



2020-2021 Annual Report



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USC](#)

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Iago Cornes – Executive Director

Briana Diller – Program Director

Wick Ballard – Squash Coach

Mark Riggs – Bookkeeper

Elijah Dorroh – Program Associate

Tahneja Gaiter – Program Associate

Noah Lee – Operations Associate

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Brent Ballard

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Michael Shaughnessy

Tim Sheeler

Jack Turben

Theodora Wolf

Letter from the Board President

Dear USC Family,

During the pandemic, our community came together in support of the USC team. Not only did our organization stay connected with team members, but we were able to provide the necessary support wherever our families needed.

We are grateful for your loyal support of Urban Squash Cleveland. The time, talent and financial support donors were able to provide enabled us to fulfill our mission – empowering Cleveland youth to fulfill their potential.

The resources you provided as a donor, as a volunteer on the court or in the classroom, as a mentor to a team member, as a fund or friend raiser, board or committee member or as the leader of one of our community partners were critical to keeping our resilient student-athletes on the path to athletic and academic success and social and emotional well-being during this most extraordinary year.

Simply put, the entire USC community helped raise and raise up our Cleveland youth.

Because of you, we were able to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 and, through creative programming and outreach, forming even closer bonds with our team members and their families.

Although pandemic challenges continue, more and more people are getting vaccinated, vaccines are available for children, and our organization is finding its new normal under the steadfast leadership of Executive Director, Iago Cornes. We are also excited to welcome our new Program Director, Briana Diller, as we see in-person programming with our student-athletes back in full swing at USC.

Events are also back. USC hosted some Cleveland Skating Club 2021 PSA Open squash matches, pro-led clinics and a spirited match between sisters, Amanda and Sabrina Sobhy, ranked 3rd and 21st in the World. Furthermore, our kids participated in the first team match since the start of the pandemic, a fun filled contest with 716 Squash, our sister program from Buffalo. Meanwhile, our community squash program is growing steadily, bringing our neighbors and players of all levels to our facility to play each other and our student-athletes.

In the year ahead, we will undertake a strategic plan to build on our strengths, identify lessons to be learned, grow our community and sense of belonging, and serve more young people. With this annual report we want to share with you our successes over the past year and our hopes for the years ahead. What you have done and given inspires us to look confidently to a bright future for our young people.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Joe Juster
Board Chair



What is Urban Squash Cleveland?

Urban Squash Cleveland ("USC") is a youth development organization that empowers youth to reach their potential through academic support, the sport of squash and enduring life skills.

Our program is designed to prepare students for the future. USC is a long-term, rigorous and rewarding commitment, full of exciting possibilities and opportunities.

Squash: Through regular practice and competitions, students develop endurance, coordination, physical and mental awareness, and discipline. The fascinating game is a wonderful vehicle that helps open doors and connects our team with meaningful opportunities for personal growth.

Academics: Students engage in homework help, literacy development, financial skill-building, ACT & SAT tutoring and college support as they cultivate a lifelong love of learning and pursue meaningful post-secondary opportunities.

