



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring (FIM) Newsletter



Fatherhood Initiative

Youth Leadership Conferences

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Project Manhood

Brother, You're on My Mind! ©

Vol. 7

October, November, December, 2020

NO. 4

"Quarterly Publication of the International Committee on Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring" ©

A Message from the Chairman

In this **New Year** ...

Dear GOD, Give us this day, our daily bread...



S. Earl Wilson, Chairman
Fatherhood Initiative and
Mentoring Committee

What Is A Dad?

A dad is someone who
wants to catch you before you fall
but instead picks you up,
brushes you off,
and lets you try again.

A dad is someone who
wants to keep you from making mistakes
but instead lets you find your own way,
even though his heart breaks in silence
when you get hurt.

A dad is someone who
holds you when you cry,
scolds you when you break the rules,
shines with pride when you succeed,
and has faith in you even when you fail...

- Unknown

YourBirthdayQuotes.com

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“With Georgia on OUR mind,” we VOTE



**THE BRUHZ WILL
VOTE!**

AGAIN,

A Father's Duty and Responsibility! January 5, 2021

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE FREE?

Amendment XIII of the Constitution of the United States of America

Section 1: Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2: Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XXIV of the Constitution of the United States of America

Section 1: The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Section 2: The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

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See the Fatherhood and Mentoring Information

www.omegafandm.org



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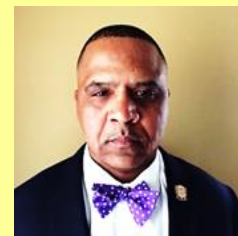
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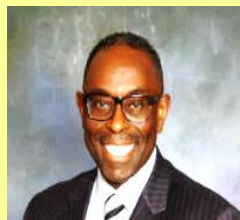
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Brother Robert W. Fairchild, Fatherhood Initiative Advisor

About our Fatherhood Work: MBK

BROTHERS, WHEN PRESIDENT OBAMA WAS IN OFFICE, he launched the **My Brother's Keeper** initiative to address persistent opportunity gaps faced by boys and young men of color. He wanted to ensure that all young people could reach their full potential. Through this initiative, his administration joined with cities and towns, businesses and foundations taking important steps to connect young people to mentoring, support networks, and the skills they needed to find a good job or go to college and work their way into the middle class.

We recently engaged in a formal partnership with the Obama Foundation via a MOU signed by Brother Dr. David Marion, Grand Basileus. Our intent is to work in partnership with the MBK chapters around the country to address the milestones listed below in conjunction with our Project Manhood mentorship principles. My Brother's Keeper focus on these milestones:

- **Getting a Healthy Start and Entering School Ready to Learn**

All children should have a healthy start and enter school ready – cognitively, physically, socially, and emotionally.

- ****Reading at Grade Level by Third Grade****

All children should be reading at grade level by age 8 – the age at which reading to learn becomes essential.

- **Graduating from High School Ready for College and Career**

All youth should receive a quality high school education and graduate with the skills and tools needed to advance to post-secondary education or training.

- **Completing Post-secondary Education or Training**

Every American should have the option to attend post-secondary education and receive the education and training needed for the quality jobs of today and tomorrow.

- **Successfully Entering the Workforce**

Anyone who wants a job should be able to get a job that allows them to support themselves and their families.

- **Keeping Kids on Track and Giving Them Second Chances**

All youth and young adults should be safe from violent crime; and, individuals who are confined should receive the education, training, and treatment they need for a second chance.

Some of the situations that we have faced as a people leading up to the recent election have highlighted the need for our strong involvement and work with fathers, men and boys of color in our communities. As we continue to engage our work in Fatherhood and Mentoring, we should incorporate these milestones in our targeted efforts because they help focus on taking a young boy all the way into being a productive working man.

AS A BLACK MALE ORGANIZATION, we are obligated to help bring about a better future for Black fathers, men and boys. Many of the incidents that have occurred over the past year have highlighted the importance of the need for us to reach out and help make a difference. If we don't do it, who will? It's our responsibility. Brothers, I ask in the strongest way possible that we engage and be a full participant in working to make a difference.

Bob Fairchild



P.S. My Brother's Keeper: In Memory of Brother Richard C. Jarvis, Jr.

By Brother Robert W. Fairchild

We are working to promote the implementation of the My Brother's Keeper Initiative in partnership with the Obama Foundation and the Fraternity. This partnership was formalized after the recent signing of an MOU by Brother Dr. David Marion, Grand Basileus. Last year, Brothers Thabiti Boone and Robert W. Fairchild met with the Executive Director and staff of the Obama Alliance at their headquarters in Washington DC. However, implementation of the partnership has been delayed because of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Brother Boone was in communication with Brother Rick Jarvis in the 1st District who wanted to engage in a relationship with the My Brother's Keeper Chapter in the Boston area. They wanted to hold a program during the Achievement Week activities and bring in the My Brother's Keeper representative. Brother Boone contacted the MBK Alliance to find out who the contact person was in the Boston area. He then facilitated a meeting with their MBK representative and the District Fatherhood and Mentoring Chairman Brother Anthony Lilley, the First Vice District Representative and several brothers. During the meeting Brother Boone explained the program and discussed how the parties could work together. There was also discussion of incorporating undergraduates from local universities.

A panel discussion was planned and held during the Achievement Week activities. Unfortunately, Brother Jarvis passed prior to the panel. Because of his desire to begin the relationship with MBK the session was held in his honor. This coming together in this first step has the potential to be the beginning of a good relationship with the MBK chapter in that area. ///

- NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -

1st Quarter 2021, March 15th; information for January, February, March 2021

Our Goal: Information, each District, each quarter; Fatherhood, Mentoring Programs, Youth Leadership Conferences, Project Manhood, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Brother You're on My Mind.

Please submit to: geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net

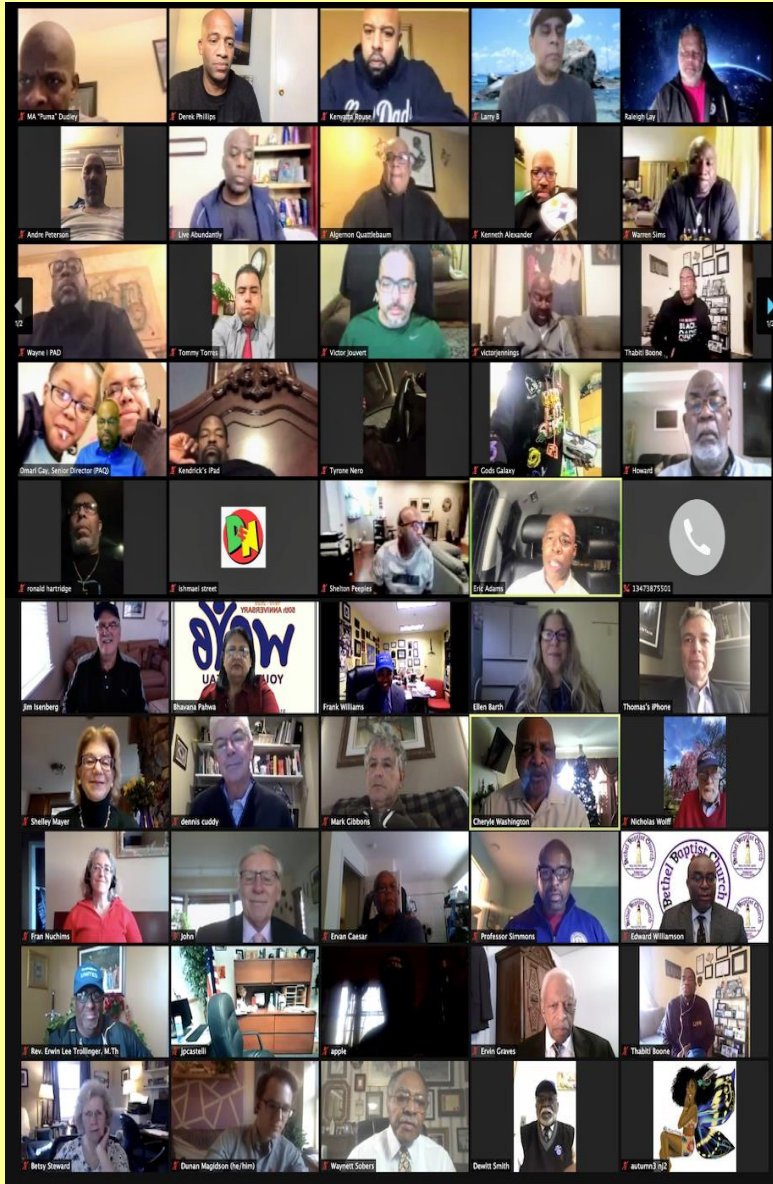
"CHANGE IS A CONSTANT thing that you have to embrace when pursuing your vision in life. Your ability to feed and fight for your vision is greatly influenced by your willingness to break free from unnecessary comfort and explore new and innovative ways of accomplishing things. At some point, you might have to change your inner circle of influence.

"You only have one life to live; this is your time to embrace your gift and walk in your purpose in life. Tomorrow will never come and yesterday is a distant memory when it comes to life. You have this moment in time to achieve the things that you've always desired in life."
Malik K. Murray, [Unlocking Your Gifts: Finding Purpose In Life.](#)

Brother Thabiti Boone, Special Guest speaker 6th Annual New York State Fatherhood Conference

Conference guests: Elected officials, Clergy, Fatherhood program leaders and Agency social services representatives.

Conference Theme: *"Responsible Fathers...Lifelines during COVID-19"*



New York, NY – This year's conference was presented virtually in a 3-part conference series. Conference Sessions were held October 24, November 7 and December 5.

Conference topics included supporting fathers during **COVID 19**, fatherhood resources to help fathers and families get through the pandemic, food distribution, child care and wellness, employment and mental health resources. The conference also provided fathers with activities to keep them active with their children during the challenges of isolation and with Educational support for children's virtual schooling.

Brother Boone spoke on the importance of keeping fathers engaged, supported, and the need for continued programs and services. He offered words of encouragement to all fatherhood conference attendees stating *"with our strength as fathers we will come out on the other side of the pandemic stronger for our children and families."* The fatherhood conference was organized and moderated by fraternity member Frank Williams, executive director of White Plains New York Youth Bureau. Brother Williams is one of the top Fatherhood and Mentoring leaders in the State of New York.

Brother Boone served as a guest speaker for NYC fatherhood advocacy organization **RealDadsNetwork** weekly club zoom session. The Fatherhood Club was created to bring fathers together as a fatherhood brotherhood, support group,

geared towards dads supporting one another around shared activities, services and resources. As a guest speaker Brother Boone spoke on the history of black fatherhood.

Brother Boone participated with the **NY State Grandpas United Organization** annual awards breakfast program. Grandpas United is a brand-new concept for grandfathers, representing the generational value of granddads and their legacy. Grandpas United not only supports one another through social activities, they provide support to fatherhood programs, mentoring young people and community volunteers. Brother Boone spoke on the legacy and impact granddads have on fatherhood. (Submitted by Brother Thabiti Boone) ///

January 2021



**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**

Changing Technology in the Court Room: Enhancing the Parenting and Co-Parenting Process

The calendar has turned and mercifully, 2020 is in our collective rearview mirror!

While there is nothing magical about the idea that the calendar change is suddenly going to bring positive change, the New Year is still something new, and our collective psyche can find benefit in the possibilities that something new can bring!

THE YEAR 2020 SAW THE USHERING IN OF CHANGES to our way of life that will impact us for the foreseeable future. There have been developments, born of necessity, which will forever affect our institutional processes and modes of socialization.

The concept and practice of virtual relationships is engrained in how we do business, how we socialize, how we communicate...essentially, in every imaginable sphere, how we connect with one another as human beings. **ZOOM** is here to stay!

Among the most consequential developments I have noted over my now 23 years on the bench, is the measure by which family dynamics have evolved, due to technology and its proliferation of remote interaction within families. However, nothing takes the place of human interaction and personal, proximal contact with our loved ones. That is especially true when it comes to parent/child bonding. Nothing can replicate the value of such interaction. Sociologic and scientific studies consistently reach that conclusion in study after study.

**"... nothing
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The other part of the relationship equation that CAN be enhanced by technology and virtual means is the connection that should take place between parents who're estranged and/or separated, for whatever reason. Mothers and Fathers must be able to communicate and connect, with one another, on a level that serves the best interest of the child(ren) that they share.

In far too many cases that unfold in my court, the level of communication between co-parents falls far short of the standard that promotes a healthy and balanced upbringing for their child. The implications and consequences that arise from such failure are far-reaching lifelong challenges to the quality of life that the child experiences.

SO WHERE DOES TECHNOLOGY COME INTO PLAY? We don't have to look far, but we do need to be creative to take advantage of the means that are available to improve communication and connection between co-parents. Co-parents who don't trust that their conversations will be remembered or interpreted accurately may be well served by simply utilizing email to re-cap the main points of important discussions that occur between parents who have difficulty communicating.

After the verbal conversation, type the high points and email them to the other parent. It is inconvenient, but it beats the hell out of wasting time and energy on arguments that have no end!

If the level of difficulty between co-parents is really at a high level, a professional co-parenting app such as “Our Family Wizard” (OFW) is especially designed to facilitate better, unbiased communication. Family Courts in every state recognize evidence that is generated from “OFW” as admissible should the need for litigation arise.

Schedules are kept, times and dates are verifiable, notes of conversations can be maintained, and vital information co-parents need to share is easily accessible and reproducible. There are a number of similar type apps that are available for purchase.

