



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring (FIM) Newsletter



Fatherhood Initiative

Youth Leadership Conferences
Brother, You're On My Mind! ©

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

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A Message from the Chairman: "We Build ...!"

Cultivating positive male youth citizens today and developing future fathers reined as the goal of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and Project Friendship's, Youth Leadership Conference held on Saturday December 7, 2019 at the Clark Atlanta University (CAU) Cornelius Henderson Student Center.

Students, parents and family advocate professionals throughout Georgia gathered to dialogue on empowering families with life skills to increase and sustain positive growth in the lives of the youth. Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired Ralph Carson set the stage for the program rapping his arms around one of the students in front of the audience telling the young man *"we are here for you"*. This gesture was followed by Charles Gibbs, Chief of Staff to the CAU President, who opened the conference inspiring students to excel academically and to exceed the expectations of others. Mr. Gibbs' message embraced the need and importance of increasing male student enrollment at HBCUs.



S. Earl Wilson, Chairman
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Chief Judge Linda B. Haynes, DeKalb County Juvenile Court, continued the emotional plea telling families how important it is to use available family advocacy and law enforcement resources to combat deficiencies that plague youth development and lead to young people getting involved in the criminal justice system. The one-on-one and group youth and parent sessions allowed conversations and produced solutions in a *user and youth-friendly* environment for the participants.

The Atlanta area National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) representatives Ralif Ahmad and Brian Salter held youth and parent community law enforcement dialogues. The officers' provided role play and examples of how to defuse combative interaction with the police. Officer Ahmad indicated that the goal of any perceived negative law enforcement interaction is to end the situation mishap free in order to be able to take the negative concerns to the courts. Judge Haynes, Attorney Michael Sheridan, Todd Mosely, Georgia Child Support Division, Donnell Nash, Fulton County Juvenile Court and Rodney Knight, Mental Health Counselor led the mothers in a **"Both Parents Matter"** session.

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These subject matter experts engaged the mothers in conversations that answered questions on “*how best to navigate through family crisis that affect non-resident and single parents.*” Mr. Knight related that parents must be mindful of their negative interactions around their children and its impact on the children’s mental health and ability to function outside the home. Educators in attendance sought and received antidotes to counter students’ negative behaviors at school due to dysfunctional home environments. Regions Bank partnered with the fraternity to host financial education sessions and offered talent acquisition opportunities for professionals and college interns. Tiffany Kirk, Regions Bank, Community Development Manager, Vice President South Carolina and Georgia, held hands-on financial education exercises and dialogue which enlightened students and parents of financial services that are offered by Regions to advance families’ financial portfolios.

Andra Brantley, a CAU Administrator and CEO of Branelburn Strategy Group, Inc., facilitated the youth session “*Succeed in the Community, School and Home.*” Brantley gave pointers on CAU enrollment requirements and encouraged students to make college admission a primary goal. Reginal Crossley, Fulton County Youth Commission representative offered employment opportunities to youth ages 16-24 during the session. Tips on how to counter probation and criminal justice woes were revealed as Judith Fambro, Georgia Department of Community Supervision, Atlanta Judicial Circuit, told the youth of the importance of following rules and respecting authority. Tarquian Bates, math instructor at Morrow High School challenged students to invest in solid study habits and how to obtain tutorial assistance to aid in increasing standardize test scores.

A “Father’s Anger” session led by Jonathan Johnson caused panelist Roosevelt Muhammad, President/CEO TIME-ER, Calvin Horton, Basileus, Kappa Alpha Alpha Chapter to engage the fathers in discussions that traumatize fathers because of the lack of knowledge of available resources. The youth conference is one of a series of events that Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., is hosting at HBCUs nationwide. The second segment of the program is designed to return to CAU with a Youth Business Summit promoting the entrepreneurship and its theme “Owning Your Dream.”

Brothers throughout Georgia rallied to bring their mentees, single parents and non-resident parents to the conference. We were able to execute phenomenal life skill sessions where professional family advocates, law enforcement, judicial, financial and social services agents educated the participants on the laws, policies and resources available to assist them in developing their sons. As we continue to engage in direct action to support the youth, fathers and mothers with information and knowledge, we honor our founders and adhere to our principles.

Thank you for your leadership and for placing your foot prints in the sands of Omega History. Thus, we build!
Brother S. Earl Wilson

International Committee on Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Members



See the Fatherhood and Mentoring Information
www.omegafandm.org



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Brother Robert W. Fairchild, Fatherhood Initiative Advisor

About our Fatherhood and Mentoring Work:

Brothers, first let me thank you for the work that you are doing regarding Fatherhood and Mentoring. We are touching many people's lives, assisting them in working toward a better future. We are presently working on a process to collect data to show the results of our work and also accurately account for the numbers of individuals that we have touched. This data collection effort is also important as we work to engage in partnerships and pursue funding support.

We continue to do outstanding work in the mentoring area. My ask is that we increase our efforts to work with fathers. Several chapters have engaged in excellent



programs, partnering with agencies and fatherhood groups. As we identify those chapters that are working with these programs, we will highlight them so that you can see examples of what they are doing.

Some things to consider are:

1. When we are mentoring the young men, we are doing the fathers job. As you mentor the youth, invite the fathers so that they can see what you are doing. In the process they may learn something that will help them be a better father. This can be an excellent opportunity during your mentoring programs and when you have Youth Leadership Conferences to let them see how important their role is as father. When fathers show up during your sessions be prepared to have a conversation and share information with them.
2. A critical age group for fathers is 16 to 24. You may even ask the question in your mentoring groups, are you a father? You may be surprised. This age group is more likely to need help and assistance in dealing with the issues of being a father.
3. They say charity begins at home. Look internally in our chapters and especially the undergrad chapters. They are in that 16 to 24-year age group. In fact, that is one of the reasons we put together the Future Dads program, to catch them before they became a dad and work with them after by supporting them. They need the help and support of more seasoned fathers who have a lot of information to share.
4. Lastly, as you are mentoring the young men, share with them what it takes to be a good father. This should be a part of every mentoring curriculum. By doing this we can break the cycle of young men not knowing what their responsibilities are as a father. Most of them eventually will be a father.

Keep this in mind you are making a difference and as a result the world will be a better place for it.

Take care and, in Friendship!

Brother Bob Fairchild



In Atlanta, we build! "Cultivating Positive Male Youth Citizens Today and Future Fathers"
Clark Atlanta University (CAU) HBCU Fatherhood Youth Leadership Group, Dec 7, 2019

In Los Angeles: A 13-year-Old Mentee Gives Voice To “What It Means to Be A Man”

What Does it Mean to be a Man?

By Jonathan Nauls

Copyright March 2019

Presented at the Omega Psi Phi Gala October 26, 2019 - USC Campus,
Los Angeles, CA

MY NAME IS JONATHAN NAULS AND I AM THIRTEEN YEARS OLD. Thank you to Ed Young and to the men of Omega Psi Phi for inviting me to share with you this evening. Today at the youth conference we addressed important topics that affect us as young men--how to present ourselves in a way that demonstrates self-respect, self-determination, and self-worth. We talked about what it means to be a man. So, I pose the question. *What does it mean to be a man?*

I believe that a man:

Leads

A man protects

A man provides

and,

A man serves

How this is achieved is a life-long study, and takes commitment, discipline, hard work, and faith.

I went to my first Omega Psi Phi Youth Conference in October 2015 here on campus. I was happy to do the application—to fill out why I wanted to go and what future plans I had. It might come as a really big shock to you but I play basketball... and I hope to play in the NBA someday. And I was happy to share that on the application. But when it came to the actual event day, I have to be honest; I wasn't so happy about the 1-hour drive from Orange County to LA so early in the morning. I was not in the best of moods when we got here. As my mom put it, I had my lips stuck out.

We walked down the steps of the parking structure and across the huge field, past Starbucks, and into the open courtyard. And I couldn't believe it. More black men and black kids than I'd ever seen, EVER! And when they took us into the classroom, we learned real life information. Not that school information is not important, it is. But we learned about how to stay alive in dangerous street situations. We learned that it is possible to make a living, to be successful in something other than sports. The men today were sharing, teaching, and representing the four principles of Omega Psi Phi: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. I knew that I could be a leader. No ... that I was already a leader.

I just needed to make the choice to be that every day. To choose that for myself each day. Be responsible for my actions. To listen to others. To make choices that would be best for my family and not just for myself.

A man protects

My mom and I live in an apartment in Mission Viejo. One night, I heard drilling just outside our door. I jumped up and ran into the kitchen and grabbed a knife. My mom was up too, and so was our dog. All three of us stood in silence at the front door waiting to see what was going to happen. If someone was going to come in, I was ready for them. At first, I thought I'd open the door but decided not to. I'm protective. Not stupid. The drilling sound was loud; turns out someone was drilling the front door on the apartment next to us, and not on ours. The neighbors had moved out and the landlord was replacing the locks. It's up for debate if we handled it the best way. But I know my instincts were right. I wanted to protect my mom, my family, I wanted to protect what I love.

One day I hope to have a wife, and to have children. And I understand that real men don't abuse women, don't hit women, but love, and respect them and treat them with dignity.

Men nurture children too. Just in a different way than women. Real men use their minds, their conscience. Not their fists. A real man does not define himself by being a player.

(Continued Next Page)



A Man Provides

Taking care of yourself, and your family means caring for physical, financial, emotional, and spiritual needs. It's important to know what I want in life. But what I want can never be outside of what is best for my family, my community, and my relationship with God.

And A Man Serves

What does it mean to serve? I think it means to help others achieve their desires, to help individuals grow and develop as people. One of the ways the men of Omega Psi Phi serve is by giving scholarships. Omega Psi Phi scholarships provide a way to give to those young men who are on a path to success. Why scholarships? Why give? Because the act of giving changes you. When you give, you are growing yourself. You become stronger as others become stronger. Real men are not threatened by other people's greatness, they are inspired by it. I want to be a leader who shares, who listens, who builds, and who is confident enough in himself to appreciate the uniqueness and excellence in others.

In its first year of giving, Omega Psi Phi was able to offer its youth, scholarships totaling \$4000. That was a lot of money, and it was celebrated by both those who contributed and those who received. Over the years the gifts have increased, and tonight, the scholarship total has grown to 8 times the amount given the first year. For that we can say thank you for the generosity of the sponsors; thank you to the people who share the passion and the vision of this organization. And one day when I HAVE, I plan to serve... and I plan to give.

What drives a man to lead, to protect, provide, and to serve? I believe, it is Love.

Chance the Rapper says:

*What's better than tripping is falling in love
What's better than Letterman, Leno, Fallon, and all the above
What's better than popping bottles trying to ball in the club
What's better than followers is actually falling in love
What's better than eating is feeding your fam
There ain't nothing better than falling in love*

Love of self, love of family, love of community. And it is defined by our love of God. Our relationship with God. A man steps up and with God's help, accepts the responsibilities, and difficulties of being mature. Maturity is deferred gratification. What does that mean? It means I don't always get what I want when I want it. I have to wait for it sometimes. But I'm willing to work to get it—in due time. True masculinity is seeking justice, kindness, and above all, LOVE. Each day, a man's work is to look for God, in all things; his job, his relationships, his children. My daily challenge as I become a man is to bring God into my everyday life, and into my everyday decisions. And what drives me not to give up? LOVE! But I've got to be mature enough to let love lead. True maturity is wisdom in knowing God and His Will, and being able to carry it out. True maturity is knowing that in seeking success in all things, you will fail. I will fail. And that's ok. A man admits his failure, asks for forgiveness, and gets right back on his path and the right direction for his life.

I commit to this pursuit – to develop into my full potential as a man in all things.

To lead, protect and provide, and to give back to my community, with Love. I have a great example in Mr. Ed Young who is my mentor and who takes time to talk with me, and share his insight and resources. Mr. Young, will you stand so we can acknowledge you? And I am so grateful to Mr. Ronnie Walker and Mr. Ricky Lewis for this opportunity to share with all of you. Please stand, Mr. Walker and Mr. Lewis. And thank you to all of the brothers of Omega Psi Phi for the generous giving of your time, your talents, and your treasures. God Bless. ///

***Printed with Permission: A keynote speech By Jonathan Nauls given at the Omega Educational Foundation's
8th Annual Scholarship Gala, held at the University of Southern California's
Town and Gown Ballroom, October 26, 2019***

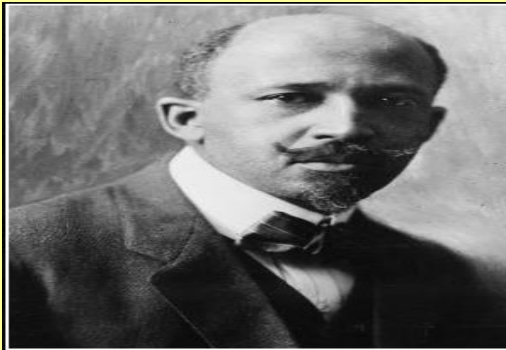
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Historically Black College Support: Brother Dr. David L. Beckley, Committee Chairman

THE OMEGA HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE SUPPORT COMMITTEE was created by Grand Basileus David Marion to enhance the College Education Fund (CEF) with the goal of increasing Omega's support of the 105 Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The CEF is a mandatory item for each Chapter of the Fraternity.