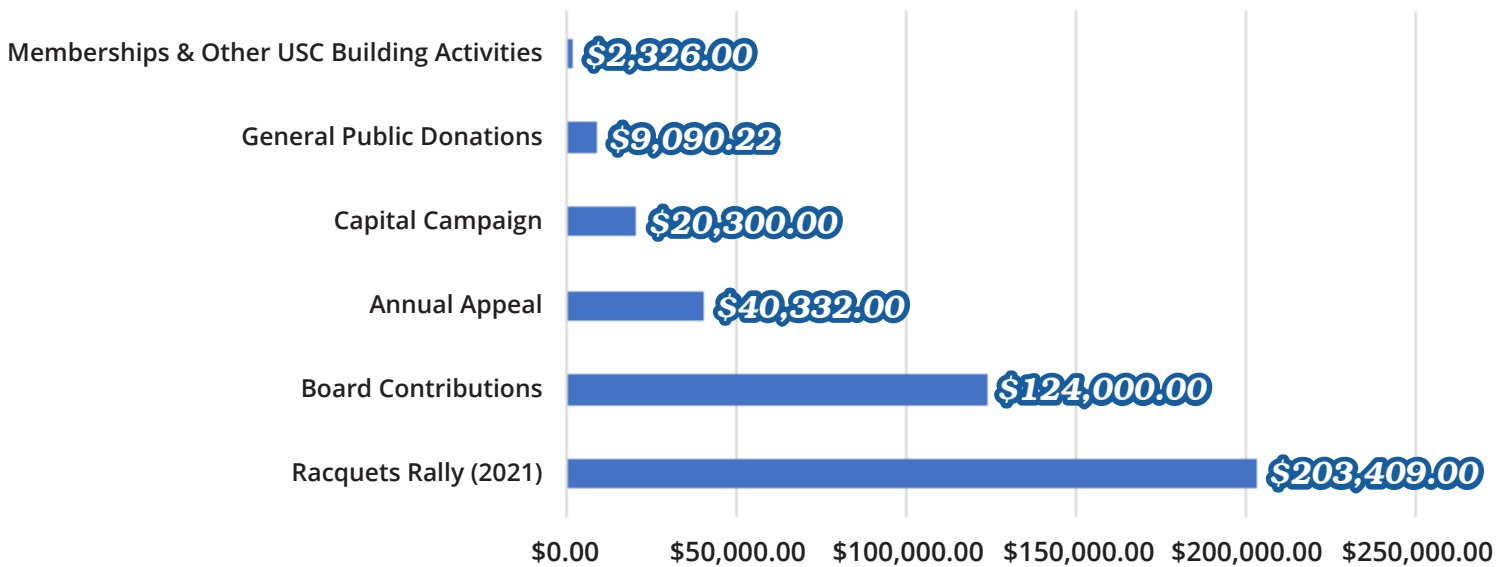
Enrichment: Team members participate in unique culinary and agricultural experiences, field trips, internships, camps and travel to cities and colleges across the country as they form relationships with mentors, volunteers and one another.



USC is part of the Squash & Education Alliance (SEA), which is a network of 20 programs nationwide and 5 international affiliates. 98% of SEA students who stay in member programs graduate from high school and enroll in post-secondary schools, in a network with a total of 2,500+ year round team members enrolled.

Currently serving a total of 50 students between 6th and 12th grades and 13 alumni, Urban Squash Cleveland plans to grow steadily over the next seven years to ultimately serve a total of 85 children each year.

2020-2021 Income



Federal Funding \$79,704.50

Total: \$479,161.70
(does not include endowment funds)



Academic Advancement

As student-athletes returned to in-person programming, they continued graduating from high-school & middle school, obtaining meaningful scholarships to high-schools and colleges of their choice.

Student Spotlight:

Adaora Okaodu, a sixth grader from Urban Community School, won not just one, but both National Essay Contests of the Squash and Education Alliance she competed in during the 2020/21 School Year.

"To be part of USC means to be able to come to a safe place, a space that allows me to have a lot of fun and make good friends. We're able to learn new things and are pushed to work hard. The mentors, coaches and teammates are always cheering you along, and we're always there for each other."



Darius Phillips
College/University:
Hiram College

Alisha Fluker

School:
St. Martin de Porres HS



Viana Antongiorgi
School:
Bard Early College HS



Jeremiah Evans
School:
Garrett Morgan HS

Alexis Fluker

School:
St. Martin de Porres HS



Janiely Santiago
School:
Lutheran West HS



A Year of Adapting

USC was fortunate to run in-person and virtual programming during the last school year. Small group, socially distant sessions emphasized social-emotional development and enabled team members to hone their fundamentals on the squash court, build their academic skills, deepen connections with peers and mentors, and have fun.

Squash Health cooking classes, student-led town halls, interactive game sessions, and college support sessions were essential components of our online programming experience, helping student-athletes strengthen their development.

USC continued to prioritize individualized attention for students and their families, which included weekly 1:1 communication, grocery delivery, clothing donation and technology support.

The Cleveland Foundation partnership

In December of 2020, USC started an endowment fund, managed by Clearstead, at the Cleveland Foundation.



This partnership strengthens USC's position in the community, providing financial sustainability to our organization. The endowment fund also helps us accomplish strategic milestones that allow us to focus on operational goals.

USC Becomes a member of the Community Affiliate Network

Launched in collaboration with US Squash in 2021, the Community Affiliate Network has become a reality. Urban Squash Cleveland joined the CAN and became its fourth national member, and the first in the Midwest.

