to expand into international markets, since our President's research into disruptive education in higher education indicates that global higher education will likely increase from 100 million to over 250 million students within the next 10 years alone, with much of this growth happening in the developing world.

Business degrees are already the most popular among college students in the US, and we expect that this holds true internationally as well. An extremely low-cost Business degree can provide the needed training for workers seeking to rise into the lower middle class, through administrative and call center positions, among others.

Required Courses:

- Introduction to Business
- Business Communications
- Accounting I & II
- Nonprofit Accounting
- Management & Leadership
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Theology of Work and Personal Calling
- Human Resources
- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics

Concentrations:

- Nonprofit Management
- Accounting & Operations
- General Management
- Technology & Entrepreneurship

City Vision's Educational Philosophy: Online Learning, Firsthand Application



City Vision's Pedagogy

City Vision has a unique educational philosophy behind all our degrees: we believe that there is no substitute for firsthand experience, and aim to have as many students as possible find internships through our City Vision internships program. Furthermore, we recognize that online education is strong in the transmission of facts, but must be balanced by in-person community in order to shape the whole person. For this reason, we promote our students' involvement in the local church. We hope that offering our students the flexibility of online education will enable them to transform their vocational and financial circumstances without taking them out of the social and cultural context in which they already live.

Traditionally, online education has been called "distance education" because the professors are at a distance from those taking the courses. We think, however, that residential education could just as easily be called distance education, since it takes students out of their communities and put them at a distance from the churches and ministries which they will ultimately serve. Our students are largely adults, many of whom are already serving in ministry. Giving them the opportunity to take classes online allows them to remain engaged in the work of ministry while finishing their studies.

TECHNOLOGY & MINISTRY

Master of Science

City Vision College's Master of Science in Technology and Ministry program equips Christians to use technology to transform the world in Jesus' name.

Objectives of the MTM Program

Many Christians with training in technical fields would like to use their skills in ministry but are not certain how to do so. The MTM program is designed to develop its students into technology ministry leaders by helping them answer the following questions:

1. How can my current career path in technology and technical skills be used in God's Kingdom?
2. How can I expand my interdisciplinary understanding of technology including theological, historical, social, psychological, systems, business, and other perspectives on technology?
3. How can I expand my "soft skills" and knowledge in order to move up and improve my effectiveness in my current ministry or professional field?



How the Program Works: Customized Student Plans

The MTM program aims to equip students to apply different perspectives on technology, drawn from the different courses, to a particular problem or opportunity. Ultimately, these insights will then be used to create a practical work that will improve students' employability and marketability. Take the following example:

John, Mobile Ministry Expert

God has given John a passion for Mobile Ministry. John believes that Mobile Ministry will help play a major role in bringing millions of people to Christ while also improving their economic situation. John has already become a leader in the mobile ministry space through his blog and website. He would like to take his leadership to the next level, and has decided to do the MSTSM program with the following personal goals:

1. Broaden his knowledge to make me more effective as a leader in mobile ministry.
2. Establish the credential of a Master's degree to enable him to teach accredited courses.
3. Use the courses and Capstone to develop content for an accredited course and a self-published e-book in Mobile Ministry
4. Have a structured context to solicit feedback from top technology ministry leaders as he develops his material.

To do this he designs the program with the following projects:

- **Theology of Mobile Ministry** as a presentation and paper that will become material for his course and book. (Final project in Theology of Technology Course).
- **Systems of Mobile Ministry** taking the systems perspective both on 1) how to best grow his own ministry 2) to develop a presentation and paper using the language of systems to explain mobile ministry's implications to church systems to be used in his book and course. (Final project in Organizational Systems).
- **Historical Perspectives on Mobile Ministry** examining history and case studies that help better understand mobile ministry both to improve his own ministry and to develop a presentation and paper for his course and book. (Final project in History and Case Studies of Technology in the Church)

He has done the same with other courses including: Emerging Media Ministry, Appropriate Technology in the IT Field, High Tech Social Entrepreneurship and Technology and Addiction. He then combines all these projects into a Capstone, where he completes his book and course. He is able to make his ministry more self-sustaining, by expanding his consulting business and adjunct teaching through the Grant and Proposal Writing project.

The Technology & Ministry program was approved in Summer 2014, with an initial Fall enrollment of 7 students.

CITY VISION INTERNSHIPS

City Vision Internships is a urban ministry internship program, modeled after AmeriCorps, that offers one year or summer internships in Christian ministries, such as youth programs, addiction recovery programs, and rescue missions, while offering free tuition in City Vision College to interns.