When it is not advisable or logistically possible for there to be actual in person contact, Facetime and Zoom are technologies that provide opportunities for face-to-face interaction. The process of reestablishing contact between a long absent parent and a child can be accomplished in the less intimidating environment of a Zoom or Facetime visit.

If domestic violence has been legitimately, or illegitimately alleged to have occurred within the family unit, remote contact by one of the burgeoning meeting platforms removes the apprehension of further confrontations or allegations of such confrontations.

COVID-19 has made it a tricky proposition to maintain in person contact. Remote meeting platforms

allow for some semblance of contact as we await the cessation of this time of pandemic.

Many families are left to deal with the simple fact that estranged parents frequently move their domicile many miles apart from the other parent and/or the child(ren). Visitation schedules that evolve these situations are intended to replicate, as much as possible, the contact that would occur if all parties were within close proximity. Remote contact can help to enhance positive contact and engagement during the periods between scheduled visitations.

In closing, I would note to you, as usual, courts are welcoming of any agreements and processes that the estranged parents can reach among themselves. Short of those mutual agreements becoming reality, courts are also welcoming of creative proposals that are doable and provide the court a roadmap to fashion court orders that foster regular and meaningful contact and, hopefully, relationships for all concerned, but of highest priority, between child and parent...both parents!

I wish us all God’s Grace and Mercy in the challenging days that lie ahead!

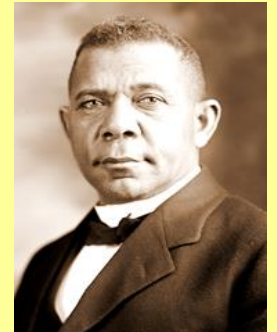
F.I.E.T.T.S.

Brother Gregory C. Pittman, Esq.

Around the Districts



On 16 October 1901, shortly after moving into the White House, President Theodore Roosevelt invited his adviser, Booker T. Washington, to dine with him and his family; it provoked an outpouring of condemnation from southern politicians and press. This reaction affected subsequent White House practice and no other African American was invited to dinner for almost thirty years.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Booker_T._Washington_dinner_at_the_White_House

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

**Brother You're On My Mind
In Memoriam for Brother Richard C. Jarvis, Jr.**



In Celebration of Achievement Week The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Gamma, Eta Phi, and Iota Chi Chapters Present:



**FATHERHOOD AND
MENTORING DURING
THE PANDEMIC**

A Panel Discussion In Memory of Richard C. Jarvis, Jr.

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 14, 2020
10:30 AM**

Join via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87253058019?pwd=NFc1TnRlNDFoS3AoSU51blRlYzNlQTo9>

*Meeting ID: 872 5305 8019
Passcode: 718381*

Find your local dial in number:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kr43eLHu2>

Featured Panelists:

Jim Jones-Retired MA State Trooper
Joshua Benjamin-Harvard Student
Kyree Blackwell- Product Developer
Tony Martin and Gregory Blaize-My Brothers Keeper
Anthony B. Lilley-District Fatherhood and Mentoring Chair
Guest Moderator:
Francois Fils-Aime- Executive Director of Cornerstone Collaborative

Brother You're On My Mind: Fatherhood and Mentoring during the Pandemic

BROTHER RICHARD C. JARVIS, JR., was called to his Heavenly home October 27th but not before he had set in motion a collaboration between the My Brother's Keeper Initiative and the First District of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

To kickstart our Achievement Week, the brothers of the Iota Chi Chapter in collaboration with the Tau Iota, Eta Phi and Gamma Chapters from the 1st District conducted a panel discussion in memory of our late Brother Rick Jarvis entitled: "Fatherhood and Mentoring during the Pandemic."

Our panelist for the virtual panel discussion were: Brother Anthony B. Lilley, District Fatherhood and Mentoring Chairman; Tony Martin and Gregory Blaize, My Brother's Keeper; Brothers Kyree Blackwell, Product Developer, Joshua Benjamin, Harvard Senior and Jim Jones, Retired Massachusetts State Trooper.

The panel moderated by the Immediate Past District Representative Brother Francois R. Fils-Aime, II, discussed and shared experiences and/or challenges

associated with parenting and mentoring during this pandemic.

Panelists were asked to share stories about their mentor(s) growing up? How has being a father changed you and impacted your parenting or mentoring? The audience weighed in and gave several responses to those questions. The discussion concluded with uplifting remarks from Brother Lennit Bligen, 1st District Representative and Brother Anthony Lilley, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Chairman.

These chapters were determined to have this event be a success because Brother Rick Jarvis put an extreme amount of energy into making this event happen. We hope we made Brother Jarvis proud. **Submitted by, Brother Reginald S. Perry. ///**

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

Back#2#School Game Changer Conference.

Submitted by Donald Williams II, 2nd District Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee, Immediate Past Basileus Mu Nu Chapter



U.S. Congressman Chris Van Hollen delivers Congratulatory Messages to participants

On Saturday, October 24, 2020, Mu Nu Chapter hosted its first virtual Back#2#School Game Changer Conference. Mu Nu has been a Co-Sponsor of the youth initiative that started under the tutelage of Brother David A. Hill, 22nd Basileus in March 2012. The annual conference, now in its ninth year, has grown in attendance impacting approximately

500 young males while addressing concerns of social justice, education, mentorship and more.

The Conference Theme this year was "Mentoring in the Midst of a Crisis – Make Your Life Matter and Count." In compliance with County **COVID – 19** guidance, we were unable to gather as usual and had to

pivot quickly to a new platform and structure. Still, we were able to engage with approximately 150 participants using a virtual platform.

Consistent with previous years, we continued our focus on male students of color. Participants were Uplifted, Educated, Equipped, Empowered and Encouraged to do the necessary work to “Win Your Future.”

Brother Brian Heat delivered a powerful motivational message that was reference throughout the conference by other presenters. His presentation reached our young males and provided practical applications that encouraged audience participation. Students shared their thoughts and feelings on how **COVID – 19** was impacting their journey.

Congratulatory messages were received from several dignitaries including: Brother Lieutenant General R. Scott Dingle, U.S. Army’s Surgeon General and Commanding General (Support) U.S. Army Medical Command; the Honorable Chris Van Hollen, U.S. Congressman (D-MD); Marc Elrich, County Executive; Sidney A. Katz, County Council President; Anne Foster-Ahmed, Director of the Center for Academic Success, Universities at Shady Grove and Brother Gabe Brown, Basileus, Mu Nu Chapter.



Omega Men at Work Impacting Youth Lives in this Moment

The Game Changer Conference was designed as a Community Collaborative initiative that unites the community stakeholders, parents, and community leaders to raise awareness of the challenges for Black and Brown male students of color. The teaming partners were encouraged to stay committed, stay connected and stay engaged with our young people in the midst of this health crisis.

Just as important, the partners aim to encourage students to take their education seriously. The coalition desires to increase stories of success while partnering with liked-minded organizations to change the trajectory of thousands of high school students as they transition to college, the work force, or the military and continue their growth as contributing partners of our community. ///

CHAIRMAN’S NOTE: THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS IMPORTANT EFFORT and helping our youth be successful every day, especially in this moment. Mentoring Matters – our students need to see Omega Excellence in this rapidly evolving **COVID-19** pandemic moment. Chapters are encouraged to implement technology platforms and broaden ways to mentor our youth and assist fathers in becoming their best selves. ///

In Memory of Veterans: Recognizing Reverent Service

Gaithersburg, MD – Sunday, November 8, 2020 – First A.M.E. Church in Gaithersburg, conducted its Veterans Day Worship Service. **Brother Lieutenant General R. Scott Dingle**, U.S. Army’s Surgeon General and Commanding General (Support) U.S. Army Medical Command, was guest “preacher”. He is a proud member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He was selected by the Veterans Ministry Committee Leader Chaplain J. Pinkney, retired LTC in the Air Force and approved by Reverend Dr. Vanetta Brice, Pastor.

General Dingle was introduced by Brother Donald Williams, II, who thanked the three-star General for his service to the Nation. A week prior, General Dingle was

a dignitary at the first virtual Back#2#School Game Changer Conference that impacted approximately 150 male participates. The General shared his story about being a star football player at Morgan State University with aspiration upon graduating to play in the NFL. “Things didn’t quite work out as planned,” he chuckled.

Cadet Dingle received a ROTC Commission as a 2nd Lieutenant and pursued an Army career due to the many opportunities offered by the military. His message inspired, uplifted and connected the next generation of young people to consider the military as a professional career that will improve their quality of living. ///



Brother, Reverend Lieutenant General R. Scott Dingle, U.S. Army's Surgeon General with Brother Donald Williams, II, and the Veterans Ministry Committee with Reverend Dr. Vanetta Brice, Pastor of First A.M.E. Church in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

GENERAL DINGLE IS AN ORDAINED ITINERATE ELDER in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, thus the invitation to First A.M.E. Church. The Veteran's Day Worship Theme was "Christian Soldiers on the Battlefield for our Lord, Living Under the Protection of Almighty God." The General spoke on the subject "Christian Soldiers Creed." He highlighted how each branch of the arm forces has a creed that governs its actions while living and working. All veterans, whether sailors, soldiers, marines, air force, coast guard and/or space command, live by their creed. Like veterans, America must "see you" living your creed, he said.

The General shared a story about annually attending Morgan State University football games. Every year he would see an elderly Omega man wearing a red jacket and wondered to himself, "Who is that man?" He would

just wave to him until one year he was approached by the man's granddaughter who said her grandad wanted to speak with him. General Dingle learned that the veteran wearing the red jacket was none other than 93-year-old Brother Leroy Battle (Omega Chapter).

The veteran was a member of the famed *Tuskegee Airman* that ushered in change for a generation setting the tone for desegregation of the Armed Forces.

That experience among others led the General to exclaim, "*You must do more than see Veterans; take a moment to talk with them and thank them for their service to our Nation,*" he said. He told the assembly, "Our Black and Brown Community must 'see you' out of your uniform and in your uniform for Active-Duty Members. We must tell our story to inspire others; and share how the military made our lives better." ///

CHAIRMAN'S WILLIAMS NOTE: AS WE CELEBRATE VETERANS DAY, I would like to take the time to say, "Thank you" and "Happy Veterans Day" to those that have served. We salute all, who once wore the uniform of our Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Command, Marines, or Coast Guard.

"The vote is precious. It is the most powerful non-violent tool we have in a democratic society, and we must use it." [John Lewis](#), the late civil rights activist and former member of the U.S. House of Representatives for Georgia.

The Heralded Omega U Program

Prince William County, MD – Pi Lambda Lambda (PLL) Youth Leadership & Mentoring program has hosted over 15 virtual programs for students in Prince William County (PWC) Virginia since the beginning of the new school year.

The Omega U Program mentors' students from 3rd grade to graduating HS seniors in partnership with Prince William County Public Schools. Since September of 2020, Omega U has hosted bi-weekly mentoring sessions to elementary, middle, and high school students. On October 31, 2020, PLL hosted a Youth Symposium that featured a virtual career panel discussion for over 50 students.

The purpose of the panel discussion was to empower, encourage and equip students with knowledge through exposure to various opportunities that exist in the workplace. Workforce professions were present from the



Mr. Jawuan Hill, Colgan HS Omega U president

following targeted areas: Cosmetology, Electrician, Physical Therapy, Social Worker, Real Estate and Military Officer Training (Army and Marine Corp).

While there are professions that do not require a college degree, we do not encourage complacency. Each profession still requires a *degree of learning* whether it is a certification or training, especially as one elevates within their career.



Mr. Jawuan Hill, Colgan High School Omega U President, moderated a session of the Bridge Builder Townhall with over 50+ male and female students from middle to high school. The Bridge Builder Townhalls are virtual events that invites youth from middle school and high school to have an interactive discussion with Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and community leaders within PWC. The session focused on Teen Activism.

The Presidential Election on November 3, 2020.

The panelist discussion centered around youth involvement, actions that teenagers can do to stay informed, volunteer work, and being aware of events impacting their community - positive and negative. In addition, there was strong emphasis on young people getting and staying engaged early on understanding the importance of voting at the local and state levels. Bro. Jeffrey Allen, Basileus of PLL, helped lead the



discussion that included Brothers Michael Frazier, Rickey Siggall, and Darryl Barnett.

The Omega U program continues to offer students a premier mentoring program with guidance and insight from older professional college educated men. Omega U is the largest male mentoring program in the 3rd District and partners with 4 high schools, 4 middle schools, and 1 elementary school in the 2nd largest school district in Virginia with over 90,000 students. ///

Gamma Xi Chapter, The Golden Fold (TGF) Mentorship Program

Virginia Beach, VA – (October 24th) – VOTING AND ITS POLITICS: Brother Derrick Gilbert a 2017, The Golden Fold (TGF) graduate, spoke about a program called “Boy State”, a 2-week participatory program in which students become part of the operation of local, county and state government.

November 14th - Policing in America (Virginia Beach): Brother Alvin Lyons retired Virginia Beach Police officer along with Officer Llyod White enlightened our Young Leaders on the proper ways one

should react when approached by police. This was followed by a Q&A at the end of the session.

