

From the Director's Desk

Gerald grew up in Atlanta's inner-city. He did well in school, but never had the support around him he needed to pursue his dreams. Eventually, he started selling drugs. He was good at what he did. After years of dealing, he was moving tens of thousands of dollars' worth of product. Every day he lived in fear of being killed or arrested. The people around him only came around for his money and resources. After being shot, he moved to Lincoln. Even though he left much of his old life behind, many of the mentalities and perspectives of that old life followed him. He wanted to be a good father to his kids, he wanted to give back to society, he wanted to make a better life for himself. But he didn't know how.

He started working for a company in town, and they recognized his merit as a hard-worker who picked things up quickly. They wanted to support him, not only as an employee, but as someone trying to live better. Gerald was arrested after a domestic disturbance and his boss, Mike, went to pick him up from jail.

A few days later, Mike reached out to me and shared some of Gerald's story. Mike told me he was willing to do whatever he needed to do to help Gerald. On the day of my first meeting with Gerald, Mike picked him up from a job site and brought Gerald to the appointment. Mike truly wanted Gerald to get the help he needed.

With Mike and Gerald, I am reminded how important it is to have good people around us. I'm reminded what a difference having someone in our corner can make. I'm reminded how Jesus and the disciples spent life together for three-and-a-half years. They learned together, struggled together, ate together, grew together. They just did life together. I'm so excited that Mike is doing life with Gerald and blessed that we get to do life with them as well

AUGUST 7, 2020
3-6 PM

ADVENTURE GOLF CENTER

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ATLAS: LINCOLN FUNDRAISER

JOIN OUR ANNUAL GOLF DAY!

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Join us for our Second Annual Atlas: Lincoln Mini-Golf Outing sponsored by Lincoln Capital LLC! We will be enjoying a socially distanced event outdoors with masks and hand-sanitizer available.



Atlas: Lincoln Board of Directors

Derek Effle | Ian Shada | Jamie Peer | Amy Pflingsten | Gabriel Tufts | Dennis Coudriet

Atlas Staff

Brody Van Roekel | Savannah Clapper | Sydney Worley

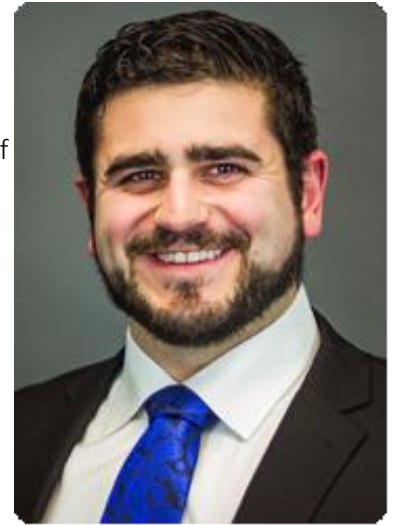
Board Spotlight – Ian Shada – Who are you? I am a Nebraska native, born and raised in Fairbury, Nebraska. I am the youngest of seven. I would describe my life as a giant rollercoaster with a lot of highs and lows. I have always worked in both ministry and sales which can be a confusing combination at times. Currently, I am the director of sales for an employee benefits firm. I have two different business degrees and am currently working on my third. I prefer standing up to sitting down and if I could sleep standing up, I would. I hate the color beige; it rubs me the wrong way. Guinea pigs and hamsters freak me out because they're both just fatter, hairier mice. I don't normally listen to music later than 2012, and if I had it my way, cell phones wouldn't exist.

How'd you get involved with/hear about Atlas? I first heard about Atlas when Brody came to Hope Community Church and gave a presentation on the organization (he did a great job). I then continued to learn more about Atlas through both Hope Community Church and F Street Neighborhood Church.

Why did you want to join the Atlas board? I wanted to join the Atlas board because I was blessed to have mentors throughout my life that pulled me away from things like drugs and alcohol and helped me to realize the life I wanted to live and what it takes to get there. I fully believe that relationally investing in someone is the best way to help ignite change.

How do you see Atlas working in the community? I see Atlas being a nonjudgmental place for people to turn to who are just looking for some guidance and someone to listen and emotionally invest into them to help them out of whatever rut life has them in, because we all get in ruts at some point.

How does Atlas help pursue our call to “love our neighbor” and “make disciples”? Atlas challenges us to think outside of ourselves and to walk alongside whoever needs it, regardless of their background or life choices. Atlas shows us how to view all people in a better light and that if you just listen to their stories, you will understand why they face the situations that they do.



We want to express a HUGE “thank you” to everyone who supported Atlas: Lincoln in our “Give to Lincoln Day” campaign. \$11,336.33 was given by you amazing folks to our campaign along with an additional \$3600 given directly to Atlas during May.

With the money raised, we plan to continue supporting staff at Atlas: Lincoln as folks keep reaching out for help and the need grows. A sincere and heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported the work God is doing through Atlas.

COVID-19 update – Atlas continues to serve in the midst of pandemic

As much of the world has changed in more ways than any of us could have imagined, Atlas staff and mentors have continued to serve our hurting folks through this relational ministry.

Loneliness and isolation are constant battles for everyone and we're doing everything we can to remain connected with our folks.

We've started meeting face-to-face again if clients and mentees are comfortable with it.

We've been making new pairings between experienced mentors and excited mentees.

Funds have kept coming in even with the economic downturn.

We ask that you continue to pray for our work. Pray for safety and wisdom. Pray for finding new and better ways to support people with the love of Jesus. Pray for every opportunity to connect in a disconnected world.

Join our confidential prayer team by emailing Amanda at atlasoflincoln@gmail.com