Alexandra Herbert
Program Director



Tasha Sousa
Program Director



Temi Ogunbodede
Program Assistant

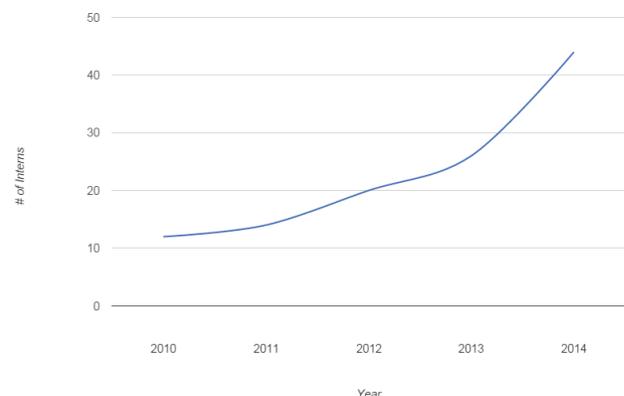


Joel Versypt
Program Assistant

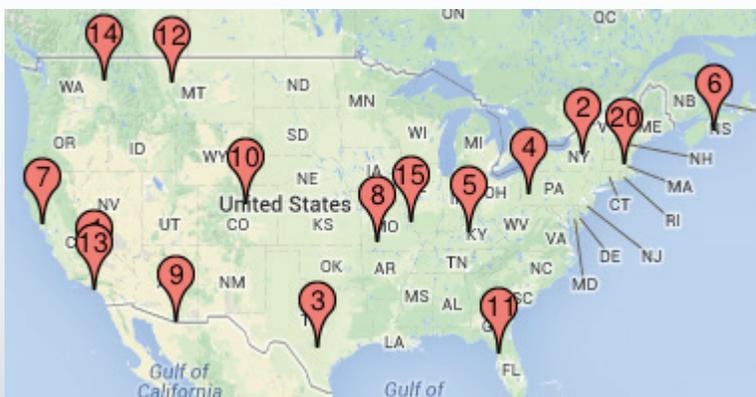
Four Types of Internships Offered

- **Work Study Internship in Christian Ministries:** free tuition in City Vision College as part of a 29 hour/week internship; housing is provided by hosting ministry
- **One Year Paid Christian Ministry Internship:** Volunteer interns paid a living stipend from \$200-\$1,200/month; housing is provided by hosting ministry
- **Technology & Ministry Master's Fellowship:** Free tuition in City Vision's Master's in Science, Technology, Society, and Ministry program while interning 29 hours/week
- **City Vision Bakke Graduate Fellowship:** Free tuition in Bakke Graduate University programs including MBA, Masters in Global Leadership or Social Entrepreneurship or Doctorate in Ministry or Transformational Leadership while interning 29 hours a week

Growth in City Vision Interns Per Year



Last year, 44 interns were placed, and 74 ministries participated.



City Vision Internship sites are spread throughout the US and Canada.

Testimonials from Ministry Leaders

- “The staff and interns possess a youthful energy and enthusiasm, combined with a thorough understanding of the overall picture of the ministry. Without the training of key staff through City Vision College, Regina RESCUE Mission would not be where it is today.” ~Rev. Michelle Porter, Executive Director, Regina RESCUE Mission, Regina, SK
- “[City Vision] is really practical, Biblically-based, recovery and counseling astute, and very much ministry oriented.” ~Steve Brubaker, Chief Vision Officer, Water Street Rescue Ministries, Lancaster, PA
- “[City Vision] is a great opportunity to learn rescue ministry both academically and experientially.” ~Perry Jones, Capital City Rescue Mission, Albany, NY

*ChristianVolunteering.org matches volunteers to ministries serving the poor, and last year matched **5,571** volunteers to **8,620** organizations.*



Alison McCracken
Lead Web Developer



Evan Donovan
Web Developer



Esther Mvula
Web Developer Intern

Find

Keywords (Service Areas, Skills)
e.g. children, food ministry, homelessness, accounting, computers, teaching, etc

country, metro area, postal code

[Browse Volunteer Opportunities](#) [Browse Organizations](#)

Filters Applied

- 02124 (x)
- Distance: within 25 miles
- sort: Popularity
- Service Areas**
 - Social Services (30)
 - Children and Youth Ministry (30)
 - Education (27)
 - Adult Ministry (19)
 - Administrative / Office Work (16)
 - Computers / Technology (14)
 - Global Relief (11)
 - Directly Serving People (11)
 - Health and Medicine (9)
 - Arts and Humanities (9)
 - See more >>
- Great for:**
 - Seniors (13)
 - Christians (12)
 - Teens (8)
 - Groups (5)
 - Families (2)
- Frequency:**
 - Ongoing Position (23)
 - Short Term Service/Seasonal (6)
 - One-time Position (1)
- Benefits:**
 - Housing or Rental Stipend (3)
 - Transportation (1)
 - Room & Board (1)
 - Free Graduate/Bakke Tuition (1)
- Length of Trip:**
 - One Year (4)
 - Less than a week (1)
- Region:**
 - Northern America (73)
- Country:**
 - United States (73)
- Advanced**
 - Organization Type:
 - Denomination:
 - Organizational Affiliation:

Volunteer Opportunities

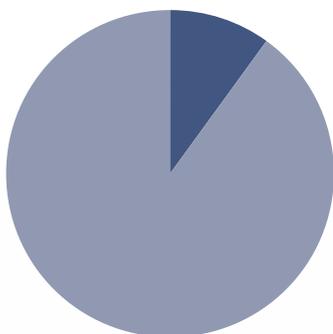
Find:

[Local Volunteering](#) [Virtual](#) [Short-term Missions](#) [Internships](#) [Jobs](#) [Organizations](#) [Resumes](#)

displaying 1 to 20 of 73 [Map These Results](#)

- At-risk/High-risk Youth Mentor** ★★★★★ [Boston Higher Education Resource Center](#)
The mentoring program of the Boston Higher Education Resource Center (HERC) is designed to empower under-represented young people by introducing them to a loving adult who will commit to a relationship... [more >](#)
Service Areas: Children and Youth Ministry, Education, Global Relief, Higher Education, Mentoring, Visitation/Pastoral Care
Location: Boston, Massachusetts Date Last Updated: 10/23/2012
- Urban Ministry in Boston** [Center for Student Missions](#)
Looking for an effective short term missions and service opportunity in the city? GSM accepts groups of 7 to 100 people for a weekend to a week. Our full time staff network with existing ministries an... [more >](#)
Service Areas: Computers / Technology,
Duration: Less than a week
Location: Dorchester, Massachusetts Date Last Updated: 07/05/2013
- City Vision Internship: Place of Promise** ★★★★★ [City Vision](#)
City Vision Internships is a Christian one-year, multi-year or summer internship program based on the AmeriCorps model. Interns serve at one of over 40 positions across the USA and Canada. In the past... [more >](#)
Service Areas: Counseling / Mentoring / Recovery, Education

Only 7-15% of church volunteers serve the outside community



2.2 million volunteers serving outside community = 10% value = \$5.2 Billion

20 million volunteers serving inside congregations = 90% value = \$52.3 Billion

In 2014, TechMission Online...

- Relaunched TechMission.org with a new focus on TechMission's tech consulting efforts, in which we provide support to Bakke Graduate University, the NET Institute, and the Shores Institute on Salesforce, Drupal, and Moodle development
- Completed launch of the ILS Nova online adult basic education / GED program
- Experienced growth from 1060 to 2505 in ChristianVolunteering.org matches from opportunities imported from feeds, such as SimplyHired job opportunities

Organizational Growth Chart

Year	Budget	Staff at HQ**	Staff at Sites**	Resources to Sites
2002*	\$136,354	4	0	-
2003	\$305,438	7	1	-
2004	\$597,881	8	7	\$283,223
2005	\$840,245	12	20	\$468,194
2006	\$1,015,524	16	20	\$2,123,555
2007	\$1,083,700	17	30	\$2,720,478
2008	\$1,161,489	19	35	\$5,814,979
2009	\$1,312,621	21	38	\$7,830,220
2010	\$1,493,638	19	88	\$12,148,040
2011	\$1,838,307	19	100	\$15,939,940
2012	\$1,529,349	15	65	\$10,308,619
2013	\$892,589	13	79	\$7,600,000
2014	\$536,973	13	44	\$5,686,315

*TechMission operated within Bruce Wall Ministries from 2000 until July 2002.

**Staff numbers include full-time equivalent staff and AmeriCorps/VISTA Members.

2014 Budget

INCOME	
Tuition Income	\$191,740
City Vision Internships	\$70,100
Tech Consulting	\$72,940
Foundations	\$97,000
Government	\$10,539
Individual Donations	\$16,213
TOTAL INCOME	\$458,531
EXPENSE	
Contractual	\$50,778
Fringe Benefits	\$38,406
Program Overhead/Indirect	\$83,387
Personnel TechMission	\$250,875
Supplies	\$14,658
Travel	\$13,476
Other	\$85,393
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$536,972

Grants Received 2014 by Organization

Stewardship Foundation	\$75,000
Cecil B. Day Foundation	\$12,000
Liberty Mutual Foundation	\$5,000
Edison International	\$2,500
Roy Foundation	\$2,500

Growth of Earned Income, 2011-2014



TechMission Staff

Andrew Sears
Rev. Michael Liimatta
Harriet Hodge-Henry
Ann Marie Cameron-Thompson
Michele Mitsumori
Madeline Vilar
Alexandra Herbert
Tasha Sousa
Temi Ogunbodede
Joel Versypt
Nancy Young
Rachael Jarboe
Alison Nowicki
Evan Donovan
Esther Mvula
Jonathan Spain-Collins

Executive Director
Academic Dean, City Vision
Operations Contractor
Financial Aid and Accounting Manager
Financial Manager
Financial Manager Intern
Program Director, City Vision Internships
Program Director, City Vision Internships
Program Assistant, City Vision Internships
Program Assistant, City Vision Internships
Director of Admissions, City Vision College
Program Assistant, City Vision College
Lead Web Developer
Web Developer
Web Developer, City Vision Intern
Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper,
City Vision Intern

TechMission's Board of Directors

Major Bill Hurula, President
Jonathan Carter
Ron McConico
Rev. Jeremy Del Rio, Esq.
Dr. Jay Gary
Dr. Brad Smith