The Community Affiliate Network (CAN) establishes formal relationships between US Squash and non-profit facilities such as USC, advancing the goals of the Community Initiative, delivering US Squash programs and closely aligning with US Squash's mission of promoting squash's growth and development by increasing access and awareness, supporting meaningful lifelong engagement in the sport, and encouraging sportsmanship while achieving competitive excellence. Like other CAN facilities, USC conducts programming inclusive of junior squash grassroots development and high-performance programs, squash and education

programs, adult squash development, and accredited leagues, ladders, and tournaments to provide access to squash for all.

With the youth development organization at the core of USC's mission, the Community Initiative adds access and lifelong engagement in squash to people spanning the entire socio-economic spectrum, fostering lasting relationships across generations, genders, races and religions and building a lasting community rooted in shared values.

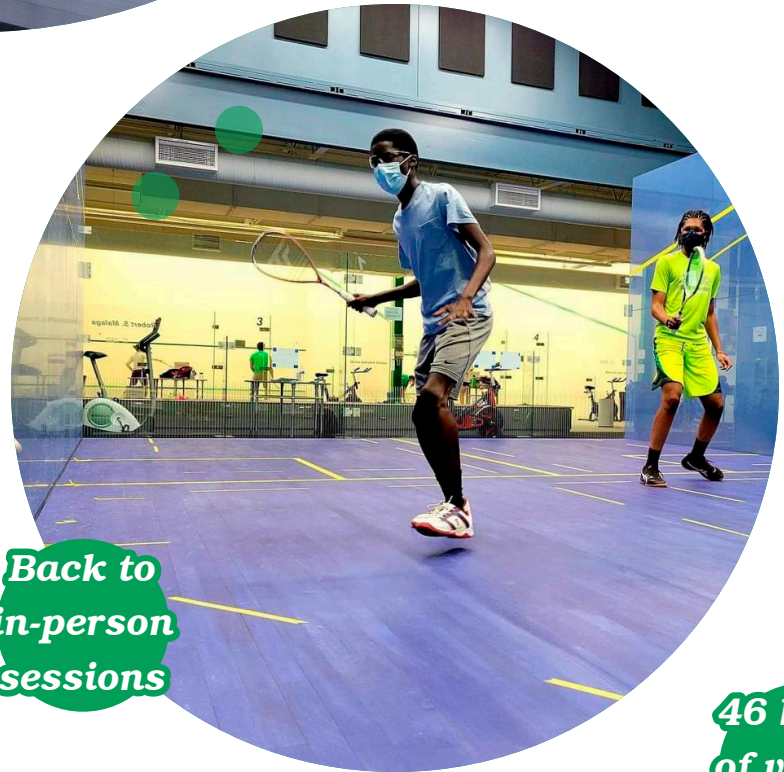
Our multicultural, multigenerational space joins many community squash centers across the US, in an effort that will dramatically increase access to the sport and bring a growing and diverse community together.





2020-21 Squash Shots

Borja Golan at USC



Back to in-person sessions



2021 In-Person Racquets Rally

46 hours of virtual programming



The world's top players inspire the USC team

14 hours of private ACT, SAT, and ISEE Test Prep tutoring with The Whole Kid. 11 hours of Squash Health Cooking Classes with Spice Field Kitchen

PSA Matches



215 hours of in-person squash, academic and enrichment experiences during the school year

31 Hours of Summer Activities



Team Matches Are Back

Learning as a Team



BUILDING ON YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the USC family has stayed together in support of USC's student-athletes.

Just as programming evolved during this time, so did fundraising. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helps USC continue to empower youth in Cleveland!

\$15,000 +

Joseph Juster (B)
Michael Shaughnessy (B)
Timothy D. Sheeler (B)
Jack Turben (B)

\$10,000 - \$14,999

Mark Anderson (B)
Brent Ballard (B)
Calfee, Halter & Griswold
Jack Herrick (B)
Walter Chapman
Martine Conway
Glenmede Trust Company
Goldman Sachs
J. M. Smuckers Company
Tucker Marshall (B)
Jon Outcalt (B)
Roy Radigan (B)
Theodora Wolf (B)

\$5,000 - \$9,999

CBIZ Inc.
Cleveland Automobile Club,
Orphans Outing Fund
Deloitte Consulting LLP
Leigh Digel (B)
Mark Eisele (B)
Virginia Lennon
RevCare Inc.
Brad Reynolds
Squash and Education
Alliance
University School