In addition to the Chapters' support, the HBCU Committee is asking brothers and supporters to give beyond the appropriated amount to each local chapter. Thus far this year, the Fraternity has made contributions to the following schools and higher education organizations: Jackson State University, Alabama State University, Rust College, Tougaloo College, Bennett College, the United Negro College Fund, and Thurgood Marshall College Fund, with plans to make several more contributions this year.

Brothers and friends may send contributions to the International Office designated for the HBCU Support Program. For further information, Brothers may contact: **David L. Beckley, Chair, Omega HBCU Support Committee at 662-252-2491.**



There is in this world no such force
as the force of a person determined
to rise. The human soul cannot be
permanently chained.

— W. E. B. Du Bois —

AZ QUOTES

International Notes Brother Thabiti Boone: Finding Program Recourses for Fatherhood Initiatives

Washington, DC – Brother Thabiti Boone wanted to share a potential Fatherhood Partnership and Funding opportunity. Last weekend prior to the Baltimore Presentation to the young father Antoine Vaughn, he attended the annual National Healthy Start Association Fatherhood, Men & Boys Summit, held in Washington, DC.

National Healthy Start Association is one of the leading, long standing Federal Agencies that has been committed to serving Fathers across in the Country. They were awarded over \$100 million for 5 years, for their 100 fatherhood sites. The 100 Fatherhood sites are receiving close to \$1 million each to specifically work with new young Fathers with a child between birth & 18 months.

Sites will focus on supporting Fathers like Antoine Vaughn, who has a 1-year old son. Some of the services include: Fatherhood/Parenting classes, Mentoring for the young, Fathers Employment & Housing assistance, Legal assistance, i.e. child support, Reentry/reentering society support. Within the partnership NHSA Fatherhood program sites can provide funding to the Fraternity on identified services rendered.

As Brother Fairchild has said, Omega has been working closely with NHSA leadership, CEO Ms. **Deborah Frazier** and Fatherhood Sites Coordinator Kenn Scarborough for several years exploring partnership efforts. Brother Boone has known Ms. Frazier & Mr. Scarborough for many years through the Fatherhood Movement. He thought it would be great to look at a possible partnership with them.

Ms. Frazier was a panelist a few years ago at our CBC Fatherhood Forum. She and some of her Colleagues attended our Grand Conclave in New Orleans.

Brother Fairchild was a panelist at their National Conference and has been a part of the talks and efforts regarding partnership. See attached photos Enclosed below, 100 NHSA program sites that includes working with Fathers.



Brother Thabiti Boone



Founders: Frank Coleman, Oscar J. Cooper, Ernest E. Just, Edgar A. Love

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

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Water is Life Initiative for Ghana, Africa

TEAM CSR, a non-profit Ghanaian Corporation, (TCSR) is requesting the Men of Omega to help fund Boreholes in rural areas of Ghana, West Africa, in response to the lack of Clean Water and major health issues in Ghana West Africa. They are seeking to raise funds to complete (24) Boreholes (\$4,000 each) in a 12-month period, starting November 2019 to November 2020.

How can the Men of Omega get involved? By providing cash donations to Omega Charities. Omega Charities will issue receipts for funds received, track funds that are being collected, as well as distributed, with line items.

What are the benefits of helping this cause? Your donations would help provide Boreholes, which could supply clean drinking water to over 62,000 Ghanaian People. Also, your donations will be a tax write off.

When is this initiative scheduled to take place? Now! IHQ has already committed funds to build (2) boreholes in the following communities (Akumfie & Kuntanase).

What other Omega Committees are involved? International Ways and Means. They will assist in raising funds from outside sources and monitor the progress of the build out of the Boreholes.

Contact Person: Brother Bleu Colquitt – International Ways and Means Chairman, bleu@ogdginc.com or (336) 345.2737.

To whom should we make our checks payable?

Omega Charities Inc.
3951 Snapfinger Parkway
Decatur, GA 30035
www.omegacharities.org

January 2020

Happy New Year!!!



**The Honorable
Gregory C. Pittman,
Esq.**

**"From time to time, I
will share commentary
and thoughts, from a
legal perspective on the
issue of Fatherhood."**

**Presiding Judge
14th Circuit Court
Family Division
Muskegon County
State of Michigan**

With the Holidays behind us and the New Year upon us, I want to draw our attention to an issue that will ... **Tax Time!**

Death and taxes are the two inevitabilities that none of us can escape. Accordingly, it is important that we take a moment to consider the tax consequences of what being a *non-custodial parent* (NCP) can/does bring.

The first and most important thing I will point out is this:

I AM NOT A CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT OR PROFESSIONAL TAX PREPARER, NOR AM I AUTHORIZED IN ANY MANNER OF ANY KIND TO OFFER OR HAVE TAX ADVICE FOLLOWED BY ANYONE.

THE INFORMATION I SHARE IN THIS BRIEF COLUMN SHOULD BE CONSIDERED INFORMATIONAL ONLY

PLEASE CONSULT WITH A LEGITIMATE TAXATION PROFESSIONAL ABOUT ANY STEPS THAT YOU PURSUE IN REGARD TO THE PREPARATION AND FILING OF YOUR TAX RETURN(S) WITH THE IRS.

Okay...we got that straight!

From the legal perspective, non-custodial parents, generally, are the payers of child support to the custodial parent. That child support is intended for the care and maintenance of the child(ren).

As payers of child support, non-custodial parents make the HUGE mistake of considering the child support payments that they make during the calendar year as a deductible expense.

As a general proposition, child support payments **ARE NOT** eligible to be treated as a deductible expense for income tax filing purposes. (*Please consult/confirm with a taxation professional*).

It is without fail, year after year, this issue arises between co-parents in some form or fashion. I see this issue raised by Self-Represented Litigants (SRL), in my court by way of motion. SRL, is the legally sanctioned term for people who handle their court matters on their own, without retaining an attorney. The non-custodial SRL will file a

motion before the court for the court to interpret their support payments as tax deductible. No court can grant the relief that that particular SRL is seeking for two important reasons:

1. As stated above, child support payments are not a tax-deductible expense.
2. The far more important and direct response from the court is that making determinations as to what is or is not tax deductible is not within the jurisdiction of state courts (where child support cases are decided).

Such a determination resides in the Federal Court or Federal Administrative system. The more usual scenario that happens is that NCP, when self-preparing their own tax return, simply takes the deduction...Bad Move!

NCP will get a Notice from the IRS and a bill to pay. Folks, ... do not mess with the IRS!

The State Family Court that presides over your case has jurisdiction to help with decisions about who can Claim a dependent child(ren) for income tax filing purposes. When co-parents are divorced or never married, the issue of who can claim a child(ren) becomes an important consideration. If the parents cannot agree as to how that issue will be resolved, the court has the jurisdictional authority to make the decision.

To summarize:

- Child support payments are neither taxable to the recipient of the payments, nor deductible to the payer. Do not try to claim those payments as a credit or deduction.
- The court that has jurisdiction over the child support case does have the authority to decide who can claim the child(ren) from year to year. Generally, the payer of child support must be current in child support payments in order to be able to make claim the dependent child.
- Each child that is eligible to be claimed can only be claimed by one or the other parent. A child CANNOT be claimed by both parents in the same tax year. This happens quite often, and invariably results in an additional tax bill from the IRS for a disallowed deduction...or worse!
- If you are unsure about how to handle child support payments, for tax filing purposes, please consult a tax professional before you take any action.

I AM NOT A TAX PROFESSIONAL AND DO NOT HOLD MYSELF OUT AS SUCH. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS NOT OFFERED AS PROFESSIONAL, ACTIONABLE TAX PREPARATION ADVICE.

As with everything involving co-parenting a child, this issue is best handled with clear and timely communication. **Failed communication between mother and father will result in time and money wasted in court, and/or an intervention from the IRS!**

I wish you a healthy and prosperous 2020!

In Friendship, I am

Brother Gregory C. Pittman, Esq.

From Around the Districts:



"Laws are not perfect. We will never legislate our way to a post racial, discrimination-free America, but we can create new standards that are less systematically and institutionally biased to benefit one segment of the population while denigrating and discriminating against others."

From the book, OPEN SEASON: Legalized Genocide of Colored People, by Ben Crump, Esq.

1st District: Brother Anthony Lilley, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring



Waterbury, CT – Lambda Rho Chapter, along with the Department of Children and Families and New Opportunities, is engaged in a 12-week program that teaches fathers how to become better parents and how to navigate Child Protection Services. It had its first graduation class of its 24/7 Dads Program.

Most of these fathers are involved with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and are

either trying to get custody of their children or reunify with their children who are in foster care. The program meets once a week. Eight Fathers graduated from the program. Brother Lilley who also works for DCF spoke at the graduation and sometimes helps to facilitate the groups. The next group of fathers set to graduate will be on 12/17/19.

Iota Chi Chapter Hosts Boys & Girls Club Youth at the First District's Event, Fostering Diversity in Banking



Adults pictured from left to right: Quincy Miller, President and Vice Chairman, Eastern Bank; Bro. Sharrieff Christmas, Gamma 1991; 1st District Fatherhood/Mentoring Chair, Bro. Anthony Lilley, Tau Iota 1996; 1st District Representative, Bro. Francois Fils-Aime, Iota Chi 1996; the youth chaperone from the Yawkey Club of Roxbury.

Roxbury, MA – On November 16, 2019, Iota Chi Chapter supported the District’s inaugural **Fostering Diversity in Finance** event; an initiative designed to highlight opportunities for people of color in the banking and finance industries.

Iota Chi Chapter played host to a group of young men from the Yawkey Boys’ and Girls’ Club of Roxbury. The event honored Brother Marvin Gilmore (Eta Phi 1950), a trail blazer in banking and finance who founded what is now **One United Bank**. The Keynote speaker for the event was Quincy Miller, President and Vice Chairman of Easter bank. Mr. Miller is one of the highest-ranking executives in banking and finance in the Greater Boston area.

“We like to take every opportunity we can to expose our youth to positive members of the community”, said Brother Charles Wilson, Iota Chi Basileus. “Events like this one hosted by the 1st District are priceless in that they expose these boys to Black men who have achieved success in areas other than sports and entertainment.”

Both Brother Gilmore and Mr. Miller made targeted comments to the young men from the Yawkey club, motivating them to follow their dreams, work hard and never let their race or where they come from limit them from climbing to new heights.

The overarching theme directed to these young men was - *If we can do it, then you can too!*

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for 1th Quarter 2020 is March 15th; information will cover January, February and March, 2020.

Newsletter Goal: To include information from each District each quarter about Fatherhood Initiatives and Mentoring: Youth Leadership Conferences, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Brother You’re on My Mind.

Each District Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Chairman shall submit Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring information from their District each quarter to: geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net

2nd District: Brother Donald Williams, III, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring



L-R: Brother Donald Williams, 2nd District FIMC Chairman; Mr. Joseph T. Jones, Jr; Antoine Vaughn; Brother Thabiti Boone, Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) moderator who presented a Fraternity Congressional Award to 22-year old Dad Antoine Vaughn.

Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Fatherhood Forum

Brother Thabiti Boone, Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) moderator, presented our Fraternity Congressional Award to a young 22-year old Dad name Antoine Vaughn who was a panelist along with his mentor Mr. Joseph T. Jones, Jr.

Antoine was spotlighted at the CBC in September and shared his heartfelt story about overcoming Fatherhood obstacles. Despite the struggle, Antoine is determined to stay engaged, stay connected and involved in his 1-year old child's life!

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., under the leadership of Grand Basileus, Dr. David Marion, Chairman Earl Wilson, Fatherhood Initiative Mentoring Committee, Robert Fairchild, Fatherhood Advisor and 2nd District Committee Chairman, Donald Williams II, along with Brother Thabiti Boone, presented young father Antoine Vaughn with the Forum award and a \$50 gift card.

Second District Committee Chairman Donald Williams and Brother Thabiti Boone, visited Antoine at his Program, the Center for Urban Families, Baltimore, MD to personally honor and present him with this award. The award had additional inscription that read "Continue Being an Outstanding Father".

Mr. Joseph T. Jones, Jr., CEO for the Center for Urban Families, along with agency staff and program participants were all in attendance to applaud Antoine for his recognition. Mr. Jones, Antoine's mentor, was presented with a Game Changer T-Shirt. He is Founder/CEO Center for Urban Families in Baltimore.

The Center has been serving communities for more than 20-years. The Center for Urban Families is one of the Nation's top programs that is focused on strengthening Fathers and Families in the City of Baltimore.

The Center's mentors and dads plan to bring their young boys to the 2020 Game Changer Conference for young males Saturday, March 21st at The Universities at Shady Grove.

Key Message: Mentoring Matters - The Fatherhood struggle is real especially for young dads to stay in their children's life! By Brother Thabiti Boone

New York, NY - NYC Fatherhood organization F.A.I.T.H. (Fathers Alive in the Hood), hosted their annual Fathers March and Symposium Saturday November 2nd. The March was held in the Borough of Queens, which comprises some of the toughest neighborhoods.

Over 200 Fathers, Men, Women, Children and Community Groups, joined together for a 2.5-mile March lifting up the importance of Fathers protecting our Families and Community and taking a stance against violence and killing of our Black Men and Boys.

