

# LOVE YOUR CITY

LEADING MISSIONALLY  
IN THE MARKETPLACE



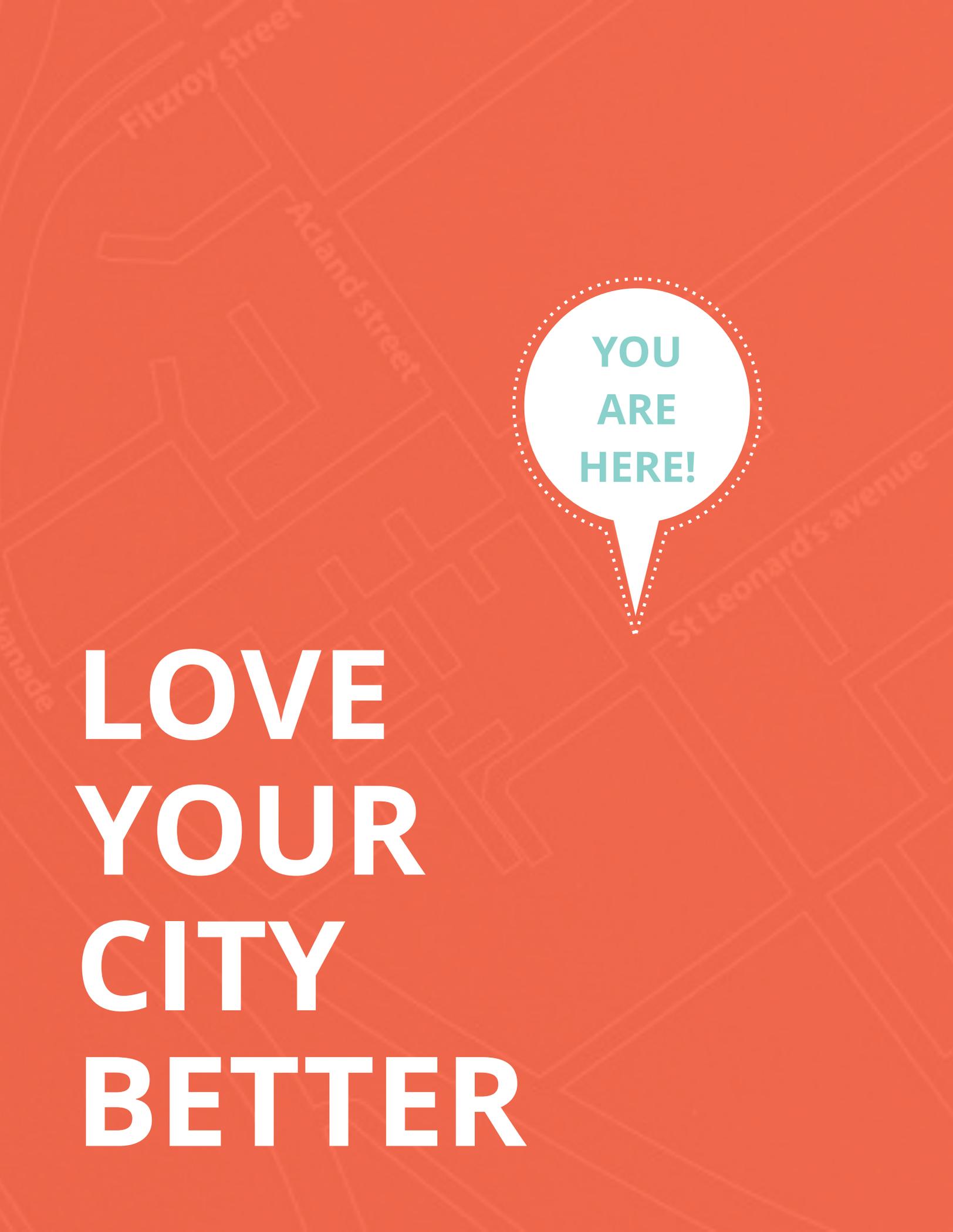
# WHY LOVE YOUR CITY

Every young person desires to change the world. You don't want to waste your life. You don't want to be like anybody else. You do want to be part of something important, something worth making a movie about, something that is bigger than you. You want to be a superhero.

Boy With a Ball's **Love Your City** gives young leaders like you a way to go beyond watching superhero movies to actually becoming a superhero yourself.

**Yes.** You can be a superhero.

All great heroes fight for a cause, fight for a people, fight to make the world better, more just, more beautiful. For some, there is a dream they have had for a long time, hoping, waiting, praying for the moment they can go for it. For others, there was a moment of hurt or injury that birthed the desire to fight "the bad guys." Whatever the reason, you know you were not made for the sidelines. You were made to battle to make the world better.