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Clearstead
Rory Cowan
Robert and Gay Cull
Jones Day
Anne C. Juster
Arjun Mohan
Oswald Companies
Katherine and David Outcalt

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Gregory and Susan Althans
Baird Foundation Inc.
Matthew Brinn
Frank H. Carpenter
Ryan Cox
David and Frances Dickenson
Fairfax Foundation
John Feighan
Ann and Christopher Garland

Timothy Geisse
Carl Greppin and Elizabeth
Chandler
Sarah & Richard Hollington III
Kaczmar Architects
Sri & Gayatri Madan Mohan
Anton Milo
Kenneth Moore
Morgan Stanley
Larry Murray
Ken Outcalt
Paul and Tonya Passarelli
Molly Schroeder
Duncan Steele
Brian Stern
Ann C. M. Tait
Beth and Ellis Tallman
United Way of Greater
Cleveland
Urban Community School

\$500 - \$999

Jonathan Adams
Dave Banyard
Cody Barber
Jane Barber
Kate and Bob Biggar
Mark Biggar
William Conway
Kristen and Iago Cornes
Julie and Jeffrey Cristal
Leigh Digel (B)
Mac and Deb Donley
Amgad Elnady
Fulton Family Fund
Alex Fulton
Louis Giesler & Cynthia Tancer
Robert Hermann
Nick and Nancy Hill
J&L Sherblom Fund
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W.R. Koehler
Gary and Betsy Kohn
Gloria and Joseph Latona
Jeanne Leinbach
Matthew Morelli
Carol Neville
Karen O'Hearn
Thomas Richlovsky
Riot Creative Imaging
Marian Ruddock
Richard Schmidt
David Schumacher
Neil Siegel
Christopher & Suzanne Smythe

Lynn Theis
Anoop Varghese
Robert Wallace
Gregg Wasilko
John and Nancy Winklepeck

\$250 - \$499

Michael Adams
Peter Anagnostos
Glenn Anderson
Victoria Banyard
Richard Bongorno
Jon and Mary Bridge
Stephen and Lesley Brown
Marc and Victoria Byrnes
Justin Conway
Paul Conway
Susan and John Crawford
Nick and Nancy Daddas
Samuel Fulton
Tom Gill
Peter Gillies
Robert and Kara Girvin
Tom Gleason
Thomas Hartland
Jonathan Hatch
Stephen Hatem
Thomas Haught
Brian Jeckering
JM Wasserman Co., Inc.
Jeffrey Kadlic
David Kaufman
Joan and Don Kimmel
Richard Lazear
John Marino
Hillary Maul
Trent and Irene Meyerhoefer
Margaret Mueller
Emily and Barry Owen
Victoria Parrill
James and Maria Ruddock
Sheryl J Sazima
Jeffrey Schwab
Ana and Shane Snider
Walter Stuelpe
Dorene and John Walsh
Ann and DWhitney
William Cody III Foundation

\$100 - \$249

Katharine Altadonna
John Anderson
Anonymous
Fred Asbeck
Andrew Banks
Courtney Batt

Jean Beaudet
Ben Bebenroth
Murad Beg
Peter Bergsten
Jeffrey Biggar
Steven Briggs
Elizabeth Carpenter
Jason Chisholm
George Clemens
Robert Coleman
Gerald Conway
James Crawford
Mike DeWindt
Docushred USA LLC
Maureen Doyle
Will Doyle
Katie Emerson
Gayle Emmet
Mike Fannon
David Fiala
Kevin Fisher
Chris Flask
Dave Fleming
Molly Floyd
James Forristell
Nora French
Scott Fromson
William Fulton
Sanjay Garg
Aditi Garg
Scott and Ann Garson
Claire and Taylor Gerber
Stacy Goldberg
Amy Good
Sally Ann Good
Lonnie Gronck
Mike Harding
Jennifer Hartford
Marilyn Hyde
Dylan Jaffee
Mike James
Peter Joyce
Julia Juster
Grace Juster
Robert and Shari Kanell
Elizabeth Kimberly
Andrea Kimmel
Ann Klotz
Jean Koehler
Robert Kolansky
Ryan Krause
Adrian and Margaret Krudy
Catherine Levy
David Lincoln
Thomas Littman
Lowe Chemical Group
Stacy Manolakas