The March culminated with a Symposium that featured a panel discussing the role, concerns, services and resources for Fathers. The Symposium included a community and health resource tables for Fathers. Brother Boone was a special guest speaker, sharing remarks on behalf of Omega. The March and Symposium was well attended and well received. ///

WHAT'S COMING IN THE NEW YEAR!

- **DISTRICTS CALENDARS**
- **Special Event Meet-ups**
- **Fatherhood Initiatives**
- **Mentoring Programs**
- **District Chapter Father of the Year Program**
- **District Chapter Mentoring Program of the Year**

Mu Nu Chapter/Housing Opportunity Commission (HOC) 24/7 Dads Initiatives in Partnership

By Brother Greg Boykin, Mu Nu Chapter



Montgomery County, MD –Mu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., kicked off a new season teaming with the Housing Opportunity Commission (HOC) in Montgomery County, MD.

As a new member attending the 24/7 Fatherhood initiative for the first time, I was surprised at the week-long seminar for men who want to become better parents and effective Dads. Fathers from all ethnicities shared their experience with being a Dad. As a seasoned Dad, I found the 24/7 Dad training to be very insightful. It was interesting listening to the Dads from Africa share culture differences with the African American dads as they adjust to the American way of life and as it relates to the process young boys experience transitioning from boyhood to manhood.

Key Message: All Fathers need support and opportunities to share their experiences to work on becoming the best Dad they can be. Fatherhood is very important and the Father's role is critical in the healthy development of the lives of our children, family and community.

The 24/7 seminar training is definitely a meaningful way to advance opportunities for men to become effective Dads. The seminar quote used throughout the week was “any boy can be a Father; however, it takes a man to be a DAD”.

2nd District Sponsors “Read Across the District Day”

New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland – During the 4th quarter, the 2nd District Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee supported the newest District-wide initiative – **Read Across the District** on Tuesday, November 12, 2019. This inaugural event took place as part of Achievement Week Celebration where countless students and schools were impacted in the five-state District.

According to several sources including the National Fatherhood Initiative, young people, especially our

males, are not comprehending what they read by the 3rd grade. As a result, their growth and development are significantly impacted. The National Assessment of Educational Progress asserts that only about one – third of our nations' fourth graders can read proficiently. These numbers have not changed significantly in the past 15 years.

The 1st Vice-District Representative, Brother Roni Kent, was the brain child of the District-wide – Read Across the District initiative that encouraged 80

Chapters as part of Achievement Week Celebration. The objective was to have an event during Achievement Week where all Chapters on the same day engage children to promote the importance of becoming proficient in reading. Local chapters met with Principals and school administrators during the summer period to properly plan the day for Omega men to read and conduct discussions with the children about the importance of reading and learning.

The four District-wide committee chairmen that provided leadership were: Assault on Illiteracy, Social Actions, Achievement Week and Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee. The Chapters were encouraged to engage schools in their communities during the National Education Week (which coincided with our Achievement Week) to read approximately 30 minutes to one hour in class for reading and discussing what was read.

Key Message: Literacy is the foundational of all successful learning! Without reading, students do not have the skills they need to be successful in their academic careers, and their life options are limited. The Omega man's role is extremely critical; it can be a game changer by teaming and working with schools in our communities year around.

Once students fall behind in reading, they tend to fall faster and further behind their peers with each year. Brothers are highly encouraged to find two 3rd graders to mentor and help them improve reading proficiency, reading comprehension, and fluency, and sight-word reading.

- The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Reach and Impact – 750 Chapters and 14 Countries.
- 2nd District has 80 Chapters – If each Omega Man mentors 4 male students, just two students in the third grade and two eighth graders that will truly be a Game Changer!

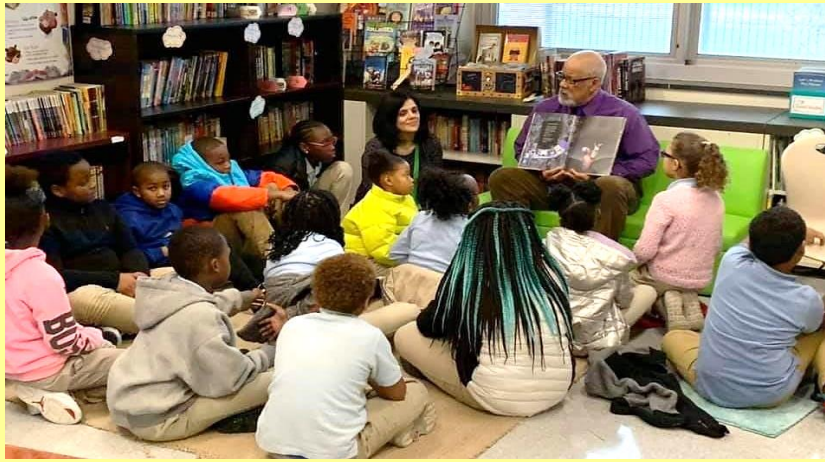
Gamma Mu Nu Chapter

Brothers reading with the Ques at Silverlake Elementary in Middletown, DE.



Brothers of the Dynamic Delta Upsilon Chapter participated in the first ever 2nd District “Read Across the District Day” at Kilmer Elementary School, Trenton, NJ. A huge THANK YOU to Principal Bethea and her staff for partnering with our chapter to reinforce the importance of reading to her students!

See Our Website: omegafandm.org



Theta Mu Mu Chapter Omega men in Baltimore County visited Newtown Elementary School, and read to students in the Project Stream program. The reading was part of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., 2nd District Read Across the District Day during the fraternity's Achievement Week/Founders Day activities.



BROTHERS OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS NU LAMBDA LAMBDA Chapter participated in the Read Across the District initiative for the Mighty 2nd District. Brothers joined together at Joseph H. Brensinger P.S. #17 in Jersey City, NJ to read “Spookley the Square Pumpkin” to the 3rd and 4th graders while the 6th graders enjoyed “The Story Song of Abiyoyo.” A total of 176 students participated.



Maryland - Tau Lambda Lambda Chapter known as the Southern Maryland Ques read to their students during Read Across the District Day. Our students truly enjoyed it.



Omicron Iota Chapter in Westchester, NY read to more than 100 students at the Friendship for Tots school. The reading program was part of the Fraternity's 2nd District Read Across the District Day. The activity was held at the beginning of the fraternity's Achievement Week/Founders Day activities.



Brothers of Mu Rho

Annapolis, Maryland – Mu Rho Chapter participated in the Read Across America Program at Mills Parole Elementary School in Annapolis. While at the school, Brothers George Gunder and Cornell Walker visited several classrooms and read books to approximately 30 elementary school students.

The brothers also interacted with the students by answering questions about the stories read, sharing information about themselves and allowing the students

to express their opinions on a variety of random topics. In addition, time was spent with a school counselor who provided a quick tour of the school, introduced some of the staff, and provided information on the demographics and history of the school. The visit ended with both brothers being thanked for volunteering their time educating, uplifting, and inspiring the students and staff of Parole Elementary School. ///

Eta Pi Chapter: Making an Impact in New Jersey

Omega men in East Orange, New Jersey Impacted Students with Read Across District initiative



Mayor Ted R. Green and his fellow brothers Basileus Barry Devone, J. Garfield Jackson, Jr., and Matt Stevens representing the Eta Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. stopped by Jackson Academy and participated in Read Across the District, an initiative of the Fraternity's Achievement Week. In addition to reading, the men also dropped some pearls of wisdom

on the students and encouraged them to help make a difference in this world by following the fraternity's Cardinal Principles: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift.

#eastorange #onecity #onecommunity #onegoal #progress #shareandrepot





As part of Eta Pi Chapter's Achievement Week activities, brothers participated in the first annual 2nd District "Read Across the District Initiative", created to foster students' interest in reading.

The project included five schools across two school districts (Orange Township Public Schools and East Orange Public Schools). Seventeen (17) classrooms were visited servicing over 350 students in grades Pre-K-6! This was just a small part of the chapter's engagement strategy regarding schools-based initiatives. Today was a good day!

Mu Nu Chapter Brothers impacted students at Francis Scott Key Middle School as part of its Community Service Group Mentoring Project



Silver Spring, MD – November 12, 2019, Brothers of Mu Nu Chapter participated in the 1st annual Read Across the 2nd District Day. Mu Nu Chapter Brothers Lorenzo Prillman, Shawn Jenkins and Jerry Jones participated in the one day event at Francis Scott Key Middle School, located in Montgomery County, MD.

Brothers participated in class reading/lesson discussions in ESOL and U.S. History classrooms. Brother Shawn Jenkins took an active role in supporting ESOL students reading of a fictional text and assisting students with how to identify the main idea of a reading passage. Brothers Jerry Jones and Lorenzo Prillman

spent time visiting with several U.S. History classes that were preparing students to view the new film titled "Harriet."

Brothers participated in a reading/discussion activity which focused on students learning about the history of slavery in the United States and the role that Harriet Tubman played leading slaves to freedom, before the Civil War, as the conductor of the Underground Railroad. Thank you to Brothers Lorenzo Prillman, Shawn Jenkins and Jerry Jones for supporting this important initiative and for supporting the education of MCPS students. ///

Tau Pi Chapter Brothers in Howard County, MD impacted two elementary school's students with Read Across the District initiative. Guilford Elementary School located in Columbia, Maryland and Cradlerock Elementary School. Each reading session lasted 30 minutes equaling 180 minutes of total service hours. Brothers Milton Darby, Phil Julien, Kurt Walls, Eric Hebron, Bakari Khalid, Brian Dozier, Jerry Watkins, Marcus McDonald, Markice Lewis and Frank Miles are very much appreciated.



“Every student of political science, every student of political economy, every student of economics knows that the race can only be saved through a solid industrial foundation; that the race can only be saved through political independence. Take away industry from a race, take away political freedom from a race and you have a slave race.” Marcus Garvey



PHI UPSILON

NEPTUNE, NJ – OMEGA MEN participated in the Mighty Second District’s *Read Across The District*. Representing about a quarter of its active membership, Phi Upsilon was honored to read to children at the Lenna W. Conrow Elementary school and Lakewood Middle School. The initiative was coordinated by Brothers David Brown, Matthew Stevens, and Colonel (ret) Jay S. Jackson,

The program took place at the Conroy schools where each man was assigned 3 time slots to read to

children ages 3 to 4, with each class having approximately 15 students each.

“It was an experience of a lifetime to see over 300 wide-eyed treasures and future leaders, as we read at the Lakewood middle School,” said Brother Jackson who led the program directed to the 8th graders and JROTC Cadets. ///



READERS ARE LEADERS AND LEADERS READ BOOKS!

Please see the “Read Across the District” Report for the Eta Pi (Montclair, New Jersey) Chapter.

1. Number of Schools: 5
2. Number of Brothers: 10 (15% of Chapter)
3. Number of Students serviced: 300
4. Publicity; See Orange School Website and Facebook Page: www.orange.k12.nj.us

3rd District: Brother Raymond Bell, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

Hard Work – Works!!!



The Omega U Program participated in a Trojan Warrior Army Reserved Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) presentation at The Virginia State University (VSU) on October 19, 2019 in Ettrick Virginia. LTC. Tony Wrice, Mrs. Keitha Orth, and MAJ Ahmad Andrews poured into the students with their personal experiences and pearls of wisdom on leadership, academic success, and positive choices yielding positive consequences.

Omega U

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, learning from failure, and HARD WORK!"

General Colin Powell

Ettrick, Virginia – THE OMEGA U PROGRAM OF PI LAMBDA LAMBDA participated in a Trojan Warrior Army Reserved Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) presentation at The Virginia State University (VSU) on October 19, 2019 in Ettrick Virginia. Omega U brought 110 students from Prince William County Public Schools (PWCPs) to listen and interact with VSU military science department leadership in learning about their ROTC program, collegiate entry qualifications, collegiate scholarships, leadership, academic excellences, and hard work.

The Omega U Program has over 215 students from 3rd grade to graduating seniors from PWCPs, and is the largest male mentoring organization within the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. The program executes over 475 hours of mentoring activities through after school and weekend events to 190 male students and includes the Fred Lynn STEP team of 35 female students.



LTC. Tony Wrice | Trojan Warrior Army Reserved Officer's Training Corps | October 2019



Mrs. Keitha Orth | VSU ROTC | October 2019

LTC TONY WRICE (TOP), Department and Military Science Chair of the VSU ROTC Program spoke to students on staying mentally and physically fit throughout life by exercising routinely, reading, and exemplifying leadership at every stage of their lives. LTC Wrice serves as 26th professor of the distinguished ROTC program at VSU.

MRS. KEITHA ORTH (LEFT) serves as the Recruiting Operation Officer at VSU ROTC, and served as the host presenter to the young men and women of the Omega U program and STEP team. Mrs. Orth led the ROTC program brief with emphasis on reading and writing to grow stronger comprehension and analysis skillsets. She encouraged the students to start now in developing positive academic routines that will help them throughout their lives in different career fields.



Bro. MAJ Ahmad Andrews | VSU | October 2019

BRO. MAJOR AHMAD ANDREWS (LEFT) spoke to students of the Omega U Program about consequences of positive and negative choices, living life with no regrets, and working hard. Major Andrews interacted with students by having them chant “hard work – works” several times prior to delivering his oration to the 110 students in the audience.