December 5th – Step to Success (High School/College/Military): In this session Young Leaders were questioned on what they were doing to prepare themselves for high school. Afterwards, they were given a document consisting of what they should be doing from 9th – 12th grade as they prepare for college. The mentees also heard a Navy recruiter speak about possibilities in the Navy. ///

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

17th Annual Delta Sigma Theta/Omega Psi Phi – College Prep Workshop Beta Iota Chapter

17th Annual

College Prep Workshop

Presented **VIRTUALLY*** by the Cincinnati Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and Beta Iota Chapter, an Unincorporated Association of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Saturday, November 14, 2020
10am – 1pm
Via Zoom Video Conferencing

Register by 11/10/2020 at
www.cincinnati.collegeprepworkshop2020.eventbrite.com

This event is completely **FREE!** Students and parents can register and attend together. Students: stay for the entire session and a graduating senior* could win a **\$500 SCHOLARSHIP** (paid directly to your college/university). Other prizes and giveaways will also be available.
*must reside in Cincinnati or surrounding areas to qualify

Workshop Topics Include:

- ▶ **You've Met Your Match** - Test Optional vs. Test Required. Which is best for you?
- ▶ **Social Media Savvy** - What's in it for you?
- ▶ **A New Reality** - Surviving COVID-19
- ▶ **Plus! Interactive Student & Parent Panels**, so get your questions ready!

Questions? Email us at cacadtscholarshipcommittee@gmail.com

Saturday, November 14, 2020 – Beta Iota Chapter, partnered with the Cincinnati Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority to conduct the 17th Annual College Prep Workshop! Due to the **COVID – 19** Pandemic, we were challenged with how to best conduct this year's workshop. Being the resilient

leaders and recognizing the need for the continued support of our youth, we chose to conduct this year's workshop virtually. We selected “Zoom” as our platform and upgraded our subscription to accommodate a larger audience.

The CPW consisted of the following sessions: – “*You’ve Met Your Match: Test optional vs. Test Required. Which is best for you?*” – In this session various College recruiters gave overviews of their college/university and capped-off the session with our very own Christopher Allen (Beta Iota Chapter) and Kendra Dewberry (Cincinnati Alumnae Chapter), both from the University of Cincinnati’s Admission’s office. They provided insights into the admissions process. Another session dealt with the subject: “*Social-Media Savvy: What’s in it for You?*” – This session was facilitated by Jerry Leftwich (Beta Iota Chapter) and Crystal Kendrick (Cincinnati Alumnae Chapter),

President of The Voice of Your Customer Marketing Firm and The Voice of Black Cincinnati Website. They provide their guidance on Social Media presence and shared a video regarding how to avoid the pitfalls of leaving a negative social media footprint. Here is the video link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08M411vIm2o>.

The finally session was entitled – “*A New Reality: Surviving COVID – 19*” – This session was conducted by LaMarque’ Ward and Christine Gibson, PhD, of Dream Builders University. This session focused on how students can cope with their new normal in a **COVID – 19** environment. ///

The Finale

PARENT AND STUDENT PANELS: The day was ended by dividing the attendees into a parent panel and a student panel. The parent panel was interactive; it allowed parents to ask questions of parents who currently have students in college or students that recently graduated from college. The student panel consisted of current college students available to answer questions from aspiring college students. Both sessions were lively and informative.

At the close of the day, several gift cards were awarded to the attendees and one (1) student received a

\$500 book scholarship for their participation. The winner of the \$500 book scholarship was randomly selected from local seniors who were present for the full duration of the workshop. Overall, it was a great workshop. One hundred-thirty (130) people registered to attend and approximately 86 actually attended. Because we were able to conduct the workshop virtually, we were able to broaden our reach of student participants. Not only did we have students from the Cincinnati area, we had attendees from Washington DC, Florida, Kentucky and Georgia. ///

Fatherhood Initiative

Cincinnati, OH – Beta Iota Chapter recently partnered with the boys and girls club in Cincinnati Ohio and provided thirty-five (35), \$50 Kroger gift certificates for families in need of assistance at Thanksgiving. The Chapter’s goal was set at providing only twenty (20) \$50 Kroger Gift Cards, but through the great work and generosity of the brothers of Beta Iota, an additional 15 gifts cards were presented to the families Friday, November 20, 2020. ///

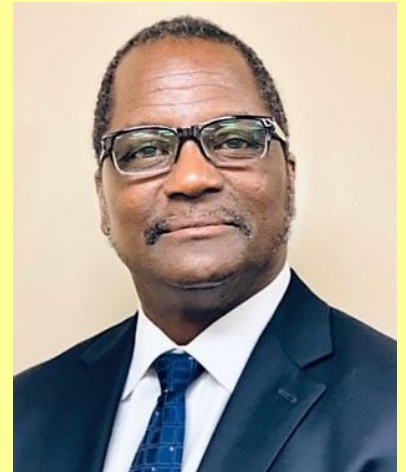


Submitted by Brother Michael Milliner

THE OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC., under the leadership of Dr. David Marion, 41st Grand Basileus, continues its emphasis on the principle of Manhood by focusing on Fatherhood and Mentoring in the Black Community.

This same enthusiasm has been extended through regular meetings of the International Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee (FIMC) chaired by S. Earl Wilson. As Chairman of the Fifth District FIMC, I can directly attest to the passion shown by both the Fifth District Representative Sam McKenzie, and the First Vice District Representative Quincy Snider.

These articles highlight only some of the 4th Quarter accomplishments of the Fifth District which continues to enrich the lives of Black Fathers and the Youth of our community through targeted and relevant programming. MM



**Brother Michael Milliner
Chairman, 5th District, FIMC**

BLACK FATHERHOOD RAP SESSION

Nashville, TN – On November 12th Gamma Phi Chapter held the first Black Fatherhood Rap Session. The Topic for the evening was “Black Fatherhood and The Impact of **COVID-19**”. The Session was designed to facilitate discussion on how the global pandemic has impacted the lives, relationships, families and environments of Brothers and members of the community. As it turned out, the 90 minutes scheduled for the discussion were woefully insufficient and before wrapping-up, future sessions were being planned.

Fifth District Committee Member Michael Bennett stated, “I had no idea there was that much emotion and

concern out there. We heard parents talking about the perils of distance learning; spouses expressing the need for advice and guidance to cope with relationship changes brought on by monotony and the lack of routine, and Fathers being deeply concerned about the mental health of their children.”

This was truly an eye-opening event that says a lot more about how the Black Community can suffer, cope, and thrive in these adverse circumstances. The event was well attended and the Fifth District looks forward to continuing the dialogue and providing resources that will address the expressed needs. ///

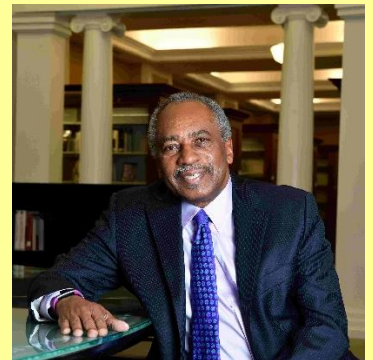
REKNOWNED EDITOR MODERATES WORKSHOP: “BUILDING A BRIDGE BETWEEN COMMUNITY & LAW ENFORCEMENT” DWIGHT LEWIS, MODERATOR

ON NOVEMBER 19TH BROTHER DWIGHT LEWIS, Retired Editor of The Tennessean Newspaper®, served as Moderator of a community workshop aimed at addressing issues confronting Black Men and Young Black Boys and Black Girls when it comes to safely and effectively interacting with the police. The event was sponsored and held by Gamma Phi Chapter of Nashville, TN

This event included some of the leading law enforcement personnel in the Middle Tennessee area as Panelists and more than 60 participants. The 90-minute session dealt with issues ranging from excessive use of

force, knowing your rights, and how to pursue a career in law enforcement.

Brother Dwight Lewis stated, “The panel discussion shows how important it is for people of color to be a part of law enforcement organizations in order to help bridge the gap of understanding not only in the Black Community but for that matter in communities of all races.” He also stated that, “By listening closely to the Panelists, it



became obvious that people of color currently serving in these law enforcement agencies have a much harder time moving-up to positions where they can influence policies and procedures. In other words, we're all in this together."

Held at the height of the greatest social unrest since the Civil Rights Movement, this timely topic proved an invaluable opportunity for dialogue that could actually help to keep the young people in our community safe, and to make them aware of the challenges faced by all involved. ///

BLACK MINDS MATTER

LOUISVILLE, KY – OMEGA PSI PHI HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT of elevating the conversation on mental health in the Black Community for several years. The launching of Brother, You're on My Mind: Changing the National Dialogue Regarding Mental Health Among African American Men has been a beacon of hope in raising the awareness and importance of having this discussion in our community.

It was in that spirit that Theta Omega Chapter forged ahead with an initiative to promote mental wellness and resiliency among Black youth in the Greater Louisville area. In partnership with DJ's Plan, a social justice mental wellness advocacy group, Theta Omega hosted an event providing an opportunity for youth ages 14-17 to express and process their mental health needs and concerns in a healthy and supportive environment. This event was called **'Black Minds Matter'**.

Licensed Mental Health Counselors guided discussions on the implications of the **COVID-19** crisis in conjunction with the current civil unrest that is occurring in our communities. During this event youth explored the condition of their emotional state both at



the onset and the ongoing impact these crises are having on their academic, social, health and economic wellbeing. The youth learned adaptive means for coping with their emotions and developed strategies for addressing issues of injustices in their communities. Fifteen (15) youth were in attendance and the Center of Disease Control **COVID-19** guidelines were observed. ///

An enormous thanks to the Fifth District FIMC members Brothers Irwin Todd, Isaiah Hess, Mike Dorsey, and Michael Bennett. Brother Michael Milliner, Chairman.

Why is Voting Important?

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 17, 2017 [World News](#)) — Why is voting important? Through the work of [five amendments](#) to the constitution and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Americans have been fighting for the right to vote to be written into our laws. The 14th amendment gives all persons with U.S. citizenship rights and privileges, including the right to vote. The 15th amendment declared that no citizen is to be denied the right to vote based on race or color. This amendment was fought against by the enactment of Jim Crow Laws in the American South in an effort to prevent free slaves from voting.

Extracted from an article by – Karyn Adams **Borgen Magazine**



Mu Alpha Chapter: In Partnership with Father-to-Father, Inc

Submitted by Brother Melvin Williams

Charleston, SC – This past fall Mu Alpha Chapter Fatherhood Initiative/Conflict Resolution (FICR) committee developed a working relationship with **Father-to-Father, Inc.**, to ensure the empowerment and uplift of fathers in Charleston, SC.

Father-to-Father, Inc., mission is to help low-income, non-custodial fathers overcome the barriers that are preventing them from reconnecting with and becoming involved in the lives of their children. Father-to-Father, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization and is part of a network of 20 fatherhood programs reaching across South Carolina to help fathers reconnect with their children. Working under the umbrella of the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families, Father-to-Father is funded through local donations and state and federal funding.

Father-to-Father, Inc., requested the support from Mu Alpha Chapter to provide school supplies for the children to help them offset the cost of purchasing these

items. The Brothers of Mu Alpha Chapter accepted the challenge and raised funds to meet the goal communicated by Father-to-Father, Inc. “We appreciate and thank the men of Mu Alpha Chapter for teaming up with Father-to-Father on this initiative. We look forward to continuing our partnership in the future. Let’s continue to be strong for our fathers, our children and our community,” said Mr. Elmore Ragland, Executive Director of Father to Father, Inc.

In November, the men of Mu Alpha Chapter completed the school supply drive by providing over 75 backpacks full of school supplies for the children of Father-to-Father, Inc. Brother Jamaal Walton, Chair of Fatherhood Initiative/Conflict Resolution Committee, stated “we want to make a make a positive impact in the city of Charleston and with our partnership with Father-to-Father help empower other fathers to be the best version of themselves.” ///

Omega Manhood Institute

OmegaManhood1@gmail.com



Lexington, NC – The Omega Manhood Institute (OMI) continued weekly Tele-Mentoring of the 28 mentees in our **Omega S.T.A.R.R.S. Mentoring Program**. We delivered all birthday gifts for our mentees from September 1st until November 30. On September 22, we had in-person visits and delivered snacks to the Omega STARRS.

On October 23, we conducted in-person drop-by visits to most of the Omega S.T.A.R.R.S. and on October 31, we provided our annual Halloween Gift Bags to the Omega S.T.A.R.R.S. Mentors (Delray Anthony, Charlie Bethea, Ernest Blakely, and Marcus McNair) had to dodge ghosts and goblins while out

delivering Halloween Gift Bags to our mentees. Omega Manhood Institute also encouraged fathers/men to support the Census/BlackDad Count and 100k Fathers Voting Campaigns with continued periodic post on our Facebook page encouraging citizens to register and vote.

OMI conducted its 2nd Annual Mentees and Mentors Awards Ceremony virtually on Saturday, November 21st at 4pm. The topic was “Turning Boys into Positive Productive Men”. The keynote speaker was Mr. Ronnie Beverly, Athletic Director at Lexington High School. Congratulations to all the award recipients for their dedication and commitment to excellence.

| Omega Manhood Institute, Inc 2020 Mentees & Mentors Awards Ceremony | | Omega Manhood Institute, Inc 2020 Mentees & Mentors Awards Ceremony | | Omega Manhood Institute, Inc 2020 Mentees & Mentors Awards Ceremony | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Manhood Award <i>Delray Anthony</i> |  | Mentor of the Year <i>Charlie W. Bethea</i> |  | Scholar of the Year <i>James Gordon</i> |

| Omega Manhood Institute, Inc 2020 Mentees & Mentors Awards Ceremony | | Omega Manhood Institute, Inc 2020 Mentees & Mentors Awards Ceremony | | Omega Manhood Institute, Inc 2020 Mentees & Mentors Awards Ceremony | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mentee of the Year - Elementary School <i>Jayden Brown</i> |  | Mentee of the Year - Middle School <i>Elijah Grant</i> |  | Most Improved <i>Syrtonio Barnes</i> |

Special thanks to our members (Delray Anthony, Charlie Bethea, Ernest Blakely, Corey Buggs, VanDarrell Leonard, Marcus McNair, Wendell Moss and Jermaine Pitts), mentors, mentees, parents/guardians, and community partners (Rev. Arnetta Beverly, Ishia Craven, Judy Richards, and Ronnie Beverly) for their help and support of the program. Outstanding job by all, especially Ronnie Beverly with a fantastic message!