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 Randy Markey
 James Maul
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 Shirley McCormack
 Peter McGuire
 Scott McVey
 Sharon and Neal Meropol
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 John Milgram
 Megan Milo
 John Milo
 Jennifer Moeller
 Rahul Mohan
 Mike Monroe
 Susan Moore
 Stephen Morris
 Leland Morris
 Debbie Moss Batt
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 Ed Myers
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 Gabriel C Nedeczky
 James Nemeth
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 Laura Pinnick
 Keith and Cynthia Polster
 Lauren Polster
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 Garner Resch
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 Naomi Torres-Mackie
 Bob and Karen Tucker
 Anne Unverzagt
 Lisa Vahey
 Gene P. Veronesi
 Rajan Vora

John Walsh
 Doug Webb
 Jeff Webb
 Michael Weil
 Gregory White
 George White
 Kevin White
 Thomas Wikman
 Geoffrey Williams
 Claudia and Thomas Winkman
 Wendy Worthington
 James Yasenchack
 Gerald Zahler
 Eric Zakre
 Cindy Zawadzki
 Jamie Zider
 Tom Zucker

\$1 - \$99

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 Cheryl Apisdorf
 Monica Arkin
 Catherine Banton
 John Barber
 Robin Baum
 Ben Beaudet
 Taki Bitounis
 Campbell Black
 Eldridge Black, Jr.
 Martin Burke
 Nisha Busch
 Colin Carney
 Christopher Carroll
 Aziah Chavers
 David Chittock
 Lori Cobb Kreisman
 Sonja Cuollo
 K E Dallas
 Eileen Danna
 Megan Davies

John Dellerario
 Marsha Dobrzynski
 Joel Dubinsky
 Chris DuPaul
 Robert Durham
 Caroline El Sanadi
 Anna Ferrato
 Sophia Fisher
 Mary A Fletcher
 Barry J. Friedman
 Florence Friedman
 Claire Gaiette
 Cassidy Gawlik
 Alissa Gibson
 Travis Glasper
 Marjorie Glick
 Heather Gordon
 Jonathon Groza
 Alana Jochum
 Conner Karakul
 Mike and Sarah Killion
 Woods King
 Udice Kohn
 Dianne Konishi
 Kailey Kramer
 Benjamin Kunkel
 Jack Lavenson
 Samuel Lentz
 Colin Lippincott
 Susan Mabry
 Tracey Marks
 Scott Mathias
 Corey Maul
 Alex Maul
 Andrew McCartney
 Lila Meacham
 Luke Mesiano
 John Miller
 Ryan Miller
 Katie Moscarino
 Ty Multhaup

Susan Nash
 Karen Nejedlik
 John and Stephanie Norris
 Peter O'Brien
 Rachel Oscar
 Matthew Palag
 Linda Pickel
 Brooks Pinnick
 Katie Porath
 Dan Prendergast
 JD Puckett
 Daren Ramsey
 Isaac Robb
 Julia Rosenblum
 Kelsey Ruddock
 Hannah Ruddock
 Barbara Ruscio
 Holly Scott
 John Skeldon
 Jared Springman
 James Studer
 Hannah Sullivan
 Valerie Swank Tusoch
 Monica Tarasco
 Karen Towner
 Robert Tyson-Multhaup
 John Van Der Stricht
 Kevin Walsh
 Matthew Walsh
 John Washington

Let's Continue Working Together!