Major Andrews serves as Director for the Fred Lynn Step Team for the Omega U Program. He enlisted in the United States Navy prior to enrolling into Tuskegee University Army ROTC program where he became a commissioned officer upon graduating. Major Andrews is a proud member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and is the 3rd District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Superior Service Award Recipient for 2019.

Mount Vernon High School (MVHS): Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter, **MANUP** Mentoring Program



Bro. MAJ Ahmad Andrews | MANUP Program | October 2019

Fairfax, VA October 2019 – The **MANUP** *Mentoring Program* featured Brother Major Ahmad Andrews on October 30, 2019 at Mount Vernon High School (MVHS). Brother Major Andrews addressed 100 high school students challenging them to make positive choices, work hard, and consistently pursue academic excellence. He quoted the famous Booker T. Washington stating, *“associate yourself with people of good quality, for it is better to be alone than in bad company. The individual who can do something that the world wants done will, in the end, make his way regardless of his race.”*

The MANUP mentoring program is for young males and is sponsored by the Psi Alpha Alpha chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated. The MANUP program partners with Mt. Vernon High School and Gum Springs in Fairfax Virginia and has over 60 students from 6th graders to graduating seniors. The MANUP program consists of mentoring students thru exposure to various careers and pre-college initiatives through lecture series and field trips throughout the scholastic calendar year.

Five Swarms One Hive | November 14 2019



Prince William County, VA – The Omega U introduced a co-ed step team led by Bro. MAJ Ahmad Andrews. Brother Andrews serves as the Director for the Fred Lynn Middle School Step team. This year marked the inaugural year of the Fred Lynn Step at the request of School Administration, parents, and students. The co-ed STEP has over 45 male and female students from Fred Lynn.

Lynn Middle School. Omega U is the largest mentoring program in Prince William County and The Fred Lynn Middle School is the largest Middle School Step Team and Female Mentoring Program in Prince William County Public Schools (PWCPS). Omega U focuses on mentoring to all students from various background to expose, enrich, educate, and excite students while partnering with PWCPS. ///

Students meet and practice 2 to 3 times a week for their performance routine and conditioning at Fred

PWC Youth Summit | November 16 2019



Woodbridge, VA – The Omega U Program participated in the 2019 Prince William County (PWC) Youth Summit at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) in Woodbridge VA on November 16, 2019. The youth summit had over 300 students from PWC and surrounding communities that participated in a powerful day of learning, exciting activities, community service, and fun.

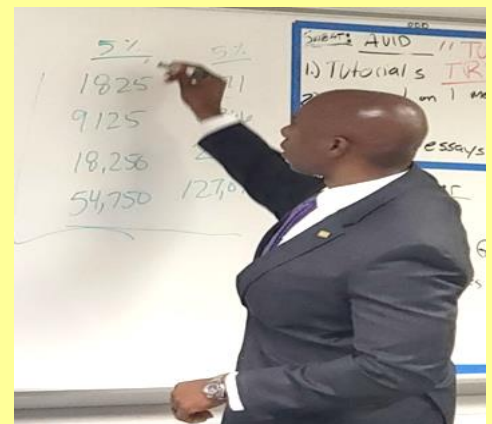
The summit is a free event and specifically targeted to male and female youth in middle and high school. Students participate in several engaging exhibits and workshops addressing issues important to youth which includes: STEM, Personal Finance, Health, Social Media, Social Justice, Effective Communication, and Life Skills. ///

The Man Up Program



The MANUP program provided a financial literacy workshop to students at Mt. Vernon High School (MVHS) on December 13, 2019 in Fairfax County Virginia with guest speaker Will Thomas III, CFP from Eagle Strategies.

THE MANUP MENTORING PROGRAM featured a financial literacy workshop from guest speaker Will Thomas III on December 13, 2019 at Mt. Vernon High School. Mr. Thomas spoke to students on financial basics from developing good financial discipline and mindset. These basics covered areas from understanding the differences between simple and compound interest, the time value of money, and the importance to collect interest from money and not pay interest. In addition, Mr. Thomas delivered a riveting oration on wealth, wealth management, the definition of wealth and transference of money in creating wealth.





Will Thomas III has been in the financial services industry for over 18 years. He has served in several roles from Sr. Mortgage Loan Officer, to Insurance Agent, to Private Banking and currently a Certified Financial Planner with Eagle Strategies, the Registered Investment Advisor Company of New York Life. Mr. Thomas earned his Certified Investment Management Analyst Certification (CIMA) from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. In addition, Mr. Thomas is also a Certified Trust and Financial Advisor (CTFA). ///

“Harriet”



The Omega U Program spent the day at the movies watching “Harriet” on December 7, 2019.

The Omega U Program watched the movie “Harriet” at AMC 18 Potomac Mills in Woodbridge Virginia on December 7, 2019. Over 100 students participated with mentors of Omega U in watching the story of “Harriet” based on the life of abolitionist, Harriet Tubman. Students learned about the components underground railroad system and historical events and legislation leading up to the civil war.

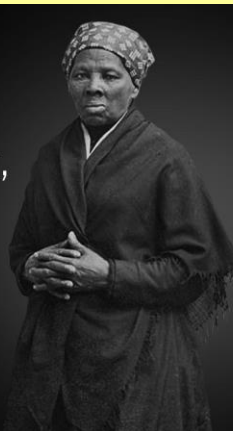
Wade in the water Wade in the water Children wade, in the
water God's gonna trouble the water Who's that young girl
dressed in red
Wade in the water Must be the children that Moses led God's
gonna trouble the water
Wade in the water, wade in the water children Wade in the
water, God's gonna trouble the water
Who's that young girl dressed in white Wade in the water Must
be the children of the Israelite
Oh, God's gonna trouble the water
Wade in the water, wade in the water children Wade in the
water, God's gonna trouble the water
Who's that young girl dressed in blue Wade in the water Must
be the children that's coming through, God's gonna trouble the
water, yeah
Wade in the Water
Eva Cassidy



If you hear the dogs, keep going.
If you see the torches in the woods,
keep going. If there's shouting after you,
keep going. **Don't ever stop.**
Keep going. **If you want a taste
of freedom, keep going.**

– Harriet Tubman

AZ QUOTES



This event exposed students within PWC (Prince Williams County) on life of Harriet Tubman. The movie Harriet was an opportunity for students to fellowship with one another while learning about American history. The movie was filled with emotions where students cheered and clapped as they were immersed and engaged throughout the film. Students were encouraged by the strength, passion, and perseverance of the Harriet Tubman quest for freedom during slavery and her commitment and dedication for her uplifting and leading other slaves to freedom prior to and during the Civil War from 1861 – 1865.

4th District: Brother Jerry Leftwich, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

Omega Gents – Building Tomorrow's Leaders Today



Institute, WV – Xi Alpha Chapter and Theta Psi Chapter established an Omega Gents program for high school aged students. The purpose of the Omega Gents Mentoring Initiative is to empower young black males to succeed in life. This is based on social learning, wherein the mentors (Brothers of Xi Alpha and Theta Psi Chapters of The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.) provide positive big brother figures, role models, father figures, and/or life coaches for the mentees (male high school students).

The mentors help the mentees navigate in the areas of:

***Manhood** – being responsible for their actions, and making positive decisions to better their life; but when bad decisions are made, learn from the negative consequences.

***Scholarship** – pursuit of knowledge by making lifelong learning a priority. Will emphasize the study of black history, knowledge of current events/trends, memorization of poetry, and financial literacy.

***Perseverance** – understand how to navigate beyond difficulties and never give up on goals.

***Uplift** – community activism, reaching back to middle school and elementary school aged.

This is an ongoing mentoring program.



Harriet Tubman Movie



Charleston, WV – On November 30, 2019, 100 children from 4th grade to High School from the greater Kanawha County were able view the Harriet Tubman movie. Xi Alpha knew the power this movie would have in inspiring youth, so we wanted to partner in this endeavor.

Hence, Xi Alpha transported 10 children (3 of our Omega Gents, and others who are also mentored by

Omegas) to the movie and each of the children who were blessed to attend expressed their appreciation and great conversation after the movie. Xi Alpha did not just provide transportation for 10 youth, but also functioned as chaperones.

This was a memorable experience for every young person; free popcorn, free drink, and an amazing movie was there reward.

“Good Morning, Have a Great Day”



Charleston, WV – On November 22, 2019, Brothers of Xi Alpha greeted every student at Stonewall Jackson Middle School. Some of the students knew some of the Omega men, but nearly every student was open to shaking hands and reciprocated the kindness the Omegas shared. Scriptures teaches that the power of life and death is in the tongue. Omega men know the power of words, and thought it would be nice to speak well to students as they enter their school. Every child was greeted with: “good morning, have a great day,” “good morning, be great today,” “good morning, be blessed,” and similar salutations.

The teachers, safety officers, and principal were extremely thankful for our demonstration of concern, and requested we do this more often. The school is an urban middle school and many of the students do not get the opportunity to see positive black men routinely. We have previously conducted mentoring events at this school and plan to continue this worthwhile endeavor to make the positive difference in the students’ days and their life.

Omega Gents Mentoring of Columbus: Social Action Program of Mu Iota Chapter



Columbus, Ohio – The Omega Gents mentoring program is a social action program of Mu Iota Chapter, an Unincorporated Association of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. This program is in its second year serving youth in middle school and high school youth in the Columbus Central Ohio Community.

All Mu Iota mentors have been trained and certified from the Mentor Center of Central Ohio. The Omega Gents mentoring program is designed to teach and encourage middle school and high school males to positively define, plan, pursue and achieve their life goals.

Mentoring Services

Our mentoring Services include monthly education modules that deal with real life scenarios, guest speakers, workshops, teen summits and symposiums, career exploration field trips, college preparation counseling, community service opportunities, and life coaching. The topics covered during our bi-weekly educational programming and workshops include:

- Self-identity, Self Esteem & Self-Assessment
- Goal Setting & Planning
- Academic Achievement & College Preparedness
- Developing Positive Relationships
- Etiquette & Respecting Women
- Community Service
- Health & Well-being
- Financial literacy
- Goal setting
- Dealing with life challenges

The ultimate goal of Omega Gents Mentoring Program is to reduce delinquent behavior among urban male adolescents and increase and improve academic achievement. We also strive to help all young men visualize their life goals in regards to higher education and career planning. It is the belief of the Mu Iota Chapter, that once these young men are aware of their responsibility to self, family, and the community, they are more likely to become today's young scholars and tomorrow's community leaders. It is our aim to help these youth recognize the greatness that they possess within.

Members of Omega Gents benefit by experiencing personal development essential to their long-term success. It is the goal of Mu Iota Chapter to help them develop academically, socially and emotionally. This growth will take place through various support services and exposure to new positive experiences that reinforce critical life skills.

Mu Iota Chapter strive to help these young men develop a sense of community by participating in a wide range of service projects. The youth will also build confidence necessary to visualize, believe and pursue their dreams.

This program starts in September and goes through June of each year. The Omega gents mentoring program emphasizes the group mentoring model. The program is facilitated by Co-Chairs, Darrell Strickland and Sheldon Smith. Brother Kendall also facilitates and is our current Basileus. Brother Lee is an Entrepreneur and motivational speaker. Brother Sheldon Smith also serves as the parent liaison, and grant writer. Brother Anthony Wilson is director of Finance and programming and Brother Darrel Strickland serves as lead Mentor. Together, the brothers of Mu Iota chapter, Columbus, Ohio, work to provide resources and speakers for the program which meet twice a month - every second and fourth Saturday at the Columbus YMCA North.

The Omega Gents also participate in various youth teen symposiums and events that are sponsored by the Pan Hellenic council and other youth organizations in Central Ohio. Last year the Gents participated in the Ohio State Mentoring for Medicine seminar, the annual Columbus Pan Hellenic Teen summit, hosted by Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Youth Symposium, hosted by Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority and Project Alpha, Teen

Symposium, sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. The project Alpha symposium had over 150 male youth in attendance.

The Omega Gents also participated in the youth city wide viewing of the movie **“The Hate U Give.”** In October, Omega Gents took a career exploration

fieldtrip to the NCAA museum located in Indianapolis, Indiana. While there, the Gents attended an Indiana Pacers game. This year, the Gents have participated in the **“My Brother’s Keeper”** Youth Symposium. In 2020, the Gents will participate in various Pan Hellenic Youth Symposiums throughout Columbus, Ohio. ///

Beta Iota Fathers Help the Cincinnati Community at Thanksgiving

Cincinnati, OH – The Brothers of Beta Iota Chapter recognize the importance of the stability that Fathers bring to the family especially during the holidays. To this end, the **“Cincinnati Ques”** partnered with a local Boys and Girls Club to donate and deliver dinners to families in the area. The families who were recipients of the holiday meals were surprised and grateful. Beta Iota Chapter sang the Watchword.



On Saturday December 7th, Beta Iota Chapter concluded a community event that supported their city-wide mentoring efforts. In partnership with local television station WCPO channel 9, the chapter manned a local Kroger grocery store for 8 hours to collect toys donated by the chapter and the community to give to the Cincinnati Children’s Home. The **“Cincinnati Ques”** collected close to 1500 toys that were given to the local children’s organization that strengthens families through guidance, training and assistance. Beta Iota Chapter and Cincinnati Children’s Home can now provide much needed Christmas gifts to children who might not otherwise receive any.