Thanks to Jacqueline Bethea for hosting the zoom event. Awesome job by those Omega S.T.A.R.R.S. that earned grades of C and above in all their courses (3rd: Jarius Alford, Jayden Brown, James Gordon, Jayden Holman, Michai Richardson, 4th: Christopher McNair, Hezekiah Nick, Jakari Tucker, 5th: Syrtonio Barnes,

DeAndre Miller and Tyreek White). Please congratulate the Omega S.T.A.R.R.S. on their performance during the 2019-20 school year and encourage them to live up to their potential. See some of our highlights from the year <https://youtu.be/gf45Lh55tRw>.

Shout out to Eta Beta Beta Chapter for coordinating the deliveries of Thanksgiving Gift Baskets to our 28 Omega S.T.A.R.R.S. Special thanks to Brother Lakeith Stevenson, President of Sources United for sponsoring the items. Deliveries by the following brothers: Delray Anthony, Charlie Bethea, Freddie Bradshaw, Roy Goodlett, Richard Hooker, Charles Powell, and John Rhinehardt. We wish for a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving for all.



A Sweet Delivery (5 flavor pound cake) to our 28 Omega S.T.A.R.R.S. sponsored by Sources United, Lakeith Stevenson and the opportunity to present the awards to the Omega Manhood Institute's 2020 Mentees and Mentors Recipients. Special thanks to mentors Delray Anthony and Freddie Bradshaw for helping me with the deliveries.

These times have been challenging but we believe with every challenge comes opportunities. Our faith is in GOD to help us continue to uplift our community and make the most out of each moment. Charlie W. Bethea, President & CEO ///



The Omega Champs Mentoring Program



Raleigh, NC **COVID-19** has caused a lot of changes on how we mentor. With social media and a group of willing mentees that wanted to continue, we were able to have our monthly meetings virtually. Even though we are coming to the end of the first half of the school year, the Brothers of Iota Iota Chapter stayed connected to our young men through Zoom. Omega Champs currently have twelve young men the program. North Carolina, like so many other states, has seen **COVID - 19** cases steadily increase and the virtual platform has served us well. Knowing that our young men are online all day for school, we knew we had to make our time with them fun and educational.

We turned our monthly meeting night into Kahoot's game night. Kahoot is a game-based learning platform that brings engagement and fun to school age students. We decided to make the learning experience rewarding so we added prizes.



The prizes seemed to increase the young men's participation and friendly completion between the mentees. The topics covered were NFL Trivia, Black History, HBCUs, Black Inventors, and Sports Night to name a few. Also, **we included the parents along with the mentors to keep everyone engaged through verbal communication.**

Lastly, Omega Champs will host its hats, socks and gloves event in collaboration with a local non-profit, **Helping Hands Mission** to serve the underserved population in Raleigh. This will be the fourth year of this partnership and a great way to teach our boys about giving back and community partnerships. ///

7th District: Brother Jonathan Gaines, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

LAMBDA TAU FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE AND MENTORING PROGRAM & Book Club

Lambda Tau Chapter - Brunswick, Georgia
Submitted by: Bro. Barrette Walker - FIMC
Chairman

LAMBDA TAU FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE and Mentor Program's mission is to provide leadership and mentoring to both African American men and youth in Glynn, McIntosh, and Camden counties.

The Brothers of Lambda Tau Chapter started its book club to ensure that our mentees are performing at their prospective reading levels. Chris Wingster, Joshua Brown, and Keygan Walker are six graders attending Jane Macon and Glynn Middle Schools in Glynn County. Mentees are



required to have a local library card to be in the book club. The mentor and mentee are reading: Its Trevor Noah: “Born in Crime”.

The mentor drafted 10 questions from the required reading and a discussion question to answer and discuss during Breakfast and other Discussion Sessions with mentees. The mentees must be prepared to answer and engage in the questions provided by the mentor. They are required to read the paragraph associated with the question out loud. This will give the mentee confidence when required to read out loud and help with public speaking. If the mentee encounters a word they do not know and/or understand, the mentee is required to write the word in their vocabulary notebook, research the word’s meaning, pronouncing, and root meaning. This exercise will enhance their vocabulary.

Scholarship being one the cardinal principals of the Fraternity must be passed on to our mentees. African American youth must understand that knowledge is the gateway to a great future and the ability to read is the gateway to scholarship. Therefore, each mentor will:

- Ω Purchase books for all mentees and mentor to read.
- Ω Ensure that mentees read 2 books during course of the school year and over the summer.
- Ω Visit the local library once a quarter.
- Ω Support African American youths who are reading below their required reading level.

Feeding the Homeless in Glynn County

Glynn County, GA – Lambda Tau Chapter Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Program supported **Seven Sister Catering**. Ms. Simmons-Walker is the owner/operator of the local catering business that feed the homeless in Glynn County.



Glynn County’s homeless population consisting of 80 plus individuals have been fed by **Seven Sisters Catering** every Sunday for four months. These individuals are aware they will be provided with a Southern style meal that might consist of bake chicken, red mash potatoes and gravy, cabbage, corn bread, peach cobbler, iced tea, lemonade, or water.

The meals take place at a location that s known as the WELL, one of several locations where the homeless population are provided meals in Glynn County.

Mentees participate in this initiative as a means to ensure that they understand the importance of community service and giving back to individuals that are in need of support.

The contributions from Glynn Academy High School Class of 1986 and parents of Lambda Tau mentees donated \$180 in support Seven Sister Catering to help finance the meals. We were grateful to partner with Seven Sister Catering in support this event. ///

HONORING YOUNG MEN AT VIRTUAL ACHIEVEMENT WEEK PROGRAM Awarded \$3,500 in Scholarships

Submitted by: Brother Albert Ike, Jr. - FIMC State Chairman

Tuscaloosa, AL – On November 15, 2020, Alpha Tau Chapter celebrated its annual Achievement Week Program virtually for the first time.

The program celebrated the achievements of over 150 young men from Pre-K to 12th grade from the counties of Bibb, Greene, Pickens, Sumter and

Tuscaloosa. The young men were greeted and given encouragement and inspiration from First Vice Grand Basileus Brother Ricky Lewis from Los Angeles, CA. A \$500 scholarship was awarded to a senior from each county.

The scholarship recipients were: Deshun Murrell - Bibb County, Ronald Hopson - Greene County, Jamaree Linder - Pickens County, Tavis Williams - Sumter County, Brandon Walton - Tuscaloosa County and Damien Taylor - Tuscaloosa County. This program also highlighted the achievements of the local graduate chapter, Alpha Tau and the undergraduate chapters which they oversee: Rho Gamma - Stillman College, Beta Eta - The University of Alabama, and Alpha Delta Iota - The University of West Alabama.

The following graduate awards were given: Omega Man of the Year - Brothers Quentin Turner, Superior Service Award - Erwin Dudley, Founders' Award - Robert Watson, Col. Charles Young Award - Col. Curtis White, Citizens of the Year - Terrence Windham and Woodrow Washington, and Advisor of the Year - Brother Roland Lewis. Brothers Christopher Spencer,

Charles Stacy, Samory Pruitt and Erwin Dudley received their awards for Alabama Lifetime membership.

All three of the Tuscaloosa undergraduate chapters received awards from the state level. Colby Boyd of Beta Eta - University of Alabama received the State of Alabama Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year award. Eddie Ford won the State of Alabama Highest GPA Award. Anthony Bell of Stillman College won the Highest GPA Award for Rho Gamma Chapter. Nicholas McCoy of the University of West Alabama won the Highest GPA Award for Alpha Delta Iota Chapter. The Beta Eta Chapter - University of Alabama received the following awards: International Chapter of the Year and State of Alabama Undergraduate Chapter of the Year Award. **Achievement Week Virtual YouTube Link:** <https://youtu.be/t4jPIXMI7os> ///

A Case Study: From Youth Mentees to Brothers of Omega

Chi Omega and Upsilon Psi Chapters - Tallahassee, FL

Submitted by: Brothers Jonathan L. Gaines - 7th District Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring;
Royle King - Executive Director/Chapter Advisor and Harry B. Williams - State Chairman

Does mentoring male youth benefit the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc?

Serving as **Fatherhood Initiative and Youth Mentoring Committee Chairman** for the 7th District has provided me the opportunity to take on a greater role working in collaboration with the International Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee, as well as State and Local FIMC Chairmen to implement fatherhood initiatives and mentoring programs and conduct training in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi. I have observed an increasing number of youth mentees across the 7th District who are becoming members of the fraternity. As one who's professional work involves the use of Business Metrics and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), I wanted to know more about the motivation of the mentees who become members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Because of this interest, I enlisted the help of colleagues from Upsilon Psi Chapter at Florida A&M University to assist with this research.

Case Study: The Upsilon Psi Chapter located on the campus of Florida A&M University recently conducted a Fall 2020 MSP Intake of twenty-six (26) new undergraduate brothers. Seven (7) of the twenty-six were previously members of the Lamplighter Youth Mentee program. In collaboration with Brothers Royle King - Chapter Advisor and Harry B. Williams - State Chairman, I wanted to know in greater detail the new members individual journey from Youth Mentees to Brothers of Omega. I presented each new undergraduate

brother with the same set of questions - to reflect on their experience as a past Youth Mentee who now is a Brother of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. I presented each brother with the same set of questions and recorded their responses to this question:

Is mentoring to save our male youth a saving grace for the future of the Mighty 7th District and/or Omega as a whole? The statements below are from the seven Omega brothers who participated in the MSP intake process at Florida A&M University:



Bro. Vincent Jones Jr
Upsilon Psi - Fall 2020

As a Lamplighter Youth Mentee: I was introduced to the principles of leadership, academics, maturity and perseverance. I was inducted on April 22, 2016 during my sophomore year of high school. I was able to learn what it takes to be a man while I was still a young man and became multifaceted in many ways as I was elected as Vice President in my second year in the program.

As a Brother of Omega: I was initiated into the Upsilon Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., on October 31, 2020. I was elected Keeper of Records and Seal, and I have dedicated my time to learning the business of the fraternity. With time, I will make even stronger bonds and continue to be truly immersed in the true Omega Spirit.

1. Do you feel being a past Lamplighter Mentee helped you to better understand the fraternity and to contribute now as a Brother of Omega? I do believe that being a Lamplighter helped me understand the fraternity on a deeper level as well as give me an opportunity to connect with Omega Brothers to help me along the way. I think it is very important for me personally give back anyway that I can because of the time that was invested in me while I was growing up.

2. What are your thoughts on mentoring other young men now as a Brother of

Omega? I believe it is my service and duty to be a mentor to young men in the community. Being a part of the Omega Lamplighters has helped me develop as a man, as well as expose me to many things that a lot of young men in this country do not get to see or do. The youth in today's society are desperately in need of mentorship and I have aspirations of having a mentoring program of my own.

3. What do you feel is your impact/influence on existing Lamplighters now as a Brother of Omega? Upon becoming a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., I have been able to connect with Lamplighter Mentees and share my past experiences as a Lamplighter. Current Mentees have been able to see me and develop a new found interest in not only the fraternity, but to better themselves as a whole. My journey as a Lamplighter Mentee to now as a Brother of Omega has allowed me to amplify my voice and become more comfortable with myself. I

am working diligently to be a role model and a positive influence to ensure current mentees are presented with the same opportunities.

As a Lamplighter Youth Mentee: Being a Lamplighter Mentee provided a great example in understanding Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and to be a contributor to the community.

As a Brother of Omega: Abiding by the principles within the Lamplighters Program was something I took pride in doing. That same pride and determination has matriculated and grown stronger as I aspire to live the principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



Bro. Bryce Turner
Upsilon Psi- Fall 2020

1. Do you feel being a past Lamplighter Mentee helped you to better understand the fraternity and to contribute now as a Brother of Omega? As a Lamplighter Mentee, I grasp the importance of giving back to the community and providing service for those in need. Also highlighted is the power of friendship and relationships that I developed as a mentee; they are still strong to this day. I understand the friendships that have formulated through this illustrious fraternity will continue to grow and last a lifetime.



2. What are your thoughts on mentoring other young men now as a Brother of Omega? In today's society, it is imperative for men, especially Black men to uplift our young black males. Mentoring has the potential to have a big impact on the growth and life development of young men to continue a path to becoming great men of society.

3. What do you feel is your impact/influence on existing Lamplighters now as a Brother of Omega? As an Omega Brother, I plan on becoming an impactful mentor towards the Lamplighters program and the mentees that I come across. For me, it is only right to pour into the youths, as I was poured into as a Lamplighter. The mentees before me laid the foundation of a great mentorship between the Lamplighters and the Men of Omega. It's my personal goal to uphold that relationship and strengthen it in any way that I can.