**YOU  
ARE  
HERE!**

**LOVE  
YOUR  
CITY  
BETTER**

# FIGHTING FOR A BETTER WORLD

**Love Your City** is about you and your fight for a better world. It is about training and learning what it will take to be a superhero. Superheroes are formed--and **LYC** can help form you into the kind of hero your world needs you to be. Superhero attitudes and skills must be learned and practiced "out there" in the hurting world. **LYC** gets you out into your neighborhoods, listening, paying attention, making connections, building relationships.

By walking the streets and meeting the people, you learn what it takes to change lives and help build resilient communities. You learn what can happen when the energy contained in the three words of power (Love. Your. Neighbor.) is released.

You can't love your city all by yourself.. That's part of the training. You will need a coach, someone who can see your playing field and help you learn the plays. You'll need a team, a group of people who are committed to walking and working alongside you in the fight. **Love Your City** creates the opportunities for you to find the coaches and the team with whom you will step into your community's most difficult neighborhoods. Together you will learn how to play your parts in bringing about lasting, life-changing transformation.

Why **Love Your City**? Because it's the adventure you've been dreaming of, the quest for which you were made.

# SUPERHEROES *ARE REAL*

Maria and her family moved from Brazil to Atlanta, Georgia for her father's job. A talented, funny, and smart 17-year-old, Maria had big dreams, but now faced new challenges in order to reach them. She had to learn English. She had to adapt to an entirely new culture. She had to get into school.

Maria charged right in. She was admitted to a university and began learning English. She started to make friends and joined extracurriculars at school. One Thursday, her professor cancelled class and encouraged his students to attend the university's volunteer fair, which is where she ran into Boy With a Ball.

Gentle by nature and timid in a new language, it was still easy to see that Maria fiercely desired to change the world. Her passion to help people ran deep. So we invited her to come with Boy With a Ball as we walked through a neighborhood in our community. Maria said yes, in large part because she hoped it would help her learn English.

As she walked through the community for the first time, she met families from across Latin America who were, just like her, trying to learn English and an entirely new way of life. She met children who were struggling to make it in school, caught between two cultures.

Though she hadn't been in this neighborhood before, this was familiar territory to Maria. She started asking questions: If their schooling is taught in English, how do they know what to do or how to ask for help? Who helps the students with homework once they get home? How will they make it to the next grade, to graduation, to their dreams if no one helps?

# DYNAMIC GROWTH & IMPACT

Maria understood their story. She cared about these young people. She wanted to help. So English fluency took a back seat as Maria chose to step into a larger arena.

Within six months of Maria's first day in the community, she founded a tutoring center that helped the children there improve their English speaking and literacy skills, and their attitudes towards learning. The tutoring center enabled the students to begin the slow rise out of poverty and toward reaching their dreams. Along the way, Maria's English fluency improved, but more importantly, a leader emerged and a powerful superhero story continued to unfold. This is Maria's superhero story, but hers is not the only one. Across the world, there are stories of young people stepping up to face challenges they yearn to solve and to serve the people in their own communities.

**Love Your City** creates dynamic environments that build powerful young leaders like Maria-- like you-- to focus your unique creativity, energy, and "superpowers" on hurting neighborhoods. Not only does a community begin to rise; super-heroic leaders are forged as well.

# GETTING STARTED

**What you will need:** All you need to begin is faith. Superheroes all have their giftings and skills but the best heroes have a faith from which they function, a faith that drives them to act. You will need faith in God, who created you and the people in your city. You will need faith that God has a plan and you can get in on it. You will need faith that you will have the help you need to become a superhero and that you can change your community. Remember, Jesus says, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you” (Matthew 17:20).

“I could write about my experiences with the tutoring center and the people I have met for hours, but I am going to summarize all of this by saying that *Boy With a Ball is revolutionary...*

*We need critical thinkers; we need leaders. We need people with love and capacity for empathy and relational qualities.* The idea that we have for BWAB’s tutoring center is not that of a place in which kids sit and listen. It is a place in which we, the tutors, prioritize creating relationships. We ask questions instead of answering. We influence instead of dictating the rules. *We become not only tutors but also friends and mentors. We teach them how to teach themselves. We empower the students so they can be their own change.*”

- Maria Julia Muller Bortolucci

# HOW YOU CAN JOIN THE LOVE YOUR CITY MOVEMENT TODAY

## Become a Strategic Partner With Love Your City

Your skills, experience and insight and those of your employees can play a powerful part in scaling Love Your City across your city or the world. This is how:

1

### START SOMETHING

Start a club within your school or university that works with BWAB to raise awareness of the hurting neighborhoods right near you, expand the superhero training movement, and launch your friends into lives that make a difference.

