



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Relationship is the furnace of transformation. The Elevate model works because of our laser-like focus on building genuine relationships with kids. This curriculum is an extension of our focus. We set out to create learning experiences that inspire authentic conversations in and out of the classroom and lessons that free our teachers up to pour more time and energy into what matters most. You guessed it. Relationships.

This curriculum is the result of over 30 years of blood, sweat and tears. From these lessons speak the voices of hundreds of saints who have gone before us, as well as all those who continue to fight for our kids today.

Thank you to Colorado Uplift teachers and curriculum staff for sharing your wisdom that is bound up in stories, traditions and thousands of lessons that have been collected throughout the years. Thank you for generously giving us your most treasured ideas, words and experiences so we can all offer our very best to those we serve.

Thank you Elevate affiliates in Orlando, New York and Phoenix for courageously stepping into the trenches of your city to bring light and hope. You have graciously given your lessons and advice so we can all shine brighter.

Thank you to the Elevate Curriculum Task Force. You set out to help build the most impactful, efficient, effective, engaging and inspiring urban youth leadership curriculum in the world. We did it. Woohoo!

Thank you to IMPART! for coming alongside us and making such a huge dream become a reality. Your passionate commitment to help us communicate our message through teachable lessons that inspire students and change lives was apparent at every step of this project. Thank you for catching the vision for what this curriculum means for future generations of urban leaders.

And most of all, thank you to every single Elevate and Uplift team member. You are in the business of altering and raising. You are altering the trajectory of every life you touch and you are raising up a generation of youth who embody rebirth.

May we all stand a little prouder knowing we accomplished this *together*.