As a Lamplighter Youth Mentee: I joined the Jacksonville Lamplighters Program in 2015 through a friend who was a part of the first group of Jacksonville Lamplighters. He was a friend and a teammate as we played on the same Paxon JV football team. I gained knowledge and was uplifted on how to become a young man in a time where my growth as a young man was essential.

As a Brother of Omega: Now as a Brother, I serve as the NPHC Chairman and Co-Chair of the Health Initiatives Committee with the opportunity to reach back to help other mentees.

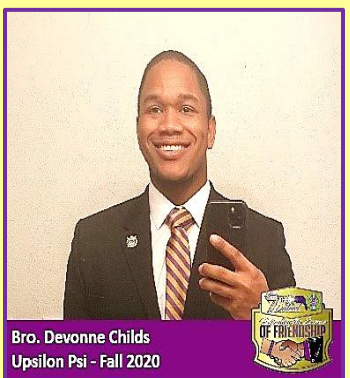


1. Do you feel being a past Lamplighter Mentee helped you to better understand the fraternity and to contribute now as a Brother of Omega? I know that as a lamplighter I got to see firsthand the brotherhood and uplift Omega could bring to a community. The Lamplighters Program allowed me to understand the excellence that the fraternity held itself to.

2. What are your thoughts on mentoring other young men now as a Brother of Omega? Mentoring is essential to the fraternity as black men influencing the community. I came from a broken household and I want to be a positive impact on youths by letting them know they do not have to grow up in this world alone.

Mentoring changed my life at the age of 14, it taught me various lessons on manhood that I needed to progress in my adolescence.

3. What do you feel is your impact/influence on existing Lamplighters now as a Brother of Omega? The current impact I have had as a Brother of Omega is uplifting the Lamplighters of Jacksonville, Florida Via IMessage and face time due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



As a Lamplighter Youth Mentee: I was inducted into the Omega Lamplighters Mentoring Program in the Fall 2013 during my sophomore year of high school. Upon induction, I was elected to the leadership position of Secretary, and participated in many community services events.

As a Brother of Omega: During the Fall 2020 semester at Florida A&M University, I had the honor of being initiated into the Melodic Bloody-Up Upsilon Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Within the time of initiation, our duties as Omega Men soon began. We were a part of many Social Actions and giving back to the community. As an Omega man, I continue to support the Mentoring Program that I hold dear to my heart.



1. Do you feel being a past Lamplighter Mentee helped you to better understand the fraternity and to contribute now as a Brother of Omega? As a Lamplighter Mentee, I was introduced to many concepts that are used in Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. As far as, having meetings, planning events and etc. I feel as though it has prepared me in a sense of what is to be expected of me as an individual, and more so when working with a group. Even on a larger, and impactful scale, it certainly has given me some insight into Omega.

2. What are your thoughts on mentoring other young men now as a Brother of Omega? In all honesty, it was a bit of an adjustment to being considered a mentor now instead of being considered a mentee, especially since I'm mentoring young men who are in the same position as I a few years back. However, being a mentor does

have its moments when they take an interest in the knowledge we give.

3. What do you feel is your impact/influence on existing Lamplighters now as a Brother of Omega?

Before becoming a Brother of Omega, myself and other Lamplighter alumnus assisted in inducting the most recent members into the Lamplighter Program. At the time of their induction and my time being initiated into Omega so closely conjoined, the bonds between mentors and mentees are already established. The next step is to continue to strengthen those bonds.



As a Lamplighter Youth Mentee: My younger brother and I became an Omega Lamplighters on October 21, 2013. My first year as an Omega Lamplighter, I became the Vice President. My second year in the program I became the President. My third year as an Omega Lamplighter, I had the honor and privilege of becoming the very first Regional President of the Omega Lamplighters in Northern Florida. Two of my greatest experiences as an Omega Lamplighter was being able to travel to Washington, DC and take part in the second Million Man March. The other is being chosen as the Chi Omega Chapter - Achievement Week speaker in 2016. The fact that these great men thought that I, a high school student could handle such an honor was nothing short of amazing.

As a Brother of Omega: I was initiated into the Up Upsilon Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., on October 31st, 2020. Being an Omega Lamplighter Alum, I became the co-chairman of the Omega Lamplighter Committee. For the short time that I have been a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., I have taken part in several social action initiatives and events with the Omega Lamplighters. I look forward to the lifelong bonds I will make and the many memorable moments I will have in this newest chapter of my Omega journey.

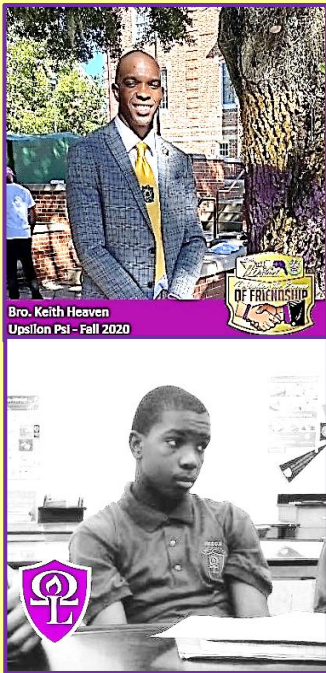
1. Do you feel being a past Lamplighter Mentee helped you to better understand the fraternity and to contribute now as a Brother of Omega? I feel that being a part of the Omega Lamplighters helped me to understand the core principles of the fraternity and made me want to assist in any way possible. As a Lamplighter alum, I truly believe that it is my duty to pay it forward, because the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., poured a lot into me and now it is our turn to start sowing seeds and pouring into the next generation.

2. What are your thoughts on mentoring other young men now as a Brother of Omega?

I feel it as my duty and personal responsibility to give back to the program and help in any way possible. The Omega Lamplighters helped me to grow from a boy to a man, not to mention the program exposed me to many things that many my age would never get to see. I was able to travel to many states, see many historically black colleges and universities, museums, restaurants, churches and hotels. Also, I was able to meet and interact with

key political figures on the local level. I am an education major, so I know the importance of teaching the next generation.

3. What do you feel is your impact/influence on existing Lamplighters now as a Brother of Omega? Becoming an Omega Brother surprised a lot of the current Lamplighter Mentees. Some of the young men that have known me for several years and were not considering Greek life have now expressed interest in wanting to become a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. This has caused me to realize that I actually do have some influence on the Lamplighters. They even look at me differently now and there is an even greater level of respect and possibly admiration. I will always work hard to continue to be a positive role model and always represent Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., in the best light so that they too will want to make a difference and positive impact on future Lamplighters.



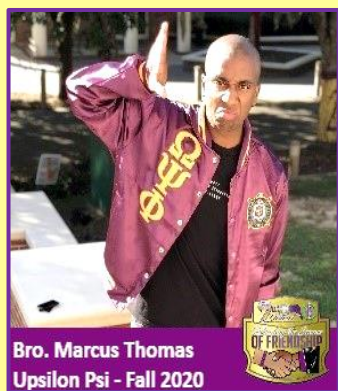
As a Lamplighter Youth Mentee: I joined the Lambda Alpha Alpha Chapter Lamplighters Mentoring Program at the age of 12. I learned the true definition of friendship and what it means to be a friend. I have made unbreakable bonds with many of my Lamplighter brothers and we still keep in contact to this day. I held leadership positions, such as Treasurer and Vice President.

As a Brother of Omega: I am the 26th initiate of the Fall 2020 Line - Upsilon Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc. I served as Chairman of the Omega Week Committee and Co-Chair of the 28 Days of February Committee. I am a FAMU Presidential Top Scholar Ambassador and I travel throughout the United States to recruit high school academic scholars to attend FAMU.

1. Do you feel being a past Lamplighter Mentee helped you to better understand the fraternity and to contribute now as a Brother of Omega? I truly believe the Lamplighter Mentoring Program has helped me to better understand the fraternity and has impacted my life in shaping of the individual that I am today. Throughout my time as a Lamplighter Mentee, I was able to connect with diverse individuals who sacrifice an abundance of their time that contributed to the success of youths within my hometown community.

2. What are your thoughts on mentoring other young men now as a Brother of Omega? I am a strong believer in the quote, “It takes a village to raise a child.” With that being said, I believe that the more role models that are in a child’s life, the merrier. Mentoring is essential to me because I know how much a mentor can change an outlook on one’s life. Throughout my time at FAMU, I served as the Vice President of the FAMU Kinship of Big Brother Little Brother Mentoring Program which is the biggest male organization on campus.

3. What do you feel is your impact/influence on existing Lamplighters now as a Brother of Omega? Before being inducted to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. I was given an opportunity to become a Lamplighter. Being that many of my line brothers were Lamplighters which means many Omega Men have impacted one’s life, it is a pleasure to be a part of a team dwelling together in unity. My former Lamplighter brothers have always been just a phone call away. I am working diligently to build that bond with the current Lamplighters and make sure they are getting everything I experienced and more.



As a Lamplighter Youth Mentee: I would say it provided me with a great opportunity to grow as a person in a positive reinforced learning environment. I have further developed my leadership skills by working on group and community service projects.

As a Brother of Omega: I am comfortable with understanding and doing the work of Omega here on the campus of FAMU as newly initiated Brother of Fall 2020. I know I can contribute to accomplish great things, because I have seen firsthand as youth the impact of Omega Men working to uplift my local community.

1. Do you feel being a past Lamplighter Mentee helped you to better understand the fraternity and to contribute now as a Brother of Omega? I feel that being a member of the Lamplighters program gave me more insight than I could have ever needed on understanding true friendship & mentorship that Omega Psi Phi upholds. While in the program I got to see the true dedication, it takes no matter where you are in life to give back and strive to better the community.

2. What are your thoughts on mentoring other young men now as a Brother of Omega? I believe that mentorship is key and that you never know how much of an impact you can have on a young man's life by just being there for them. As a lamplighter you get a plethora of male mentors and figures who are pillars in the community and give you something to look up to, and someone to lean on.

3. What do you feel is your impact/influence on existing Lamplighters now as a Brother of Omega? Currently I have not gotten to work with the lamplighters as much as I hope. I aspire to give back what was given to me and to be a bridge builder for the young men who come afterward. I want to aid the Lamplighters' program as far as scholarship, mentorship and networking opportunities.

Observations: As one who's professional work involves the use of Business Metrics and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to monitor and measure results, I wanted to know more about the motivation of the mentees who become members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Because of this interest, I enlisted the help of colleagues from Upsilon Psi Chapter at Florida A&M University to assist with this research. The objective of identifying and questioning the seven (7) former Lamplighter Mentees and now Omega Brothers is to further monitor and study their continued influence and impact on current junior/senior high school Lamplighter Mentees for a period of 1 to 2 years. In addition, we sought to observe the extent to which their collective influence and impact might be to engage with other undergraduate brothers of the Upsilon Psi Chapter on the campus of Florida A&M University. Having reviewed the responses from the brothers, the following preliminary observations and conclusions are offered:

Preliminary Observations and Conclusions:

1. Ninety-one (91) of ninety-eight (98) Local Graduate Chapters (LGCs) throughout the 7th District have implemented a youth mentorship program with many involving their local undergraduate chapters.
2. Local Graduate Chapters (LGCs) that have implemented youth mentorship programs within local/regional proximity of an HBCU show a positive trend toward mentees becoming Omega Brothers.
3. The collective intent of mentoring our black young men to become productive citizens has led to being one of our saving graces (*redeeming qualities*) within the 7th District to contribute to the survival and future of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. ///

Epsilon Mu Nu Chapter “Lead by example”

North Dakota – In November, the world watched as the United States progressed through perhaps the most contentious election in its recent history. It saw more discontent and hate being displayed, since the civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s. Everyone watched as old wounds of racism, bigotry and social injustice flooded the daily news programs and poured into the streets of local communities through protests.

Voting is the one right we should not ignore as a society; but voting during these tumultuous times is also a right that we have that can change the current situation. By exercising this right, one can vote for elected officials that align with your beliefs, values, and principles.

Voting is a right often taken for granted in the United States. However, many have forgotten that African-American men were permitted to vote in 1870 after the civil war but women in 1920 with passage of the 19th amendment. It is imperative that we use the right to vote and participate in local and federal elections as well as on local boards and committees with people to support policies that serve our communities and benefit society.

In the spirit of Fatherhood and leading by example, Bro. Dr. David Marion, Grand Basileus, challenged the brothers of the fraternity to pass on the value of voting to our sons, grandsons and mentees. The brothers of Epsilon Mu Nu Chapter have taken this challenge to heart and joined the Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee’s 100,000 Father’s Voter Pledge Campaign.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of North Dakota is approximately 762,000, however, only 25,908 or 3.4% is African-American. It

“... participate in local and federal elections ... on local boards and committees ... support policies that serve ... communities and benefit society.”

is always truly imperative for the African-American community to get out and vote to ensure our voices are heard. The brothers will continue to engage the general community, the young men on the campuses of North Dakota State University, University of North Dakota, University of Minot, Minot Air Force Base and Grand Forks Air Force Base. During the 100,000 Father’s Voter Campaign, Bro. Johari Hemphill took his son, Iraán Hemphill, with him to drop off his Absentee Ballot at the Registrar’s Office.



