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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **John Turnipseed Named Executive Vice President of Urban Ventures**

**Minneapolis, MN**—Urban Ventures CEO, David Hawn, announced today that John Turnipseed, Vice President of the Center for Fathering, has been named Executive Vice President of Urban Ventures.

A former gang leader and drug dealer, Turnipseed came to The Center for Fathering at Urban Ventures in the mid-1990s as the program's first client. Turnipseed has since served as Director and then Vice President of the Center for Fathering, the same program that helped transform him into the community leader that he is today.

“It is hard to imagine a person to better represent Urban Ventures, its mission, and the power of personal transformation and redemption than John Turnipseed,” said David Hawn, CEO of Urban Ventures. “I look forward to John's new role here at Urban Ventures as we continue our work towards a city without urban poverty.”

In addition to his new role which includes raising awareness of Urban Ventures and its programs through speaking and other community engagement, Turnipseed will continue to advise and support the Center for Fathering by offering first-hand perspective and mentoring to leaders and enrollees in the program.

“I am so proud of the work being done every day at Urban Ventures,” said Turnipseed. “I intend to use this position to introduce more people to the organization that helped save my life.”

Urban Ventures, a faith-based nonprofit organization based in South Minneapolis, is focused on using the power of community to build a city without urban poverty. The organization operates a holistic system of programs and social enterprises that equip individuals and families with the resources and opportunities they need to take responsibility for the community's future.

Please visit <http://urbanventures.org/turnipseed-speaking-page> for additional information if you are interested in having John Turnipseed speak at an event.

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*Urban Ventures is a faith-based nonprofit using the power of community to build a city without urban poverty. Our ventures—social enterprises and service programs—holistically equip and empower families with tools to take charge of our city's future. To learn more, visit [www.urbanventures.org/](http://www.urbanventures.org/).*