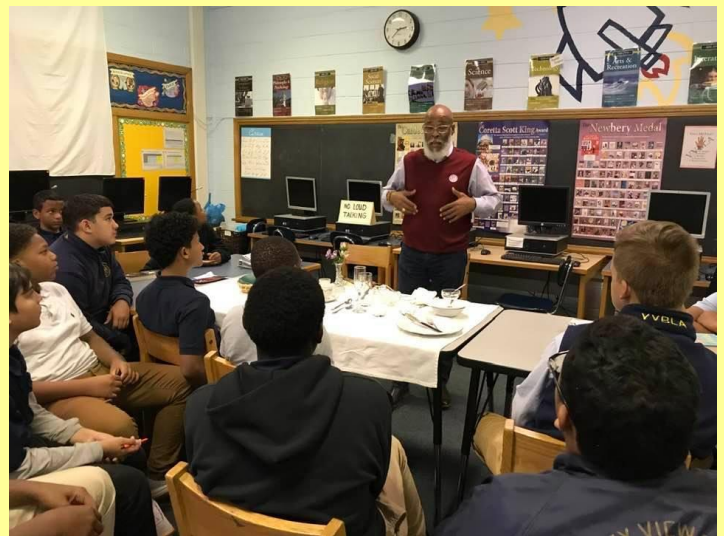
Zeta Omega Makes Positive Changes by Mentoring Middle School Boys

by Brother Dell Robinson, drobque10@yahoo.com and Brother Damon Scott, damonscott67@gmail.com,

CLEVELAND, OH—Sixth, seventh, and eighth grades can be such a pivotal time in a young boy's life...a time when many of them begin to experience various rites of passage into young adulthood. Knowing how important this time is, the brothers of Zeta Omega Chapter have been spending time mentoring young middle school boys in the Greater Cleveland community.

Since the beginning of the academic year, brothers have conducted monthly mentoring sessions at Valley View Boys Leadership Academy, and weekly sessions at Marion Sterling School, Franklin D. Roosevelt Academy, A.J. Rickoff School, and Citizens Academy.

This effort is led by Zeta Omega's Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee, which is Co-Chaired by Brothers James Wingo (70 Phi Sigma) and Larry LaPrade (09 Zeta Omega). As part of his own consulting firm, Brother Wingo also conducts a weekly workshop called Positive Changes. The ten-week program focuses on workshop topics such as Manhood and fatherhood, legacy building, men's health, stumbling blocks for high school, interacting with girls,



social media, future planning, creating vision boards, and etiquette.

There have been some breakthrough moments, some coming during the workshops that are either sensitive, or the most interesting to the boys. For example, the Manhood and Fatherhood session can bring out frustration the boys have regarding their own fathers. Some of them tend to dislike and or express anger towards their fathers for either not being in their

lives, or even not knowing their fathers. The discussion can help them better understand the difficulties that their fathers may have and how they need to break the cycle if they eventually become a father. Another goal is to address the misnomer that materialistic items are necessary to be a good father.



In the Etiquette workshop, Brother Wingo teaches the young men about proper hygiene, the correct way to tie a necktie and to shine their shoes, how to set a formal dining table and the proper use of utensils, and how to have appropriate conversation during dinner, while on a date, or in an interview. As a reward for their efforts, five students from each school get to accompany Brother Wingo to a restaurant where they can practice the skills they learned.



In a session entitled, “Girls, Girls, Girls” the young men are usually excited to talk about the subject matter. When asked about the first thing that comes to mind



when they hear/think about girls, some of their responses include body parts, demeanor, frustrations, and even some unruly comments. However, when asked what if the “girl” was their mother, grandmother, or sister, they retract all of their previous comments and some respond “*Oh no, not my mom though!*” Then the tone of the conversation changes as they continue to talk about girls, women, dating, and even domestic violence.

For the Future Planning and Vision Board workshop, some of the young men struggle with having a vision of their future. Some of them do not see themselves achieving their dreams or even know how to dream. This workshop shows them how to express a dream, and then utilize poster boards to express their vision. They look for and cut out images from magazines to represent what is possible for them.

The boys typically start with cutting out images of athletes, but eventually progress to those that depict what type of careers they want to have, what their families will look like, places to travel, and what success really looks like for them. The boys are given magazines that depict sports, science and technology, careers, homes, outdoor life, fashion, etc. For some of the young men, it may be the first time they have read some of these magazines or have seen some of the images.

According to Brother Wingo, he continually tells his students that “You CAN break the cycle of your family circumstances with better choices. It does not mean that you are better than them, but that you are taking advantage of opportunities afforded to you. Habits for manhood must be practiced on a daily basis . . . you cannot just turn them on when you want. And never be afraid to ask for help with whatever it is that you need; just because you do not know, it does not make you less smart.” ///

5th District: Brother Oliver Williams, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

WHAT PARENTS CAN EXPECT FROM Psi Pi Chapter

Clarksville, TN – On September 28, 2019 the Psi Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held a “Meet & Greet” event for the Psi Pi Chapter Manhood Academy at Barbara E. Johnson park in Clarksville Tennessee.

The event was held to ensure that the parents of the young men we will mentor had a full grasp of the expectations of them, their sons and what they should expect as an outcome from our mentorship. Bro. Brian Hutchenson, who is serving as the academy Director, gave an overview of the program and what to expect from the mentors.

Bro. John C. Howard (Basileus) presented the mission and purpose of the program. Each member of Psi Pi Chapter that is acting as a mentor introduced himself to the parents and gave a brief description of who they were, what their background was, what their current occupation is and what they intend to impart to their mentees during the course of this program.



The event was extremely successful and we were able to connect with the young men in a positive way from the onset. We received excellent feedback from the parents after the event concluded and we are looking forward to being a positive and motivating force in these young men’s lives. (Submitted by Brother Reginald T. Bailey, Editor to the Oracle, Psi Pi Chapter)

See Our Website: omegafandm.org

6th District: Brother Melvin Williams, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

This Quarter the Mighty Sixth District Highlights Omega Manhood Institute.

Lexington, NC – The Mighty 6th District is doing great things with our mentoring and fatherhood programs. As we move into year 9 of the merger the fraternity’s fatherhood initiative with the well-established mentoring programs that are known throughout our great fraternity has been a great hit in the 6th district. Chapters have created things to ensure that the youth in their communities continued to receive the care and support they have always received.

In addition to their mentoring program, some chapters like Eta Beta Beta in Lexington, NC, through the Omega Manhood Institute, have gone above and beyond to develop and implement fatherhood and mentoring in the Lexington. One of the district’s small

chapters is doing big things with the youth and fathers. The Institute has established itself as cornerstone in Lexington by providing a great mentoring and fatherhood program.

When the district started implementing the Father Child Prayer Breakfast, Brother Bethea, the President of the Institute and the Brothers of Eta Beta Beta were right there supporting the district’s program. Three years ago, Eta Beta Beta Chapter was the recipient of \$250 seed money given by the 6th District to host a Father Child Prayer Breakfast and they never looked back and went on to develop and implement other fatherhood programs for the Omega Manhood Institute.



**Omega S.T.A.R.R.S. Mentoring Program
Eta Beta Beta Chapter**



**Brother Charlie Bethea 2019 Mentor of the Year
Zakhi White – 2019 Co-Mentee of the Year**

The purpose of the organization is to:

- develop programs that will assist boys in becoming productive men,
- educate men on how to be better fathers,
- conduct programs that center on building the family unit.

PROGRAMS

- Mentee Christmas Gift Giving Celebration in December - The mentees are given, at least, 1 of their 3 gift choices during the event
- Celebrating the Power of Fatherhood - Event demonstrates the importance of the fathers in the lives of their children with videos, testimonials, music, etc.
- Mentoring Program is year-round. - We are assigned 10 new raising 3rd graders at Charles England Elementary School each year and mentor them until they graduate from high school. Each mentor is required to spend, at least, 1 hour per week with their mentee(s).

- Fatherhood Symposium (Child Support & Child Custody) in February and October - Workshop to provide education to parent on dealing with the legal aspects of keeping the family together when the parents are no longer together.

- Fatherhood Prayer Breakfast in April - Opportunity for the family and community to pray together for the children, mother and father with a meal.

- Mentees Back-to-School Cookout in August - Cookout for the mentees where we provide them book bags and supplies.

- Power of Fatherhood Charity Golf Tournament in June - Fundraiser to help provide the necessary money to fund our events and programs.

- Community Health Fair in November 16, 2019 at Charles England Elementary School from 11am to 2pm.

- Provide health screenings, educational demonstrations on healthy cooking and proper exercise.

The Brothers in Eta Beta Beta Chapter are working to provide leadership, guidance and support to youth in Lexington, NC. Under the leadership of Brother Charlie Bethea, the Omega Manhood Institute has raised the bar in the Mighty Sixth District. In August, the brothers held their Back-to-School Function at the YMCA Bowling Alley in Lexington for their mentees. All thirty-two (32) mentees (32) received book bags and school supplies. Also, lunch was served instruction was given on bowling.



In October, 22 of mentees were taken to the Winston-Salem State University versus Bowie State University football game. They met Chancellor Elwood Robinson, legendary Coach Bill Hayes, Judge Todd Burke and Forsyth County Sheriff Bobby Kimbrough. Also, they took them a tour of the campus and had lunch in the Kennedy Dining Hall. They also were treated to a special step show by the men of the Mighty Mu Epsilon Chapter, along with on field access to meet the players and coaches at Winston-Salem State University.

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach him how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." Maimonides

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Next deadline for 1st Quarter 2020 is March 15th. Information will cover January, February, March, 2020.

Newsletter Goal

To include information from Each District Each Quarter about Fatherhood Initiatives and Mentoring: Youth Leadership Conferences, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Brother You're on My Mind.

Each District Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Chairman shall submit Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring information from their District each quarter to:

geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net

**Department of Human Services and
GA State Organization of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
Narrative summary for the Fatherhood Conversation (November 12, 2019)
First United Methodist Church
Submitted by Marvin Broadwater, Sr.**

Conyers, Georgia – On Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at First United Methodist Church, the GA Department of Human Services, the GA State Organization and the Kappa Alpha Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., partnered to conduct a Fatherhood Conversation. Over 44 attendees were present. Fathers not in attendance asked questions via Facebook live stream.

The Georgia Fatherhood Program has been in existence since January 1997 with many milestones since that time. Unfortunately, many customers don't become aware of the program until a parent falls behind in their court-ordered child support.

Although, the Georgia Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) seeks to educate all parents of the Fatherhood Program. In situations where a noncustodial parent (especially fathers) is faced with an unexpected loss of a job or they have a substantial decrease in their income, that is the time when they most need assistance.

The Fatherhood Program is administered by Georgia DCSS to help a noncustodial parent avoid having to appear before a judge in court. It's an employment-based service that focuses on providing

services that can help the noncustodial parent achieve self-sufficiency. It also encourages parents to increase emotional, parental and financial involvement in the lives of the noncustodial parent's children.

Services offered by Georgia DCSS are: Driver's License Reinstatement, Child support Services, GED Enrollment, Job Training, Job Search/Placement, Volunteer Work Opportunities, and Support order modification where applicable.

More importantly, the program educates those parents on the Enforcement process, including income withholding, license suspension process, outreach services, etc. The program ensures parents understand the importance of paying support as ordered as well as the consequences of not complying.

The GA State Organization of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity looks forward to the continued opportunity in serving the citizens in the State of Georgia through this partnership. The program dispels any and all misconceptions of the GA Department of Human Services (Fatherhood Program) as the agency converts their image from a collection agency to a service provided agency.

Local Chapters throughout the Seventh District Welcome New Youth Mentees for Upcoming 2019 - 2020 Fraternal Year

THE SEVENTH DISTRICT CONSIST OF MISSISSIPPI, ALABAMA, FLORIDA AND GEORGIA.

This is where many local chapters have kicked off the year with their Youth Mentorship Induction Ceremonial Programs welcoming new mentees and parents. Under the International Fatherhood Initiative and Youth Mentorship Committee, Project Manhood initiative provides a structured outline to allow local chapters to carry out and tailor a youth mentorship program that

supports local communities throughout the Seventh District.

With strong support from the International, State and Local Chairmen, the Seventh District is positioned where a majority of local Graduate Chapters and Undergraduate Chapters have established Project Manhood Youth Mentorship Programs.

The District proudly recognizes deserving Local Chapters that have conducted their 2019 - 2020 Youth Mentorship Induction Ceremony. ///

Georgia

JLCC Mentoring Program

Eta Omicron Chapter - Albany, Georgia



THE JUST, LOVE, COOPER, COLEMAN (JLCC) mentoring program is a program that mentors young men in Albany & Southwest Georgia. The program operates under the supervision of the Eta Omicron Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated Albany, Ga.

Our motto is: *"Helping young men embrace every aspect of Manhood."* Our program begins every fiscal year with many new goals and aspirations; we involve each member and parent in every material aspect of our goals. The JLCC mentoring program has numerous character-building initiatives like fundraising, charity, tutorial programs, retreats, and community volunteer work that each member is required to perform. Each member is mandated to exhibit leadership qualities that include

respect, unselfishness, charity, and teamwork. Continuous Parental involvement assists the program in its efforts such as college tours, tutorial programs, attending athletic events, and purchasing school supplies to name a few.

Omega Lamplighters Youth Mentorship Program

Lambda Iota Chapter - Columbus, Georgia



Lambda Iota Chapter (Columbus, GA) present the Omega Lamplighters for 2019-2020.