Bro. Johari Hemphill (r) and his son Ira

This was a great moment for Bro. Hemphill to continue to show leadership to his son and his family. More notably, Iraán turned eighteen in September and was able to exercise his vote for the first time. Iraán understands his vote matters and stands on the right side of actively engaging in the political process to ensure his voice is heard. The Voter Pledge Campaign and the fraternity’s presence in the election process was a noble effort and it increased voter education. ///

THE JOHN LEWIS VOTING RIGHTS ACT: The 2013 Supreme Court decision in Shelby County v. Holder, assured that no states or jurisdictions are required to comply with the “preclearance” directive under Section 5 of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. This means that states or jurisdictions with a proven history of discrimination are able to make changes to their election laws and policies without proving in advance that the proposed changes will not disenfranchise any voters. The US Supreme Court made it clear that Congress can fix this problem and pass a law to replace the criteria for which states or jurisdictions must comply with Section 5 “preclearance.” Members of the US Senate need to hear from YOU to restore, repand strengthen the 1965 Voting Rights Act. The U.S. House of Representatives has acted. ///

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

Fatherhood Initiative – “Psi Alpha Ques Making Moves”

(Special thanks and shout out to Brother Damon Blythe for his editorial acumen in shaping this piece.)

San Antonio, TX – Throughout the fourth quarter of 2020, Psi Alpha Chapter Fatherhood Initiative Committee “worked hard for Omega,” via participating in **15** events during **October, November, and December 2020**. We would like to highlight several of these events.

On **October 28, 2020**, the Fatherhood Initiative Committee conducted the 1st ever Fatherhood Interview session. Brothers Archie “Ice” Peay Jr. (Chairman), Anthony G. Peay (Vice-Chairman) and Jeremy Neal (Director, Public Relations) attended and participated in the interview. We conducted said interview with the oldest brother in Psi Alpha Chapter: Bro. Earl Campbell, 1/44/ Epsilon Sigma (Tillotson College). Bro. Campbell just turned 95 years old on October 25th and celebrated over 76 years in the fraternity. We asked Bro. Campbell 10 questions related to the Fatherhood Initiative and were in tears by the end of the interview.

From **November 1, 2020, thru December 1, 2020**, the Fatherhood Initiative Team led its Annual Sports Coat/Blazer Drive. The team met its goal and collected 25 coats/blazers in total. This year the team has selected The **Jacqueline Smith Foundation** as the

organization to donate the items to. This non-profit organization mainly focuses on providing sensible solutions for homeless veterans. On **November 18, 2020**, the Father of the Year Awards were announced during the Achievement Week Virtual Banquet. The honors went to Bro. Dr. Kenneth “KT” Terrell (Omega Category) and Mr. Greg J. Marshall Jr. (Citizen Category). Both winners receive a Certificate of Appreciation from the Basileus and a small token of our appreciation. On **November 19, 2020**, the Fatherhood Initiative Committee conducted its second Fatherhood Interview session. Bro. Alan Thompson and Bro. Le’Marc Holcombe (Fatherhood Initiative Committee Members) interviewed Bro. Herbert Nance, 2-68-Alpha Psi (Huston-Tillotson College).

On **December 7, 2020**, the Fatherhood Initiative Team, led by Bro. Alan Thompson and Bro. Le’Marc Holcombe, conducted the December 2020 Fatherhood Initiative Interview Session with Bro. Gary “G-Rob” Robinson, 4-75-Delta Delta (Kansas State University). In each interview, the committee asked a total of 10 fatherhood related questions with the goal of motivating fathers to stay engaged, bridge the gap, and building positive legacies for years to come! ///

Virtual Mentoring at Work

On **September 25, 2020** via Zoom, 17 mentees and nine Omega men including, presenter Bro. Keith Jackson, 1st VGB Ricky Lewis and 9th D Chaplain Asriel McLain, attended the “Builders and Wreckers,” virtual youth mentoring webinar. Brother Keith Jackson, a 1986 initiate of the Pi Delta Chapter, spoke to the weekly mentoring group about his life.

Bro. Jackson, a six-time Pro Bowl Tight End for the Eagles, Dolphins and Packers, spoke with passion about how he went from growing up in Arkansas to



becoming a successful Pro Bowl Tight End in the NFL. Further, Bro. Jackson talked about “Builders and Wreckers” explaining to mentees that it is easier to be a wrecker than a builder. He spoke about time and productivity specific to using time in a negative capacity thus yielding negative results. He informed the mentees that a wrong decision could impact their life timeline.

Bro. Jackson advised the mentees that they are in the first quarter of their lives and should focus on making wise decisions. He closed with advising the mentees with aspirations of playing in the NFL that the NFL stands for “Not For Long.” Football mirrors life; sometimes you have to punt! Bro. Jackson was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2001 and is currently on the ballot as a nominee for the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

The Psi Alpha Weekly Mentoring Team held its first Zoom mentoring session for the Young Men’s Leadership Academy and Sam Houston High School on **November 11th** and **12th**. A total of 32 mentees, 8

mentors, and 3 school administrators attended the two Zoom meetings. The mentoring team covered multiple topics which included: Zoom mentoring rules, the history of weekly mentoring, the COVID-19 impact on mentoring, why we mentor, how today’s families are changing, the Toastmasters program and the talents of all mentees involved.

The mentees were also given a glimpse of the weekly mentoring coins and shirts. All mentees were provided the rules of engagement to earn a coin and shirt. Mentee Bruce Adams, currently a student at Texas Wesleyan University, received the first weekly mentoring coin. Adams is on the Dean’s list and a member of the Texas Wesleyan football team. Adams has volunteered at several mentoring sessions at Sam Houston High School, Davis Middle School, and the Young Men’s Leadership Academy in San Antonio. Bro. Jeffery August said the following of Adams, “He has earned it. He has displayed our Four Cardinal Principles: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.” ///

Psi Alpha & the Alamo City Omega Lamplighters

On **November 7, 2020**, Alamo City Omega Lamplighters (ACOL), and the brethren of Psi Alpha Chapter participated in an excellent virtual mentoring session to determine their Dominance, Influence, Steadiness, and Compliance (DISC) personality type and profile. The Lamplighters learned their brand must be balanced with their personality type to exhibit to others what they truly bring to the table. Ms. Andrea Hardeman, a Human Resources Consultant and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., presented the session.

On **November 14, 2020**, ACOL and the brethren Psi Alpha Chapter participated in yet another virtual mentoring session addressing the following topics: “What is a Gentleman” and “No Means No”. As many would say chivalry among young men toward women is a lost art, Bro. David Singh’s presentation reinforced the importance of being a gentleman and understanding when a woman says no.

On **Saturday, December 12, 2020**, the brethren of Psi Alpha and the ACOL teamed up with several other organizations to volunteer at the Blessed Angels Community Center (BACC), located in San Antonio, Texas, for its COVID-19 Christmas Toy and Bike Drive-Thru Giveaway. A total of 28 bikes were collected and donated; moreover, gifts were also donated and wrapped the week leading up to support the event. Said event also included an interview with KABB FOX 29.

Mrs. Marion Thomas, CEO and Executive Director of BACC, pre-registered families throughout San Antonio who benefited from the toy giveaway. One-hundred and twenty-two (122) families received gifts that brought about waves and smiles from 380 children displaying their joy and gratitude. State and local officials such as the Honorable State Representative Steve Allison, the Honorable District 10 Councilman Clayton Perry, the Honorable Converse Mayor Al Suarez, the Honorable Constable Kathryn Brown,

Bexar County, Precinct 4, and other distinguished guests, congratulated the Omega Men and Lamplighters for their support of this prestigious event.

The elected officials were impressed by the call to action of “Servanthood.” The unselfishness emulated via Psi Alpha ACOL to help families in the community,

will have a lasting effect on the lives touched by this event. Psi Alpha continues to be “Bridge Builders” toward its Lamplighters by upholding its Four Cardinal Principles while also instilling Leadership, Academics, Maturity, and Perseverance (L.A.M.P.) into the Lamplighters as they transition into Manhood. ///

Dallas, TX – On October 11, 2020, as a part of an ongoing series on social awareness and utilizing the virtual experience, the Omega SPARKS, parents, Theta Alpha Foundation, and Theta Alpha Chapter brothers participated in a mentoring session on Engaging the Police.

Our guest presenters were Dallas County Judge George Ashford and Officer Paul Mitchell of the Dallas ISD Police. Each presenter shared their unique perspective on how to engage law enforcement. Judge Ashford- shared three points - 1) Study hard and engage in your education, 2) Find and stick with a hobby, 3) Everything takes time. Officer Mitchell recommended that when engaging the police, the SPARKS - Comply first, complain later, and speak with their parents or principal. Each of the presenters was appreciative of the opportunity to talk with the young men. Parents made positive comments and were thankful for the message given.

On November 8, 2020, brothers presented an Economics Bootcamp for the SPARKS. The 3Ms - Mindset, Money, Management, clearly focused the topic for the young men. Being mindful of saving more than we spend is key to becoming financially wealthy. The SPARKS were encouraged to budget to increase wealth as well. Bro. Hilton emphasized letting your money work for you by saving and investing money. The young men considered the career path that interested them and how to position themselves for the future they want. A Q&A session followed the session, and the SPARKS received incentives for their participation.



On December 13, 2020, Ms. Alisa Allen, a nationally known, certified etiquette instructor, engaged the SPARKS with a dynamic presentation. They responded by asking questions about how to conduct themselves as gentlemen. They viewed a demonstration of proper dining etiquette and social skills for engaging others appropriately.

Ms. Allen shared the following - "Always be respectful", "Get ready so that you can be ready", "Have an attitude of greatness," and "Your presence is important". She emphasized proper etiquette on social media using the acronym **T.H.I.N.K.** before you speak.

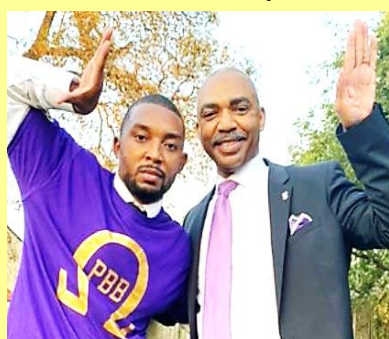
T - Is it True,
H - Is it Helpful,
I - Is it Inspiring,
N - Is it Necessary, and
K - Is it Kind.

The SPARKS continue to prepare for community service projects throughout the South Dallas community, such as preparing fruit bags for the Senior Care Health and Rehabilitation Nursing Home in South Dallas. ///

About Legacies:

"A brother bringing his son into the fold is a very exciting and happy time. Our legacies provide a very positive piece." Brother Nelson Anthony

The picture on the right (r) shows my son **Coulson Anthony**, who was initiated #2, Rho Beta Beta Chapter, 11-7-20. He is a 2019 graduate of Hampton University. He is a Senior Analysis at the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Thanks, Bro. Nelson Anthony → → → → → → → →

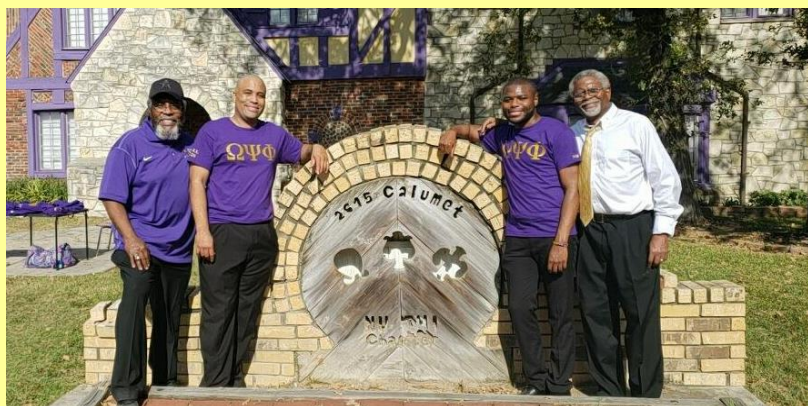


(L) Brother Remmele Young, Rho Beta Beta and his son **Jalen Pauling** (PBB, Fall 2020/ 11/7/2020). Jalen is a graduate of University of South Carolina. He is a Project Manager for Methodist Hospital, Houston, TX.

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(R) **Mark A. Slade, Jr.**, 27-20-NΦ, is currently employed as an educator for the Houston Independent School District and will begin his Master's course work in the spring of 2021. He is the great-grandson of renowned Wichita, KS mathematician Marion A. Guest, Jr. (Omega Chapter), Gamma Upsilon, LM#640, grandson of Bobby J. Slade, retired Dallas Independent School District administrator (Eta Iota), LM#1140, and son of retired Houston Police Officer, Mark A. Slade (Tau Epsilon), LM#8825. → → → → →



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Derek Rupert Smith, 15-20-NΦ, is a second-generation member. He is in his 14th year as an educator and is currently employed as a high school teacher in Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District. He is the son of David Rupert Smith, who will be celebrating his 50th year in the fraternity in spring of 2021 and is a retired chemical engineer and business executive from Bayer Corporation (Theta Beta, Spring 1971 – Vanderbilt University), LM# 6072. ///

(L) **William Epperson**, 7- 20-NΦ is a third-generation member, recently completed his law degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is the son of Reginald Charles Epperson, (Tau Epsilon, Fall 1974), and the grandson of Curlee Elwyn Epperson, Sr. (Tau Sigma, Fall 1946). He is the great nephew of Fulton Walker (Tau Sigma, Fall 1947) and nephew of Winston Epperson (Tau Epsilon, Fall 1969), Curlee Epperson, Jr. (Tau Epsilon, Fall 71), and Carl Mose (Eta Xi, Spring, 1980).

Real Men Read

by: Brother Tawan Williamson



Houston, Texas – On November 19, 2020, men of the Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. volunteered their time to read to the youth of Ruby L. Thompson's Elementary School in Houston, TX. The brothers read in-person to approximately 40 grade students that are receiving in-person school education along with seven virtual students.