2

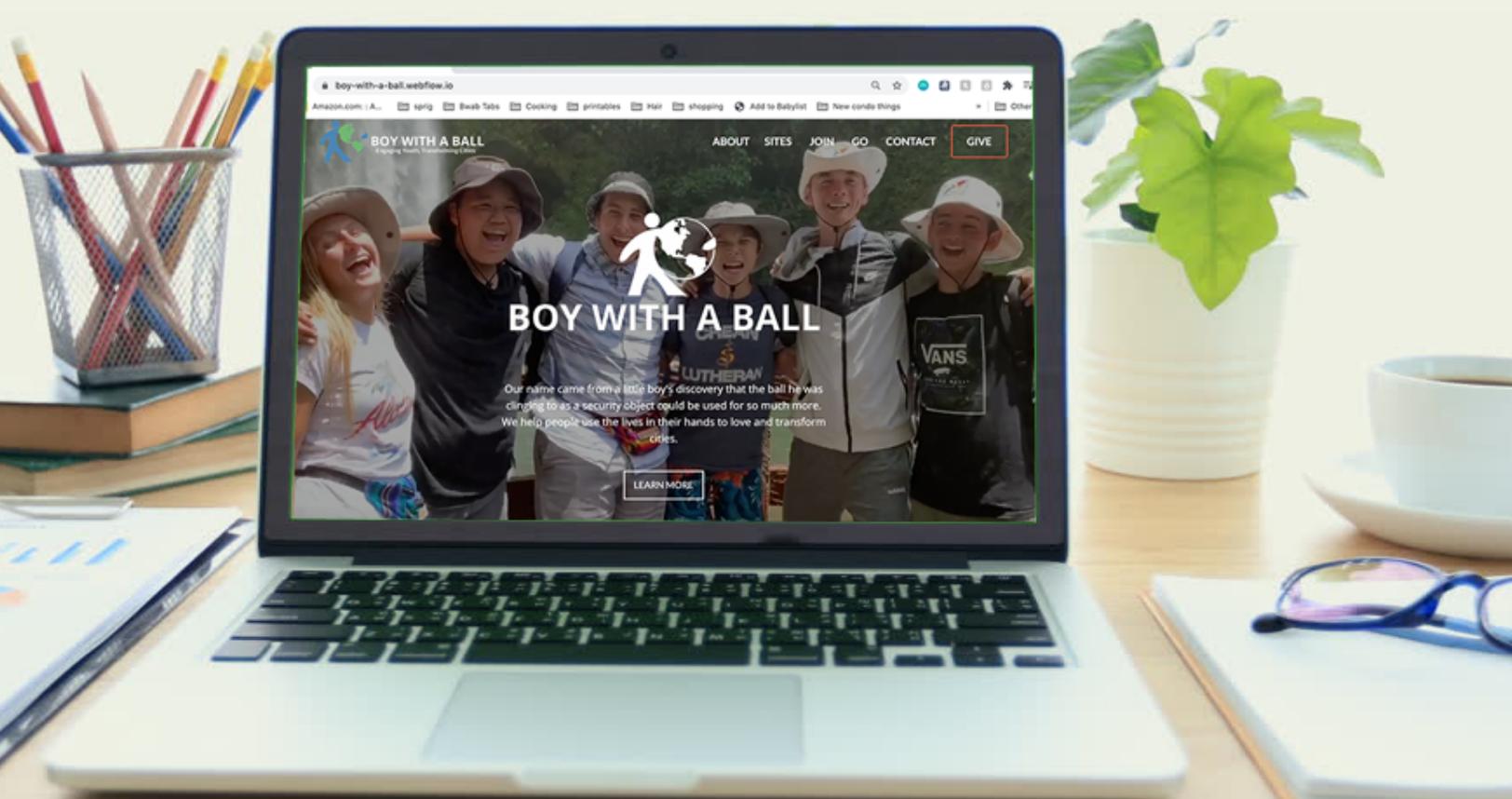
### GO ON A TRIP

Join one of the current Boy With a Ball teams for a week to experience the power of **Love Your City**. All with the purpose of training to take **Love Your City** back to your own community!

3

### INTERN IN ATLANTA

BWAB interns get in on hands-on work within communities and learn all about the **Love Your City** movement! Internships are great for professional experience, for college credit, or even to improve your resume for a job. Join us as a BWAB intern in Atlanta!



# BOY WITH A BALL

Boy With a Ball is a Jesus-centered non-profit organization that works across Africa, Latin America, and the U.S. to reach young people and equip them to turn and transform their cities.

**PO BOX 748**

**Buford, GA 30515**

**info@boywithaball.com | www.boywithaball.com**