Pictured standing L - R are: Bro. Travis Chambers, Basileus, Bro. Reginald Sparks, Bro. Adrian Chester, and Bro. Karl Douglas, President, Lambda Iota Foundation.



Black Rhinos Mentorship Program Delta Mu Mu Chapter - Atlanta, Georgia

The Delta Mu Mu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Black Rhinos Mentoring Program is held in Atlanta, GA. The program was designed to address the academic, social, and community issues with which our students are confronted daily. The program is designed to inspire students to work independently and collectively in cooperative learning circles with selected tutors, mentors, and expert professionals from members of the Delta Mu Mu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc

Mississippi

Omega Youth Mentorship Program Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter - Canton, Mississippi



The Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. kicked off our 2019-2020 Fatherhood Initiative & Youth Mentorship Committee with an amazing group of young men at Porter Middle School in Madison, MS. Our activities include weekly mentoring sessions and homework sessions.

Last, we are excited about the Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated has entered into a collaboration with the Uniformed Services

University of the Health Sciences (USU) to administer the Well-Prepared Program (WPP) in targeted states. The EKK Chapter was 1 of 5 Chapter chosen throughout the country. The USU is a part of the Department of Defense. The mission of USU is to support the readiness of America's Warfighter and the health and well-being of the military community by educating, training and developing uniformed health professionals, scientists and leaders.



Florida

Omega Lamplighters Youth Mentorship Program Theta Phi Chapter - Jacksonville, Florida



Theta Phi Chapters Fatherhood Initiative in support of the Grand Basileus' initiative Project Manhood has broadened the lives of many young men in our community. Under the leadership of the Mentor Chairman, Bro Edgar L Mathis II, we lead several mentoring programs, which are all thriving. We have three elementary School Programs and our signature Program is our Omega Lamp Lighters designed for our teenage young men:

Omega Lamp Lighters: Our flagship program is Lamplighters mentoring program, focused on young men between the ages of 12-18. The brothers meet twice a month formally to teach fundamentals that are critical to succeed in

life. Some of the modules that we facilitate are, character development, public speaking and debate, dining etiquette, financial responsibility, career development, college tours, dress for success, neck tying instruction and most recently community policing and how to successfully navigate encounters with law enforcement and ensuring the young men are aware how they should conduct themselves to a police traffic stop.

The Lamplighters program also have events that are geared towards fun. We have an annual Top golf party, attendance at college step shows, youth gatherings with other mentoring programs and volunteering with the chapter at our mandated programs and the annual J. H. Argrett scholarship golf tournament.



The Lamplighter program has graduated several lamplighters who are currently attending Fort Valley State, Florida A&M, Florida State College at Jacksonville, and Lagrange College.

Spring Park Elementary Junior Scholars and Carter G Woodson Elementary Junior Scholars: These programs are designed to mentor young men in life skills essential to academic achievement and manhood. We partner with the Principle and staff at each school to ensure we are aligned with the school goals

All Pro Dads at Lone Star Elementary School: This is a fatherhood program designed to encourage dads to spend time with their kids and be involved in their student's life. The brothers lead and facilitate meetings monthly with the dads and their student for a session on the chosen topic.

Omega Lamplighters Youth Mentorship Program

Chi Omega Chapter - Tallahassee, Florida



The Omega Lamplighters Program got its start in 2008 under the leadership of Brothers Royle King and Simeon Nelson. The program was founded under the principles of Leadership, Academics, Maturity, and Perseverance. The mission of this elite program is to empower the youth with academic and social skills, community connections, and progressive opportunities necessary to ensure their roles as active, educated, and responsible citizens. The program has led in the development of youth ranging from middle school to high school age. This development has led to kids' acceptance in colleges, universities, and military branches.

Under the guidance of Brother Royle King the Omega Lamplighter Program has transitioned and expanded to include the Omega Junior Lamplighters. The Omega Junior Lamplighters is led by Program Director Brother Larry Harris. The program is its second year of development focusing on the upliftment of male youth in grades 4th-8th. The program motto is "Keepers of the Torch, Protectors of the Flame". The first induction class ceremony took place in the Summer of 2018. Tallahassee, Florida is the birthplace of the first Omega Junior Lamplighters Program and will continue to emphasize group loyalty, group participation, and group development. These YOUNG KINGS participate in mentoring, life skill workshops, community service, step team activities, and community enhancing activities.

Achievements:

- The Omega Lamplighters Program has an overall GPA of 3.0
- The Omega Lamplighter Program has been recognized on the local, state, and International levels of the Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc.
- Omega Lamplighters has a nationally ranked step team in the high school division
- Omega Lamplighters first class was known as the "Optimus 20"



Alabama

Omega Prep Knights Mentorship Program Alpha Tau Chapter - Tuscaloosa, Alabama



The mission of Omega Prep Knights is to mentor and develop young men in accordance with the principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift, the cardinal principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Through various activities, Omega Prep/Omega Institute perform projects that will expose young men to planning, execution, reporting ideas, and simulating good leadership characteristics designed to raise their level of aspiration.

All activities and programs are modeled around the following four phases:
Leadership;

Academics; Maturity; Perseverance. Since 2016, the Omega Prep Knights have continued on the path to make a difference in the community and the lives of others by upholding their motto: "Brotherhood is a Cornerstone to Success!" and mission statement: Helping young men build the foundation of Christian Friendship, Brotherhood, Family, and Scholarship Attainment through community service and spreading encouragement, love, and respect as the Omega Prep Knights; Philippians 4:13.



Omega Sparks Youth Mentorship Program Sigma Phi Chapter - Montgomery, Alabama



Project Manhood and Sigma Phi Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Inc.

We recognize that throughout the year, people and organizations make donations to worthy causes. We ask you to consider making a donation to the "Manhood Inc. – Omega Sparks". Our mission of community development through the empowerment of youth and young adults by strengthening their "personal competencies, such as communication, self-confidence, decision-making, critical thinking, and goal setting

skills." All proceeds will support this non-profit organization. The proceeds from the sales of fundraisers and donations would cover expenses needed for an educational experience to Washington D.C., Howard University, National Black Museum, National Monument and the Youth Leadership Conference in Tampa Fl. (July 15-17, 2020). Our overall goal is \$15k.

8th District: Brother Skyler Johnson, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring



Nebraska – Issaka Brothers Making A Difference Brothers Sal Issaka (Tau Kappa Spring 92) and Osuman Issaka (Tau Kappa Spring 99, Current 8th District DR) were named the Impact Award winners from the Nebraska State Soccer Association due to the work that they are doing through their 501(c)(3) charitable organization The Simple Foundation.

This award is a monumental achievement and speaks volumes about the impactful work that the Issaka brothers are doing in the community. Nebraska State Soccer Association Members said that the way the Issaka brothers are making a true-life changing impact on youth lives while using soccer as a vehicle is second to none.

The Issaka brothers were also recognized due to how they are helping refugee youth feel equal and a part of the Nebraska soccer community while also increasing the

diversity and impact in an unserved community in the state of Nebraska. Outside of teaching youth how to play soccer, the Issaka brothers are also helping youth improve academically by helping high school students with their FASFA, ACT and SAT Prep, tutoring, personal statements, and scholarship applications. ///

Brothers of Upsilon Omega

Saint Louis, MO – On Saturday Nov. 2, 2019 the Omega Squires were hosted by Lindenwood University for a campus tour and entrance to the football game. We had 15 Omega Squires and Omega Squires potential recruits in attendance.

The tour began at 10:40am in the Spellman Center. Our host walked us to 4 different buildings on campus and gave a history of the vast expansion that has taken place over the past 15 years. She was able to explain how the campus is broken up into two sides. The Historic side [the older side of campus]. And then there is the new side [where all of the expansion has taken place].

The Squires visited the Library, where all of the learning facilities were on full display. From there they walked back through the Spellman Center and past the football stadium. They then visited one of the male dorms. They were able to visit one of the traditional



dorm rooms, the dorm rec area and the lounge area. From there the Omega Squires then walked to the Evans Commons Athletic facility. They were able to see the indoor arena and stadium where the basketball team, wrestling, and volleyball teams all compete.

The tour then wrapped up and the brothers of Upsilon Omega Chapter had a tailgate set up to feed the Omega Squires. The brothers prepared BBQ, chips, water, snacks, juice and soda. After eating several of the Omega Squires were admitted into the football game. Lindenwood University was hosting the #8 team in the

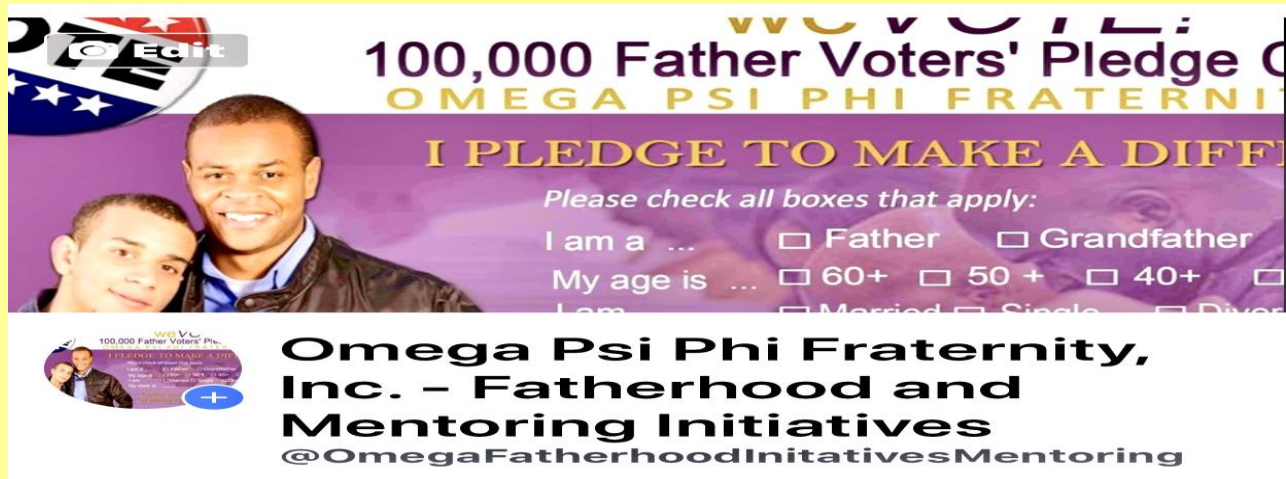
nation The University of Indianapolis at Indiana. This pitted two teams hoping to make the Division II football playoffs. The Lindenwood Lions were successful that day overmatching the Univ. of Indianapolis for a 34-27 victory. Propelling Lindenwood University into the Division II playoffs.

On Saturday November 9th Three Omega Squires attended the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute Leadership Summit held on SIU-C campus.

During the Talent Hunt on Saturday November 16th, at the Omega Center the Omega Squires helped with hosting the event from 12-3pm. During the Talent Hunt the Omega Squires also hosted their Annual Can/Dry Food Drive. During the food drive the Omega Squires were able to supply enough can/dry food goods to feed 105 families in the St. Louis Area.

9th District: Brother Sedric Myers, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

~ Find Us On Facebook ~



Nu Phi Chapter Bridge Builder Mentorship Program College Game Day

By Brother Tawan Williamson – Nu Phi (Houston, TX)



Omega Men of Nu Phi: “Just Practicing What We Know”

HOUSTON, TX (NOVEMBER 9, 2019) – WE HAVE LEARNED THROUGH EXPERIENCE, THAT REGULAR ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN A MENTOR AND MENTEE IS HELPFUL IN THE POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MENTEE.

As part of the Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Program, the Omega Men of Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated “Bridge Builder Mentorship Program” chaperoned 24 young men from Ruby L. Thompson and William P. Hobby Elementary schools to a College Game Day at BBVA Stadium to witness the Texas Southern University vs. Alabama State University (TSU vs. ASU) football game.

The intent behind this field trip was to expose these young men ranging from grades 1st through 5th

to a social outing that would provide them with a life experience outside of their normal environment. The young men had the opportunity to meet and receive UPLIFTING messages from Dr. Charles McClellan (SWAC

Commissioner), Dr. Quinton Ross Gamma Sigma Spring '90 (President Alabama State University), Ms. Melissa Spaulding (Vice President Development Texas Southern University), as well as take photos with the TSU mascots, the marching band and the Cheerleaders.

Through the Bridge Builder Mentorship Program, the mentors meet with their mentees on a weekly basis at the respected schools and one Saturday out of the month we facilitate personal growth workshops at the Omega Nu Phi Education Center (ONPEC) to provide positive life skills to the youth. The event was well attended as we plan for more social outing and community service opportunities moving forward in this program. ///

Real Men Read –

Houston Area Coalition of Chapters

By Brother Tawan Williamson – Nu Phi (Houston, TX.)

Houston, TX (November 14, 2019) – Improved literacy can contribute to economic growth; reduce poverty; reduce crime; promote democracy and social development; increase civic engagement; and, enhance cultural diversity. During Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., International Achievement Week, the brothers of the Houston Area Coalition of Chapters held “**Real Men Read**” at Lucian L. Lockhart and Ruby L. Thompson Elementary Schools in the Houston Independent School District (HISD).

