# STELLAR ALUMNI

#### **NAME**

Mike Walker

#### **CAREER**

Technology Director for Community Resource Network

#### **EDUCATION**

University of Central Florida

#### **TEAM**

21 Combat

# YEAR(S) ATTENDED THE ORLANDO/ FLORIDA REGIONAL AS A STUDENT 2003-2005



## WHAT ARE OR HAVE YOU WORKED ON IN YOUR CAREER THAT YOU ARE MOST PROUD OF?

I developed the first interconnecting network in Orlando to allow non-profit providers, agencies, and houses of faith to share resources and communicate the services they provide to those who are on the verge of becoming homeless. Goal: Help reduce and prevent people from becoming homeless. I connected a network of churches in Ukraine during the conflict in eastern Ukraine with Russian backed forces. There were a lot of displaced families, so I helped set up live streaming of services to reach displaced families.

### HOW HAS FIRST IMPACTED YOUR LIFE PERSONALLY OR PROFESSIONALLY?

The skills I developed through using *FIRST*'s relationship-driven mentorship has directly helped me in my strategic role to help transform the continuum of care in Central Florida and to help empower those at risk of experiencing homelessness. I still connect with my robotics competition mentors for professional and personal advice. As an adult, several of my peers who were originally on other *FIRST* teams have continued to remain as close friends who I get to both serve with in programs such as *FIRST* and Maker Faire Orlando as well as serve as a solid support system and fraternal friendship. I am one of the founders of Robot-in-3-days which provides instructional videos how to build a robot in three days. Videos encourage creative thinking and creating timelines.