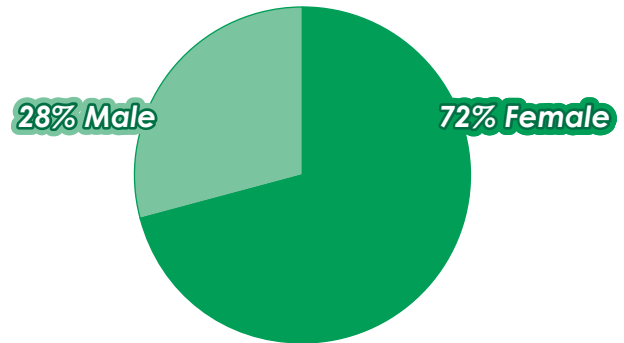


Our Partners

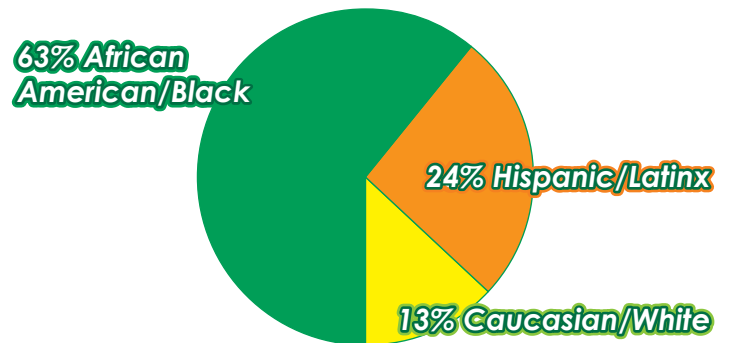
Camp For All Kids
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland Skating Club
Cleveland State University
College Now
Entrepreneurship Preparatory School: Willard
Facing History and Ourselves
Ghostlight Productions
House of Champions
John Marshall High School
MetroHealth
Refugee Response
Spice Field Kitchen
Squash & Education Alliance
The Cleveland Foundation
The Cleveland Racquet Club
The Cleveland School of Science & Medicine at John Hay
The Tavern Club
The Whole Kid
University School
Urban Community School
US Squash and the Community Affiliate Network
Young Entrepreneur Institute

Demographic Information

Student Genders



Student Race/Ethnicity



Borja Golan Visits USC

Borja Golan led camps, clinics and lessons for USC team members during the Summer. These personalized sessions enabled team members to ignite their love of the game as they learned from one of the world's most decorated champions.

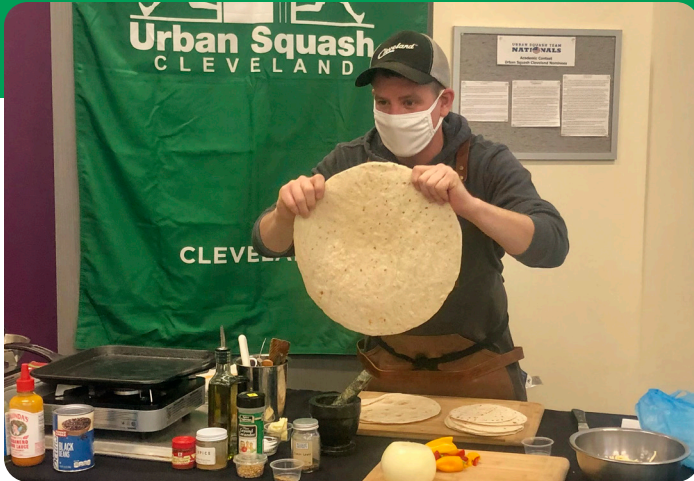
The 14 time Spanish National squash champion also led group and individual sessions for USC's Community Squash members. USC was fortunate to have the squash legend help USC student-athletes and community squash members develop their skills on the court. We are grateful to Borja for his time and work in Cleveland!

Tryouts/Recruitment

We welcomed 5 new team members after an 8 week tryout process in the Spring of 2021.



Spotlight on Squash Health



Team members and alumni participated in 7 virtual cooking classes and 1 in-person gardening session as part of this unique enrichment program launched in collaboration with Spice Field Kitchen. The program emphasizes the connection between culture, health, food and the environment. Students and families created their own customized meals by developing budgets, purchasing ingredients, and preparing personalized dishes. These unique experiences enabled students to immerse themselves in the magic of cooking in their own homes, providing a critical resource that resulted in team engagement throughout the pandemic.



Getting Involved

You may support USC by donating online at www.urbansquashcleveland.org, by mailing a check through the enclosed envelope, by volunteering or by donating goods or services in any way you think would be helpful to the mission of Urban Squash Cleveland.

- To volunteer, please contact Briana Diller at briana@urbansquashcleveland.org or by phone at 216-633-6222.
- If you're interested in visiting Urban Squash Cleveland and learning more about empowering Cleveland youth, please contact Iago Comes at iago@urbansquashcleveland.org or by phone at 216-315-2258.

**Visit us at 4701 Lorain Avenue,
Cleveland, Ohio 44102 and at
www.urbansquashcleveland.org**





Proud Member



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**Urban Squash
Cleveland**

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