This Real Men Read session was held in the gymnasium of the school to ensure that CDC COVID-19 protocols of wearing mask and social distancing were strictly adhered to. Though the coronavirus pandemic of 2020 has impacted the Omega mentoring program this year, the chapter worked closely with the Houston Independent School District (HISD) to ensure our presence would be continuously felt in the school.

Through research of HISD, studies show that 1 in 4 Houston children do not meet minimum standards at grade 3, so that is why the Nu Phi chapter focuses on this grade level for the mentoring reading program. The inner-city youth must understand the importance of reading, so our program dedicates the sessions on reading comprehension. The book for this reading session was "If I Ran for President" by Catherine Stier. This book was an interesting read which created great dialogue with the children.

After the Omega men volunteers finished reading the book, the students were given the opportunity to express their views on what things they would change if they were to be elected the President of the United States of America. The majority of response received from the students were providing homes for the homeless and decreasing the unemployment rate by providing more jobs for the people. There was one student that said they would create a cure for the coronavirus.

As men of Omega Psi Phi attempt to make an assault on illiteracy, it is important that the Fraternity continue to impact the next generation through basic reading fundamentals. In 2009, the Nu Phi chapter partnered with the [Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation](#) which works diligently to expand the capacity of school districts, libraries and community-based literacy service providers to serve people in need through volunteerism and service. The Nu Phi chapter will continue to make a difference in the local Houston, TX community. ///

Iota Chapter Three-peats: \$10,000 in Scholarships to Five Black Young Men

By: Bro. Melvin M. Slater, Sr.

Pictured: (*First row, l. to r.*) Bro. Dr. Melvin Hargrett, Ed.D. (Basileus), William McClendon (Young HS), Larry Cutts (King HS), Caleb Young (Young HS), Arbra Gray, Jr. (Lindblom HS), and Bro. Melvin M. Slater, Sr. (Scholarship Comm. Chairman); (*Back row, l. to r.*) Bros. Rick Williams, Andre Garner, Leverette Bryant, Lee Jones, Greg Jackson, Bruce Montgomery, and Michael Meeks.

Not pictured: Caleb Dunson (Young HS)

Chicago, IL – Iota Chapter recognized and honored five outstanding young black men as their 2020 scholarship recipients during their annual scholarship presentation. The chapter has provided scholarships to deserving black students annually (**\$10,000 in 2018 and 2019**) since being re-chartered as a graduate chapter in 1995.

Students will use these scholarships to begin their educational journey to uplift black communities in Chicago and abroad. Due to **COVID-19**, the 2020 Scholarship Awards program was abbreviated and took place outside on the front steps of the DuSable Museum of African American History on Chicago's southside.

The Iota Chapter Scholarship Committee, Brothers Melvin M. Slater, Sr. - Chairman, Byron Legardy, Joe Lewis, Jr., Rick Williams, and Ron Wright, selected the following five black Chicago high school seniors to receive \$10,000 in scholarships based on their academic achievements and aspirations for higher education. The students are: Larry Cutts: King HS graduate, attending Howard University in the Fall of 2020 to major in Chemical Engineering; Caleb Dunson: Young HS graduate, attending Yale University in the Fall of 2020 to major in Computer Science; Arbra Gray, Jr.: Lindblom HS graduate, attending University of Illinois



in the Fall of 2020 to major in Computer Science; William McClendon: Young HS graduate, attending University of Michigan in the Fall of 2020 to major in Biology; Caleb Young: Young HS graduate, attending Brown University in the Fall of 2020 to major in Finance.

The scholarship awards program included prayer, brief remarks, introductions, presentation of scholarships, words of wisdom and support, prayer, and photos. During remarks, Bro. Slater stated that “the foundation of the black population is depended upon the solidification of a good education”. Brothers provided their college(s), degree(s), career(s), and contact information. Each recipient was asked to contact the chapter periodically with their progress as well as if they find themselves in need. Iota’s scholarships are primarily supported by the chapter’s major fundraising event, the “Taste of Omega”.

This year due to **COVID-19**, the “Taste of Omega” was cancelled and brothers turned inward to support the cause. In May Bro. Hargrett requested that the Men of Iota Chapter dig deep in their own pockets to provide \$10,000 for scholarships to invest in educating black men who are the future of Black America. “Besides, who doesn’t want a ‘Three-peat’? And we will do another \$10,000 again next year.” In addition, Bro. Eric Fullilove declared with the passion of eight thoroughly immersed men, “This is our responsibility as black men in a black fraternity serving black people. Our children

need us right now and more than ever. This is the time to be a proud member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.”

During closing remarks, Bro. Slater announced: **“these students will change the course of our future;** they will develop chemicals beneficial to black people and the world, develop economies for black communities to be self-sustaining, protect us from living organisms, and design the next generation of computer systems. We just have to be there to protect and support them because by the very nature of them being successful black men, they will be targets.” ///

FREE SUITS FOR PROJECT MANHOOD

Submitted by Brother Mel Hollands and Andrew Bailey



East St Louis, IL - The men of **Nu Chi Chapter** along with the **Project Manhood** program partnered with the **O'Fallon, IL Sunrise Rotary**. They were able to offer free suits to their mentees on Saturday, November 7, 2020. It was a wonderfully rewarding fun day for mentees and mentors, parents and guardians, and community supporters. Several men from the chapter came to assist the young on getting fit for the suits. The suits ranged from several styles and colors. Along with the suits came a free matching tie and 2 Shirts. The young men left the event feeling successful and with a big smile and a brand-new suit. Pictured are: Bro. Dr. Mel Holland (program chairman); Jamirion Watson (mentee), and his grandmother Tanya Anderson, wife of Bro. Dr. Nate Anderson. ///

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR A LIFE TIME OF LEARNING

Bro. Maceo Rainey- Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter

Chicago, IL – Recent educational research symposiums and think tanks have come to the same conclusion: *schools and communities with access to resources and adequate materials are positioned to produce higher educational outcomes for their students than schools and communities with limited resources and support.* Hence, the lack of available resources and support is the bedrock of the achievement gap for African-American communities across the nation; **it’s the first in many steps along the school-to-prison pipeline.**

The current school funding formula in most urban school district in America, has created an unequal distribution of resources for the costs associated with



educating students, thus, putting a heavy burden on local schools to provide much needed educational supplies and equipment in an effort to produce students who are college and career ready.

The professional brethren of Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter, *an unincorporated association*, of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., located on Chicago's far south side, understand the importance of being prepared as well as, being active participants in learning. On Monday November 23, 2020 Rho Gamma Gamma brothers packed and distributed 200 book bags to students that attend John Whistler School and Higgins Community Academy Elementary Schools. Both institutions are located on the southside of Chicago and have been identified by the federal government as Title I schools

with 100% of its students qualify for free and reduced lunch.

The efforts, generosity, and show of concern demonstrated by the brothers of the Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter, will help to increase the self-esteem and confidence of our youth as they prepare for learning in a Covid-19 environment and beyond. Having access to much needed supplies will help students to become more engaged in the learning process as well as, helping students to feel confident in their ability to become great students with a propensity for learning complex materials. ///

BMSE Peaceful Protest

Duluth, MN - Black Men Serving Excellence (B.M.S.E) hosted a peaceful protest and march on September 16, 2020, on the campus of University of Minnesota Duluth. The student organization BMSE was founded & organized in the fall of 2019 by Bro. Marcus McLin ('14 ΣΖ), Assistant Football Coach at UMD; who currently serves as the student organization faculty advisor.

The student group is made up of seven executive board members, and has a total of 12 body members. BMSE mission statement is to create a bond of Brotherhood with like-minded individuals. To cultivate young black leaders, and to strive for excellence in all of our endeavors.

The march and protest were sparked by the recent killing of unarmed black men and women in the country. With the murder of George Floyd happening in the state of Minnesota where BMSE was founded, it really hit home for the student group. The leaders of BMSE gathered a month before the event to organize the protest.

Students shared stories about current events and how they felt about the world they live in today. From that gathering, the brothers of BMSE started to promote the event and the word got out quickly. Before the date of the march, the brothers met and spoke virtually with the police of Duluth about current events and law enforcement. They also had multiple media interviews leading up to the event.



On the day of the protest, about one thousand people from all different races and backgrounds came together to take a stand against police brutality and racial injustice against the black community. Bro. McLin and others spoke at the protest and delivered a strong message and powerful statements to the crowd before the march.

The group and community marched around the campus of Minnesota - Duluth. During the march they walked and chanted and held signs with messages: "Black Lives Matter", "Say her/his name", "We Won't Be Silenced", and "Power to the People". This was the first protest or march on the campus of UMD to fight for social justice and equality. It was a moving event that raised awareness, a chance to be heard, and help lead change in the community and campus for black men and women. ///

Tau Tau and Omega Educational Foundation Host 27th Annual YLC

Los Angeles, CA – Brother Ricky L. Lewis, 1st Vice Grand Basileus, was moderator and convener of the **27th Annual Youth Leadership Conference, October 24, 2020 via ZOOM**. Because of the expanded use of technology brought on by **COVID-19**, more than 450 families from 16 states and a few countries outside of the United States were able to be part of this first-time world-wide event. If you enjoyed the conference and want to relive the experience, then set aside a couple of hours and roll the tape. It's all here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yu0PUtBYHWk>

To our youth: This virtual conference was a first for us in many ways due to complications brought on by **COVID - 19**, we as Omega men wanted to keep our commitment to bring to the youth in our communities around the world a little information, knowledge and wisdom to help make your journey into manhood exciting, joyful and profitable. Twenty-seven years ago, we made the commitment to be there with you and for you on your journey. You showed up and by your attendance in our various mentoring programs throughout the year, you continue to tell us that you want. You can depend on us; we will be there for you!

To the parents, grandparents and guardians: Thank you for joining us. We invited parents to join us for the same reason. Thank you for being a part of the life of the children and staying the course and continuing in these tough and seemingly difficult times to maintain a stable and reasonably predictable life for the young man in your household. Because we too are parents, grandparents, and uncles who may have been saddled with duties and a role in the life of your child that you did not expect, we understand. Because our commitment is complete and unwavering, will continue to do our part in help to strengthen our communities where we can. ///

The Rose Bowl Ques: A Friend Indeed ... During Achievement Week

By George D. Taylor, Zeta Tau Editor to the Oracle

Pasadena, CA, November 14, 2020 – Following its Saturday ZOOM Chapter meeting, members of the Zeta Tau, made a trip to the **Friends in Deed House**, 444 East Washington Blvd., to deliver food items.

There to greet them was Tim Nistler, Program and Social Media Director of the Food Pantry. **Friends in Deed** is an interfaith organization that **provides supportive services to meet basic human needs, so our homeless and at-risk neighbors can rebuild their lives.**

The food drive was the brainchild of Bro. Larry Quishenberry, Zeta Tau Chapter Basileus. His inspiration to engage the chapter in the month-long community-based project was seeded by watching the



evening news and seeing all of the homeless people seeking food and shelter.

“Watching the news, I saw the long food lines of folks who had lost their jobs and tried to think of a way for our chapter to do something to help people out in this **COVID-19** environment, while at the same time, keeping our members safe,” he said.

Known as the “Rose Bowl Ques,” Bro. Quishenberry said that service and developing community-based partnerships is what drove Zeta Tau Chapter’s determination to add this month-long food drive to its service programs.

The chapter gave out about 25 bags of can goods and other staple items to the pantry for its use in meeting food needs of our neighbors and friends. The food drive

culminated in the donation of canned goods and “bags and bags of shelf stable items to the Friends in Deed Food Pantry,” he said. The Pantry provides food weekly to over 400 low-income and no-income families in the Pasadena/Altadena area.

Zeta Tau members were greeted by food pantry director Tim Nistler, who accepted the donation. Nistler said, the food pantry “provide food to about 400 families a week. The food collected by the Omegas,” he said, “will go a long way in helping us provide folks with not only good quality but substantial amounts of food per week. We do this 51 out of 52 weeks a year.”

Nistler said, making sure our community gets good quality food is a priority for **Friends in Deed**. “We couldn’t do it without groups like yours,” he added. ///

A Mentoring Program Sidelined by – **COVID-19**

Submitted by Brother Damon Blythe

Long Beach, CA - During FY 2020, Brothers of Rho Iota Iota were launching a mentoring initiative, “**Tipping the Scale In Your Favor (TSYF)**,” for youth. Due to **COVID-19**, the initiative was not to be, but will resume *post COVID-19*. During this pause, RII has been fine tuning its methods and procedures to ensure the most efficient and effective execution of programs.

Our planning and implementation process is outlined here:

- Last November, Bros. Craig Carter and Al Duncan co-chairmen, Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee, partnered with **Carmelitos Housing Project Community Center (CHPCC)** to implement the mentoring initiative. CHPCC will provide facilities, RII will provide the program;
- Necessary approval documents were submission to IHQ and Los Angeles (LA) county;
- Annual Turkey Basket giveaway and introduction of program to participating parents and youth volunteers took place in December;
- Received IHQ approved;
- Received (Pre-**COVID-19**) approval for monthly meetings at community center;
- LA county administrative process and approval delayed;
- Banners and flyers created;
- RII Bros. post banners, distribute flyers and speak to parents and youth of CHPCC, February 2020;
- Temporary permission to operate on one day waivers until the certificate of insurance approval via LA county.

