



## **CHRISTIAN IDENTITY**

This document aims to clarify who Flame is at our core and what being a Christian organisation looks like for us. We believe that everyone has the right to choose their own faith. How we work with the children and families in our programs comes from our core Christian identity but we believe that ultimately their faith is their own personal decision.

### **Biblical Foundation**

Flame was founded on the Biblical passage of Paul speaking to his mentee, Timothy.

*2 Timothy 1:6*

*“I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you...”*

Flame is a nonprofit, Christian organization and operates from the core belief that every person has God-given gifts and abilities that when recognized and intentionally fanned into flame, become a motivating factor to grow into all that God intends for them to be.

Our heart is to see the most destitute and forgotten people growing and becoming strong leaders who have an internal fire of God’s plan for them that has been fanned into flame.

Our Vision, Mission and Core Values come from our understanding of God’s purpose for us and for those we work alongside.

### **Vision**

“Children of the Urban Poor Becoming Leaders”

Repeatedly in the Biblical scriptures, we see examples of people, who in spite of being written off by society, are deliberately chosen by God to be leaders in positions of influence and changers of history.

Joseph, Ruth, David, Mary, the woman at the well and many more.

We believe that every person, no matter how difficult their past, has the potential to become a resilient and confident person who can contribute meaningfully to society.

We are relentless in our belief that a child's shattered past or difficult family situation must not determine their future but rather increase their resilience and that ultimately, they can become the leaders of their generation.

We believe that given the right help and support, children of the urban poor will become great leaders and serve as powerful role models to other kids and families in difficult situations.

### **Mission**

"We identify, grow and launch leaders"

Our Mission Statement is exciting – it's the model Jesus also used. He identified 12 disciples, spent 3 years with them to grow them in their faith and then launched them off into the world to make disciples.

There is nothing more potent to inspire and spark potential as those who have already walked the journey, who are now serving their communities by leading others.

### **Core Values**

- Community
- Opportunity
- Perseverance
- Pay-it-Forward

### **Community**

We believe that growth occurs in a community setting. Children of the urban poor are not islands; they are part of communities. We believe that helping communities will also directly help the child.

We will build both the individual and the community that surrounds them, working to improve entire communities as well as individual children. We will encourage graduates to give back into their communities and beyond

### **Opportunity**

We believe that the providing of opportunities to be vital for the children of the urban poor in order for them to grow towards their potential. Opportunities that are valued and taken hold of can be life changing for the individual, their family and community.

We will value and respect every child and family of the urban poor. We will choose to focus on the potential, strongly encouraging them to value the opportunity being given to them.

### **Perseverance**

We believe that failure is not a deal breaker. People will fail and disappoint on their way to becoming leaders. We believe perseverance to be an essential life skill for any leader.

We will not give up on people until they give up on themselves. We will strongly encourage children of the urban poor to not quit. Whether they maximize the opportunity or not, we will be there to help, encourage & support.

### Pay-it-forward

We believe the best people to help the urban poor are those who have walked the journey well. We believe that gratitude for the support received is best shown in paying it forward. No person is too young to be grateful.

We will strongly encourage graduates at all levels to give back to those following them in Flames programs. We will work alongside LAMP participants assisting them to give back to their communities in a meaningful and effective way.

### Summary

This document expresses who we are at our core and how we will express Gods love to others. We walk alongside and assist those who are forgotten and oppressed, regardless of race, religion or creed because we know they have a special place in Gods heart.

**We get excited when our actions speak louder than our words.**