The brothers read to the 1st grade classes at Lockhart Elementary and the 2nd and 3rd grade classes at Thompson Elementary. As we read through the books, we also interacted with the youth in reference to the context of the books. We focused on the importance of not just running words but reading comprehension. We read to approximately 160 students on this day. Literacy is very pivotal to SCHOLARSHIP, so one must “Read to Achieve”!!!



Alamo City Lamplighters Induction Ceremony



San Antonio, TX – On December 8, 2019, at Calvary Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas, Psi Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. conducted its first annual induction ceremony for its new mentorship program, the Alamo City Omega Lamplighters (ACOLL). Thirty-three young men pledged their dedication to promote the four principles: **Leadership, Academics, Maturity, and Perseverance** upon which Omega Lamplighters was founded. The Alamo City Omega Lamplighters is one of Psi Alpha's mandated chapter initiatives. The main goal of the program is to provide mentorship between members of Psi Alpha Chapter and 6th through 12th-grade boys in the San Antonio area.

Brother Derek Morton, program Chairman alongside Psi Alpha chapter leadership, opened up the induction ceremony by expressing the expectations of the program and membership requirements. Parents and Lamplighters were also provided the vision of the program and how it will not only shape their lives but their community. The central theme reiterated throughout the ceremony was the "high expectations" of being a Lamplighter. Lamplighter standards of conduct require higher expectations than that of a "good person" and challenge our members to pursue "greatness" both personally and professionally.

In the traditions of the True Omega spirit, the teachings of Christian Manhood were explained and emphasized how it correlates to the future of each Lamplighter's journey, by Bro. Ernest Brown, Psi Alpha Chaplain. The discussion focused on "Why" we need and do certain things in life for a specific purpose. Thus, providing the "Why" they chose the Lamplighter

program. Linking the relationship to one's faith, values, and decisions will hopefully give the purpose of "Why" to each Lamplighter. The program provides the opportunity to be successful as they progress through the program, graduate from high school, and transition into Manhood.

Future Lamplighters and their parents then conducted a 30-minute one-on-one seminar with their son's assigned mentor, to discuss roles of a mentor, goals of the mentee, and any unanswered questions or concerns. Finally, thirty-three young men participated in the Omega Lamplighter Induction Ceremony by raising their right hand and reciting the Omega Lamplighter Creed and the Lord's Prayer.

Closing remarks were made by Psi Alpha's Basileus, Jimmie McMillian, and Alamo City Lamplighters committee members who restated that the journey and path for each Lamplighter are not the same and will endure challenges that each must overcome. Basileus McMillians asserted, "The integrity and brand of the organization depend upon each member's acceptance of individual responsibility and respects for the rights of others."

The Alamo City Omega Lamplighters meet monthly on Saturday's to participate in activities to build upon the Lamplighter principles for their transition into Manhood. The activities emphasis on academic excellence, community service, social skills, and personal growth for the challenges they will face throughout life. Psi Alpha Chapter plans to expand ACOLL into local schools in the San Antonio area. ///

ONE LOVE, TWO HOMES



CO-PARENTING CONFERENCE

Muskegon MI – Theta Nu Chapter served as the lead agency in presenting the **One Love, Two Homes Co-Parenting Conference** on October 26, 2019, in Muskegon.

Theta Nu Chapter is a partner in the Muskegon County Fathers Matter Collaborative that works to eliminate the barriers that hinder men from taking an active and responsible role in the lives of their children.

“I am a retired public-school educator. I have seen firsthand, during my career as a teacher and building principal, the effects of the absence of fathers on the development of children. Our work in helping fathers find their place in the lives of their children is important, essential and rewarding”, said Bro. Marvin Nash.

Saturday morning October 26, 2019, 62 mothers and fathers met for three hours at Kingdom Embassy Ministries Church, Muskegon, MI. During those three hours, conference participants heard from therapists, parenting specialists, and lay persons sharing their practical and professional strategies of how to navigate the challenges that co-parenting present.

“Theta Nu Chapter is a relatively small chapter regarding our numbers. We feel that we can best serve our community and carry out the Fraternity’s mandate of addressing Fatherhood and Mentoring activities by becoming a major part of this County-wide collaboration”, said Chapter Basileus, the Honorable Gregory C. Pittman.

The Co-Parenting Conference attracted 62 attendees including mothers, fathers, grandparents, blended families, etc., from both Muskegon and Grand Rapids. In addition, 7 vendors and several volunteers from the Muskegon Intermediate School District and the Muskegon/Grand Rapids community contributed to the gathering which included five (5) presentations that were gender specific support circles related to successful co-parenting strategies.

A special thank you to the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated for your sponsorship and support in helping young fathers and mothers parent cohesively. ///



In Los Angeles: The Youth (and Parent) Leadership Conference

Los Angeles, CA (October 26, 2019) – For 26 consecutive years Tau Tau Chapter in conjunction with the Omega Educational Foundation held its annual Youth Leadership Conference. And, for the 8th consecutive year, the conference was held on the campus of the University of Southern California. The fall conference has become a staple event for inner city youth and parents of the largely African American and Latino male youth population.

This year's conference attracted 562 youth, 93, mothers and 74 fathers. The curriculum for each group was different. Brother Paul Turner, who coordinates the Youth assemblage, divides the youth into three separate age groups – 8 to 11, 12 to 14, and 15 to 18. These groupings have separate and distinct curriculum content which is age appropriate. Each, however, is shrouded in a value system that is taught to Omega men world-wide.

A strong feature of the OEF and Tau Tau Chapter Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) is the parent's program. What began as a suggestion from a USC professor, Dr. Anthony Maddox, was the evolutionary transformation of the YLC. Dr. Maddox suggested to Brother Lewis that mothers be invited to join the

conference rather than just drop-off their kids and go elsewhere.

The mothers program curriculum covered several topics; it began by giving the Mother's tools they could use to help their young men think about their future. This session was led by Brother Steven Baker. The next set of topics covered: "How to finance the future with respect to paying for college," "Maximizing time While in High School," "How to Keep our Young Men Safe by Being Better Parents," led by Brother Ronnie Walker.

The program finished with the bond between a mother and their child and how that bond can be toxic or prosperous, a discussion led by Ms. Jolene Swain. The program organizers observed that a high number of new mothers attend the conference and they were able to benefit from our years of experience, love and concern for them and their young men.

The mothers/caregivers had 66 (70%) surveys returned. Participants were asked at the beginning of the Conference how many had attended before; approximately five mothers/caregivers had attended before.

The Fatherhood program included a presentation by Mr. Willis Meeks, retired project manager of Ulysses and Voyager space probes. This is the 50th year since the United States landed a man on the moon. Mr. Meeks told of his work with NASA and at JPL (Jet Propulsion Lab) in Pasadena to play a role in developing and contributing to the science that accomplished such a feat for the USA.

Other content modules included, a segment on “Values: Choose Your Values” by Brother Larry Hammond; Communication: Am I an Effective Communicator? By Dr. Steven Webb; The Process of Communication; Science and Technology, by Mr. Willis Meeks; The Courts and Fathers Custody Rights, by Brother Damon Martin, Esq; and, The Police and Your Son led by Brother Ronnie Walker, a retired LAPD detective. ///



L-R: Brother Larry Hammond, Zeta Tau Chapter, spoke to Brothers about Values - *Choose Your Values*; (R) - Mr. Willis Meeks, a retired NASA and JPL (Jet Propulsion Laboratory) space engineer spoke to the fathers about STEM. Encourage your sons to be all that they are capable of being!!



Brother 1st Vice Grand Basileus Ricky L. Lewis, Founder and Executive Director of the Omega Educational Foundation, and Coordinator of the Youth Leadership Conference stopped in to speak with the fathers about what the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., is doing to help save the lives of our youth.

SoCal Omega Men Observing Achievement Week: Impacting Lives all Over! Rededication Service



Los Angeles, CA – When Brother Rodney Anderson and the SoCal Area Achievement Week Committee sought to plan and implement the 2019 SoCal Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., week of special events, programs and initiatives, they wanted the week to be remembered and they wanted it to be of great quality. And, so it was!

Prior to the Omega Rededication Ceremony coordinated by Lambda Omicron Chapter on Thursday night, November 14, several events had occurred around the SoCal area including: A Purple and Gold Ball in Riverside, CA; A Night at the Laugh Factory in Hollywood; and, an Economic Empowerment Seminar in Inglewood coordinated by Brother Michael Haynes.

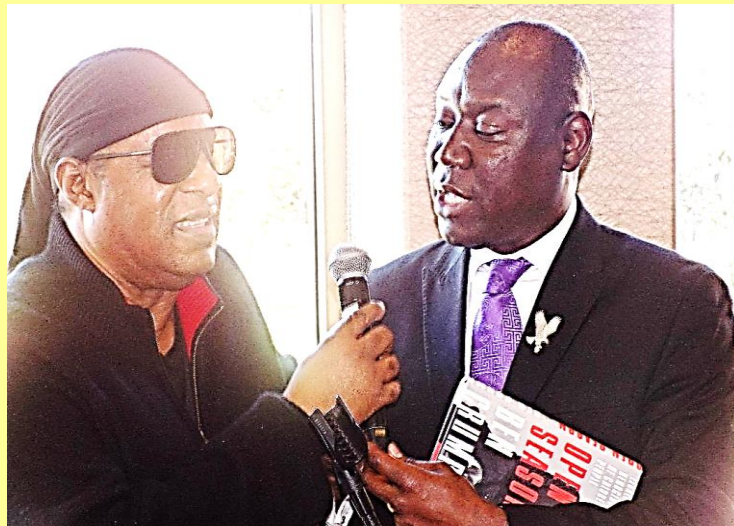
The week was filled with activities engaged in by the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. These men represented practically all of the professional fields. They gladly loaned their expertise to the fraternity and did their part to remember why they joined this body of college educated like-minded men.

During the week of activity, they remembered why they continuously serve their respective communities whether mentoring youth, writing grants for NPOs, or engaging in activities and programs to study how to help fathers be better at teaching their sons and daughters to grow and develop into productive and honorable men and women.

And then, there was the great Achievement Week Luncheon held at the Quiet Cannon Golf and Country Club in Montebello. The keynote speaker for the Luncheon was Brother Benjamin Crump, Esq., who gave a rousing speech on the motivation and determination that led him to write the book: **Open Season, Legalized Genocide of Colored People**.

Brother Crump spoke about the continuing struggle for justice for all and about what happens when a segment of the population is consistently denied access to fair treatment. Following his speech, Brother Crump received a standing ovation and was pleasantly surprised when a special guest showed up to present him with an app to aid him in his work. ///

The Achievement Week Luncheon: Recognizing Our Constituents and our Brotherhood



Photos by Brother James Wilson

STEVIE WONDER DROPPED IN DURING THE ACHIEVEMENT WEEK LUNCHEON in Los Angeles to acknowledge the work of Brother Benjamin Crump (who was the Luncheon Keynote speaker) and to encourage him in his work toward a more Just Society.



“This room was heavy, heavy, heavy with serious people. But he ain’t heavy, he’s just my brother!”

“The road is long
With many a winding turn
That leads us to who knows where
Who knows where
But I'm strong
Strong enough to carry him
He ain't heavy, he's my brother”

From the song “He Ain’t Heavy, He’s My Brother”, written by: BOB RUSSELL, BOBBY SCOTT

Omega Youth Leadership Academy: Kicks Off its 2019-2020 Fatherhood Initiative Academic Year



Phi Iota Chapter Phoenix AZ and Alpha Theta Chapter Arizona State University

In Phoenix AZ. on August 7th 2019, The Omega Youth Leadership Academy kicked off its **15th year of service** to youth, parents and the community with an open house and awards luncheon. Outstanding mentees, graduates and volunteers of the 2018-2019 Mentoring and Fatherhood Initiative Programs, were recognized and OYLA's 2019-2020 events, programs, open enrollment and curriculums were presented.

Bro. Carl A. Blunt and Bro. Marc Sutton presented the awards, Bro. Dwayne Ross and Bro. Marcus Green covered 2018-2019 highlights, and co-founders Bro. "Bill Smith and Executive Director, Bro. Larry Ross recognized the advisory board and revealed OYLA's 2019-2020 programs, events and curriculum to approximately 100 attendees who were gathered at Phoenix College for the event and a delicious catered luncheon.

The 2 ½ hour program was upbeat and moved quickly with 4 schools being welcomed as new 2019-2020 partners. Several mentees were recognized as 2018-2019 standout awardees, with peer mentors, graduates and volunteers also receiving awards, plaques, certificates and tickets to the Arizona Cardinals and Detroit Lions football game.

