# URBAN SQUADH TORONTO

2020 IMPACT REPORT

### **Virtual Programming**

Due to COVID-19, we expanded our services to deliver daily virtual sessions to provide the much needed connection that our students need for their mental health and academic success.



Virtual homework help is provided daily with the help of our dedicated volunteers and York University student teachers.



Physical fitness was provided by at-home physical training and running plans.



Cultural and learning opportunities through our guest speaker series, team building exercises and virtual tours.

OUR PROGRAM PILLARS

# **In-Person Programming**

When public health regulations allowed us to operate, we followed strict COVID-19 protocols by restricting numbers of students, wearing face masks, social distancing and having solo squash sessions.

Our classroom was reconfigured to adhere to social distancing regulations to ensure students had a safe learning environment.

Students had an opportunity to hone their skills through soloing and squash theory.

Mentoring, UST Run Club and fitness sessions contributed to UST's holistic approach to character development and wellness.







# **UST Family Support Through COVID-19**

CHARACT

We were fortunate to receive funding to deliver a robust relief program to help our UST families through these difficult times.



Gift cards valuing over \$40,000 provided to help with the costs of groceries



Personal Protective Equipment supplied



Food and wellness kits dispensed in our Summer Program



\$8000 given to offset internet costs



Laptops distributed to help with online access and virtual learning

# Emergency Community



TIONS COMMUNAUTAIRES



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# **Graduates with Academic Scholarships**

We are proud of all our UST graduates that grew up in our program. Here are two graduates that have received full academic scholarships to post-secondary institutions.



**Firdaus Shallo** Middlebury '25

My journey through UST has been empowering and exhilarating. I have watched myself grow through the experiences and opportunities provided to me. UST has helped me reach my full potential. I have received a full scholarship to attend Middlebury College in the US and know UST will continue to mentor me along the way!



**Vivek Mody** Huron University '24

I was awarded a full scholarship by Huron 'University College and will be on Western University's varsity squash team. I can't thank UST enough for making all this possible. When I joined UST, I focused more on my academics and saw improvement. My squash training gave me the discipline to plan and achieve my goals.

>600
Hours of squash training per student each year

Hours of academic tutoring per student each year

86%

Students pursue post secondary school vs. 55% in the Jane-Finch Community

>600 Hours of virtual programming per student >84
Families supported during COVID-19

>100
Total squash tournament entries prior to COVID-19

(2019-20)

Hours of student volunteering in leadership roles



Agnes **UST Parent** 

It's a great pleasure to acknowledge the enthusiastic spirit being dedicated to our children and youth in the Jane and Finch community. UST's intervention has built the self-esteem in our children. Long live UST and the entire team who put together the resources to help build tomorrow's generation. Thank you for the support you offered during these difficult times.



Melissa **UST Parent** 

I am happy to have access to UST because they stand in the gap for a community that is missing important pieces needed for success.



Christene **UST Parent** 

UST has been nothing short of amazing. The support provided by Ms. Janise, Roy and Brent, each in their unique way has assisted my daughter tremendously. You three on the frontline has been a blessing for many families and we would like to say thank you.

### **Board of Directors**

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Brent Adamson, Executive Director | Roy Mathunni, Associate Director | Janise Fairclough, Academic Director

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