Several graduates took the microphone and gave their stories of how OYLA helped them overcome

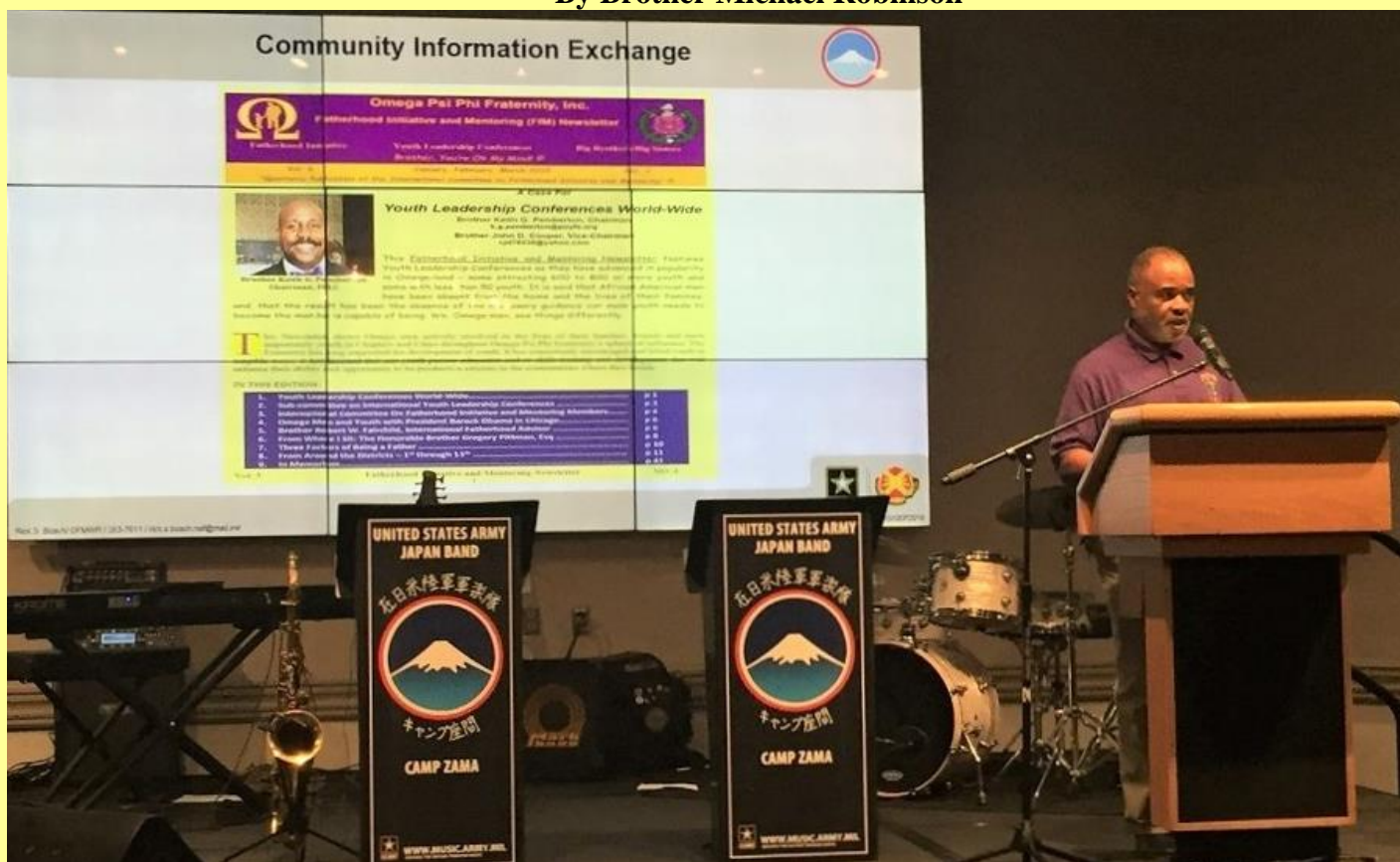
academic and social hurdles, however some of the most compelling and emotional testimonies came from parents who thanked OYLA, and expressed to the audience how proud they were of the success of their sons who have turned both their academic fortunes and their lives around since being part of the Omega Youth Leadership Academy.

The luncheon concluded with closing comments by Bro. Carl McNeary and the introduction of the 2019-2020 class of mentees, some of which are featured on the opening page.



13th District: Brother Michael Robinson, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter Promotes Fatherhood & Mentoring Program By Brother Michael Robinson



Basileus Roger Riddick of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in Mainland, Japan discusses the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. "Project Manhood" Fatherhood & Mentoring Program at Camp Zama Army Base in Mainland, Japan.

Camp Zama Army Base, Mainland, Japan – Basileus Roger Riddick and Bro Michael Robinson represented Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter at the Community Information Exchange held on Friday, October 4, 2019 at Camp Zama Army Base in Mainland, Japan. The theme for the event was “Finish Strong and Family Strong”. Over 200 members from the local community attended the event.

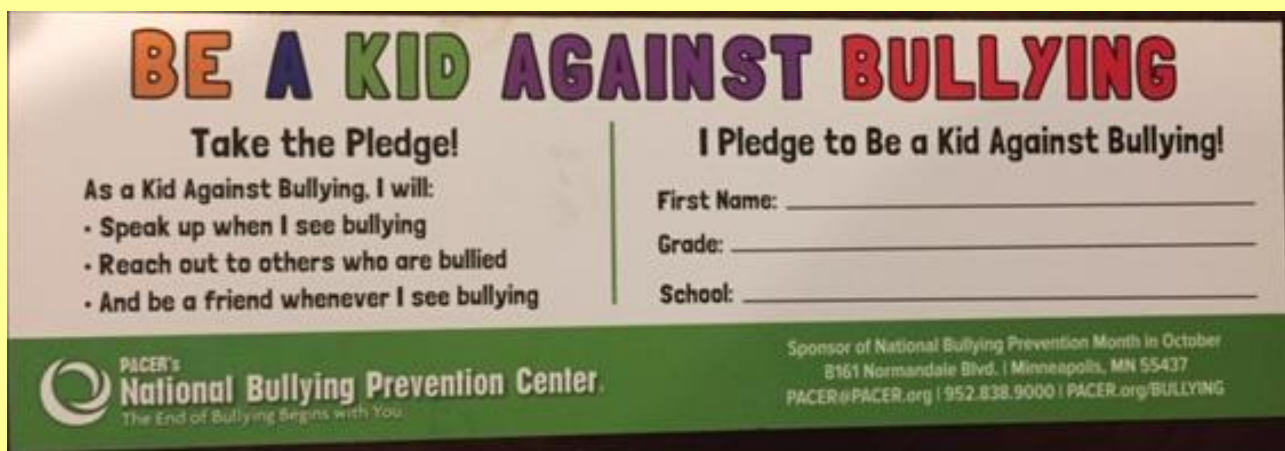
The Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter set up a display table and provided a brief description of

the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. “Project Manhood” Fatherhood & Mentoring Program. Basileus Riddick shared the chapter’s vision in starting the Samurai Fatherhood and Mentoring program for young males 6th to 12th grade and fathers in the local community.

The Community Information Exchange provided key information to help prepare and support military families as we enter the holiday season and closeout the year of 2019. ///

13TH INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC. PROMOTES ANTI-BULLYING MONTH CAMPAIGN, OCTOBER 2019

**By
Brother Michael Robinson**



Okinawa, Japan – Since 2006 PACER’s National Bullying Prevention Center has led a campaign to prevent bullying during the month of October. The goal is to unite communities worldwide to educate and raise awareness of bullying prevention. The Brothers of the 13th International District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. join PACER’s in promoting the annual theme: “Create A World Without Bullying”.

During the month of October, Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter in Okinawa and the Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in Mainland, Japan set up information booths, visited local schools and promoted anti-bullying events to increase the awareness of unity needed in our society.

In addition, on October 26, 2019, the Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter supported the Brazilian Soccer Club Tournament which hosted American and Japanese teams. Participants recited the anti-bullying pledge: I (name) is a better buddy and friend and will take a stand against bullying by: speaking up when the individual feels bullied, reach out to those whom are bullied, contact an adult if I see bullying, and being a buddy instead of a bully.

The Anti-Bullying Campaign was a success with both chapters combing for a total of 375 youth taking the anti-bullying pledge.

13th International District Promotes Unity Day 2019

By Brother Michael Robinson



Mainland, Japan – The Brothers of the 13th International District of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. promoted Unity Day 2019 by wearing orange on Wednesday, October 23, 2019. The color orange symbolizes “Unity.” The objective was for everyone (students, parents, teachers, co-workers and members of the community) to come together in one giant message of support, hope, and unity while increasing the awareness of bullying. In addition to wearing orange on Unity Day, the Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in Mainland, Japan held a 30-minute anti-bullying presentation for twenty xx 4th grade students at the Sullivans Elementary School on Yokosuka Naval Base in Yokosuka, Japan.

Activities included students making a “Unity Tree”. The Unity Tree activity was selected by the Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter to remind the students that bullying can be prevented when we all come together and work in unity. Each participant contributed to watching the Unity Tree grow by placing positive remarks on the leaves attached to the tree.

As the number of leaves increased, it created a visual reminder, demonstrating when we are united, we can create social change. Upon completion of the presentation the students received an orange wristband stating, “United We Stand Against Bullying” and the Golden Rule: “Treat Others the Way You Want to be Treated”. ///



Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter Youth Bulldog Football Team Kicks off New Season

By Brother Brian Jones

Brother Coach Brian Jones and assistant coach congratulating player on outstanding play
Landstuhl, Germany – Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter's youth football program coached by Brother Brian Jones is back in full swing. Due to the Chapter's dedication to the youth sports program at Landstuhl, Germany Child and Youth Services program CYS, the team has new purple and gold uniforms. In addition to the youth football team, the Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter also sponsors the Crush Basketball Team of Kaiserslautern, a U18 and U16 girls basketball program.

Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter Participates in “Pitch Your Passion” Activity By Brother Marcus Griffin

Kaiserslautern, Germany – On Friday, October 18, 2019, Brother Marcus Griffin of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter participated in the Boys & Girls Club of America 4-H Game Changers National Youth Science Day on Kapaun Air Base in Kaiserslautern, Germany. The students chose to do an activity called Pitch Your Passion.

PITCH YOUR PASSION is an introductory coding activity that teaches kids how to use codes to create an animated pitch about why people should care about one of their favorite topics. Pitch Your Passion, empowers kids to make decisions and gain confidence in relaying their message to others. These critical civic engagement skills help young people learn to advocate for things they care about and grow into true leaders as they build a sense of compassion, confidence and pride.



SGG Conducts Boyz to Men(Torship) By Brother Cortez Pree



Okinawa, Japan – The Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter conducted their bi-monthly Boyz to Men(Torship) Program on December 7, 2019, at the Kadena Chapel 3 on Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan. Basileus Cortez Pree served as the lead facilitator and SGG Keeper of Records and Seal, Brother Robert Townes assisted in providing mentorship to the future leaders of America. Brother Pree lead off the program with prayer, followed by a meet and greet session. Each father and son pair were split amongst the mentors and mentees.



The group started off with cooking brunch that included scrambled eggs, fried pork chops, potatoes and onions, waffles, sausages, croissants, and bacon. Next everyone assisted in sanitizing the cooking and eating areas. Afterwards, a guided discussion was held on career goals of the youth, in addition to current event topics such as active shooters, mental health, and life choices. The event concluded with Level 2 Car Maintenance that included checking fluids, checking/jumping batteries, and fuse check. Brother Robert Townes stated the young men were very eager to learn how to perform prevented maintenance on vehicles.

SGG supports Lady Ambassadors Softball Team By Brother Cortez Pree



Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter expanded its support to the local community of Okinawa by assisting the “Lady Ambassadors” - All-Star Female Softball Team.

On Veteran’s Day, the Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter provided funds to assist with the charity softball game sponsored by the Lady Ambassadors at Ryukyu

Middle School. In addition, the funds were used to purchase new equipment and coordination of the annual Christmas banquet. In return, the Lady Ambassadors partnered with the Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter in promoting the Anti-Bullying Campaign. Thirty-five youth and adults recited the Anti-Bullying Pledge.

SGG host International Book Reading at Okinawa Christian School International and Kadena Elementary School during their 2019 Achievement Week Celebration

by Brother Robert Townes



Brothers Robert Townes and Calvin Simmons reads to students at OCSI

Okinawa, Japan – The Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter conducted several events during their annual Achievement Week Celebration. SGG expanded their annual book reading to the International students at Okinawa Christian School International (OCSI) on November 13, 2019 in Okinawa, Japan. Brother Robert Townes and Brother Calvin Simmons served as key facilitators at OCSI that included American and Japanese students. Basileus Cortez Pree led the book

reading at Kadena Elementary School (KES) on Kadena Air Base. The Brothers read several books that focused on empathy as they reiterated the chapter stance against bullying. The Chapter mantra is: “Bullies Never Win”. The Brothers also discussed world peace and unity. Basileus Pree, Brother Townes and Brother Simmons read to over 75 American and Japanese students during their Achievement Week Celebration.

Shanghai, China – Brother King represented the Chi Mu Nu Chapter at a local educational program for children recovering from cancer. Special moments happen when parents and teachers partner for a great cause.

In keeping with the vision of our noble Founders and recognizing the Fraternity's intent to enhance our footprint globally, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. is proud to announce the chartering of our newest Chapter, Chi Mu Nu, China.



After more than 18 months of planning, eleven men were found worthy to proudly carry the mantle of Omega. This band of committed Brothers have

individually and collectively upheld the principles of Omega and have been instruments of service throughout the community of Shanghai. ///

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Next deadline for 1st Quarter 2020 - March 15th. Information for January, February, March, 2020.

Newsletter Goal

Information from Each District Each Quarter about Fatherhood Initiatives and Mentoring: Youth Leadership Conferences, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Brother You're on My Mind.

**Each District Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Chairman shall submit Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring information from their District each quarter to:
geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net**

See our website: omegafandm.org

"Friendship Is Essential To The Soul"