Our planned mentoring initiative will use 2nd Saturdays, immediately following our monthly chapter meeting to implement the program. Communications are ongoing w/CHPCC to launch the initiative post **COVID-19**. ///



Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter Participates in Teen Summit

By
Brother Lymas Johnson



Top Rows: Youth participating in Teen Summit Bottom Row: Bro Lymas Johnson, ULL Chapter and African American Heritage Executive Committee President Mrs. Demetris Johnson

Yokota Air Base in Mainland, Japan - Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter “Samurai Fatherhood and Mentoring Program” partnered with the African American Heritage Committee on Yokota Air Base to host a virtual Teen Summit for local youth in the Yokota Community.

Seven teenagers from Yokota High School watched videos of current events and expressed their thoughts and concerns. This was the first of many mentoring sessions planned by the African American Heritage Committee and the Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter. The Chapter’s goal is providing a platform for youth to share and receive information from adults with diverse experiences.

The session took place Saturday, October 3, 2020, and lasted a little over 2 hours. The executive committee President, Demetris Johnson, Treasurer, Lymas Johnson, and Ms. Marietta Williams - Epps were all

instrumental in setting up the initial stage to this ongoing community project. They began by presenting 10 short videos ranging from how to identify and stand up against racism, and the mistreatment of others in social settings. The Zoom platform was provided by Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter. The next session is scheduled for Saturday, December 26, 2020. ///

Upsilon Lambda Lambda Promotes Unity Day and Anti-Bullying Month Campaign

By
Brother Michael Robinson

Yokota Air Base Mainline, Japan – The Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter partnered with **Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center** in promoting Unity Day 2020. Participants in the campaign wore orange at school and worked throughout the community on “Unity Day” October 21, 2020. 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, Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter setup a display table at the Exchange on Yokota Air Base Saturday, October 24, 2020.

Over 40 youth signed the Anti-Bullying pledge to say no to bullying. Each participant received a bookmark and orange wrist band which included the golden rule: **“Treat others the way you want to be treated and United We Stand Against Bullying”**.

Statistics show that cyberbullying and bullying in general are at an all-time high among our youth. This unwanted, aggressive behavior is unacceptable in our society. If the behavior is repeated or continues to develop over time both kids who are bullied and who bully others may have serious, lasting problems which may lead to suicide. The Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter encourages youth to continue promoting Pacer's national theme: *“Create A World Without Bullying”*. ///



SGG'S BROTHER YOU ARE ON MIND GOLF OUTING

BY BROTHER TONEO GULLEY

Bros. Townes, Smith, J., Basileus Pree,
Jackson, Sanders, Taylor, Smith, A. and
Gardner

Okinawa, Japan - Sigma Gamma Gamma hosted a golf outing for the Brothers around the island. The Commander of the United States Forces, Japan, reduced restrictions that allowed the Brothers to bond in fellowship. Brother Roosevelt Sanders, Chairman coordinated the event to ease the tension of being restricted to fellowship, due to **COVID-19**.

The Brothers of SGG have made this golf outing a monthly event to ensure each Brother and their families remain in communication with the SGG Family. SGG has also invited several Brothers for other Divine 9 and Masonic organization to participate in these events. Brother Sanders said, “it is important for Brothers to remain in contact during this pandemic.” ///



Sigma Gamma Gamma Hispanic Heritage Bowl

By Brother Toneo A.
Gulley

Bro. Jackson, Bro. Harris, Bro.
Taylor, Basileus Pree, Bro.
Sanders, Bro. Rogers and Bro.
Gulley
with winners of the Hispanic
Heritage Bowl at Ryukyu Middle
School



Okinawa, Japan – On October 30, 2020, Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter collaborated with the Ryukyu Middle School to host the 2nd Annual Hispanic Heritage Bowl at the Camp Foster Community Center Auditorium in Okinawa. The Chairman who organized this event was Basileus Cortez Pree. The program celebrated the legacy and history of Hispanic Heritage throughout the United States.

Sigma Gamma Gamma's 2nd Annual Hispanic Heritage Bowl was conducted under reduce COVID - 19 restrictions and limited attendance. Still, it was a successful and well supported event. Two teams battled for three rounds of questioning with each round increasing the level of difficulty as well as increasing the number of points earned per correct answer. In a scavenger hunt style format, the students were given a

list of questions that could potentially be asked and had to work together to find the answers.

As a result, the students were able to practice good communication skills, development strategies, and practice reading aloud in front of an audience. This event paid homage to the Hispanic Heritage but also helped develop skills that are beneficial to the students.

In addition, the Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter awarded the first and second place winners with cash prizes. The second-place finishers received twenty-five dollars each for being the runner-up in this event. The first-place winners received fifty dollars each. Everyone went home with a prize. A total of \$375 dollars in cash was awarded to the participating students. ///

Sigma Gamma Gamma Fried Turkey Delivery

By Brother Toneo A. Gulley

Basileus Pree presented fried turkeys to Orphanage and Women's
Shelter

Okinawa, Japan – On November 26, 2020, the Basileus of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter continued to provide Uplift to the community by frying and delivering turkeys to the local Shimabukuro Orphanage and Rainbow Heights Women's Shelter in Okinawa, Japan. During a holiday that is traditionally spent with relatives, Basileus Cortez Pree took time giving to those who are not as fortunate.

This act of kindness was well received by the local orphanage, the Women's Shelter staff and those who are served by these facilities. The brothers of SGG Chapter will continue to carry on this tradition. ///



Sigma Gamma Gamma conducts Anti-Bullying Kick Off (Que-Nic)

By Brother Toneo A. Gulley



Okinawa, Japan – Sigma Gamma Gamma kicked off their annual Anti-Bullying Campaign (Que-Nic) amidst the **COVID-19** restrictions. On November 17, 2020, the brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter continued to provide Uplift to the community by donating over \$200 of cleaning supplies between the Okinawa Christian School International and the Zion Christian Academy Institute in Okinawa.

The donation was well received and we look forward to working with the schools in the future. The donation was coordinated by Brother Cortez Pree, Basileus.

On November 21, 2020, Sigma Gamma Gamma conducted School Supply Give-Away as well as conducted an Anti-Bullying Campaign aboard Kadena Air Base. This successful event was coordinated and set up by the Chairman Brother Dwayne Bryant.

Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter was able to give out over \$150 worth of school supplies and book bags along with Anti-bullying wristbands, t-shirts, and a stringed bag. Bro Bryant said, “Our intent was to help the youth in the community by restocking the materials so they can finish the rest of the school year strong”.

The chapter wanted to emphasize the **Anti-bullying Campaign** because with virtual learning in place, Cyber-Bullying is just as prevalent and the youth can combat bullying if they all work together. Judging by their smiling faces and their handwritten signatures on the pledge to help those who are being bullied, our intent was accomplished and well received. ///

What is the difference between bullying and harassment?

Bullying and harassment are both about:

- actions that hurt or harm another person physically or emotionally
- an imbalance of power the target having difficulty stopping the action

The difference?

When the bullying behavior directed at the target is also based on a protected class, that behavior is then defined as harassment. Protected classes include race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

 **PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center.**
Create a World Without Bullying | PACER.org/Bullying

Sigma Gamma Gamma Voter Registration Drive By Brother Toneo A. Gulley

Okinawa, Japan – On October 16, 2020 and October 17, 2020, Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter setup and conducted a Voter Registration information table at Kadena Airforce Base. The chairman who planned and coordinated this mandated program was Brother Dwayne Bryant. His leadership and initiative helped improve the service member's knowledge of how to exercise their right to vote while in Okinawa.

On both days, Brothers interacted with service members and families showing them how they could register to vote and request a ballot. We handed out pamphlets, cards, and booklets that gave them instructions and more information on the voting processes and state deadlines. The goal was to



inform our service members about how to participate in this year's Presidential Election while stationed overseas and, to encourage our services members to exercise their right to vote. Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter successfully fulfilled their goal. ///

Project Aspirations Mentorship Video Conference

By Brother Ajaya Martin



Honolulu, HI – October 24, 2020, Lambda Beta Beta Chapter and the Omega Project Aspiration Foundation, Inc., hosted a virtual forum via the Zoom video platform. This forum was focused on “My Moral Compass” to mentor young men in developing their goodness so that it guides them in the right direction.

Topics discussed in the forum included, integrity, character and respect. The presenters consistently kept the mentees engaged in conversation, confirming their understanding of the material. A special participant, Bro. Larry Johnson (Theta Rho, 1979) tuned into the Zoom forum from Detroit, Michigan to share his life experiences during and after retirement from the military. The discussion continued and the group consistently engaged, answering challenging questions about values, character and right vs wrong as we forced them to expand their thinking.

The presenters presented real-life scenarios about moral dilemmas, for example: **A friend received the answer sheet for his last exam in order to graduate from college. Should you or should you not utilize the answer sheet?** The participants immediately erupted with a dialogue. Their belief was that studying the questions prior to the exam would not be considered “cheating”, if the answer sheet would not be present during the exam. Everyone liked the idea of taking advantage of the opportunity of the resources provided to them.

We can agree the presentation covered the key points about a moral compass. We thought of it as “real life learning”. Even though there was a lack of experience from the mentees, their clear thinking about the material made the discussion very interactive. The mentees were extremely grateful for information given and requested to conduct another forum in that same manner. ///

Masks for the Homeless

By Brother Randy Brown

P1: Brother Randy Brown and Cora Rada (Alea Bridge Outreach Specialist); P2 Brother Matthew Tassin; and P3 Brothers Matthew Tassin, Britton London, Randy Brown and unknown.



Wahiawa, Hawaii (OCT 12, 2020) –Brothers of Lambda Beta Beta (LBB) reached out to the Alea Bridge Homeless Shelter, a local organization founded in January 2016. It provides outreach services to North Shore – Waialua – Haleiwa - Wahiawa – Mililani as well as Aiea – Waiiau – Pearl City – Waipahu – Ewa – Kapolei regional communities. With such a wide area of coverage, the shelter services over 600 of Hawaii’s 15,000 homeless.

Due to the **COVID-19** Pandemic, masks are one of the shelters much-needed items. The shelter receives 100 disposable masks quarterly from the State of Hawaii. Unfortunately, that number fails to satisfy the overwhelming demand, likely due to Hawaii’s strict mask mandate. Without a mask, the homeless are prohibited from entering establishments. This leads to their inability to purchase necessities or partake in job opportunities offered by the shelter. In recent days, citations have been given for violating the states mask mandate.

To offset the shelters mask shortage, Brothers donated over 800 masks. This doubled the number of masks provided annually by the state. The Brothers also traveled throughout the area to distribute blankets, and canned food items. The event chartered an untapped relationship between the chapter and the shelter which yielded a strong commitment from the Brothers to offer routine support in the upcoming days.



COVID-19 restrictions have minimized the chapter’s latitude within the area. The Men of LBB remain committed to leverage ingenuity as a means to sustain their presence inside the community. The Brothers are bonded to remain steadfast in deeds and not words and will continue their social action efforts while adhering to **COVID-19** risk reduction practices. /



Phi Gamma Gamma Participates in Youth Halloween Event

By Brother Marcus Griffin

Kaiserslautern, Germany – October 31, 2020 – The 86th Airlift Wing with support from the 86th Air Force Support Squadron celebrated Halloween with the Ramstein Military families by hosting a parade in Kaiserslautern. The original planned "Trick or Treat" was cancelled due to **COVID-19**. Brother Marcus Griffin of Phi Gamma Chapter along with his colleagues from Child Youth Program participated in the Halloween Parade while also showing awareness by wearing pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. ///



Bro. Marcus Griffin with participants of Halloween Parade

Upsilon Lambda Lambda Presents Scholarships to Local High School Seniors

By Brother Michael Robinson

Mainland, Japan – Fourteen high school seniors from three local high schools in the Kanto Plains community of Mainland, Japan competed for three scholarships during the 2020 International High School Essay Contest sponsored by the Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter from September 8, 2020 – October 16, 2020.

Participants wrote a 700-to-750-word essay based on the title: **“Learning about Politics and Life as a Citizen is Part of the Transition to Adulthood.”** During this stage, young people are introduced to political processes and issues, as well as, a range of political activities including voting and participating in social movements. “Against the backdrop of the global ‘Black Lives Matter’ movement, why is it even more important for young people to become and remain politically engaged?”

Judges were Bros. Charles Hicks, Scottie Jarrett and Michael Robinson selected the following winners:

1st Place Winner \$500 Scholarship – Ms. Ashton Williams from Yokota High School located at Yokota Air Base in Yokota, Japan.

Runner Up Winner \$250 Scholarship – Ms. Rachel Perry from Zama Middle High School located on Camp Zama Army Base in Zama, Japan.

Runner Up \$250 Scholarship – Ms. Rian Merritt from Nile C. Kinnick High School located on U.S. Naval Base Yokosuka.

In addition to the scholarships, each winner received a Certificate of Excellence from the Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter. Ms. Ashton Williams will represent Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in the 13th District International High School Essay Contest. The winner will be announced during the Spring of 2021.



Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter supports our youth in education and will continue to advocate for youth academic excellence and leadership, because they are the future.

Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter Presents Scholarships to Local High School Seniors:

Photo 1 – ULL Brothers present \$250 scholarship to International High School Essay Contest Winner Runner Up - Ms. Rian Merritt at Nile C. Kinnick High School: Assistant Principal Dr. Quiana Obeng, Bro. Michael Robinson, Bro. William Hogan, Bro. Randy Pringle, Ms. Rian Merritt, School Counselor Audrey Murphy, Bro. Leslie Dinkins and Bro. Erle Arnold.



Photo 2 – ULL Brothers present \$250 scholarship to International High School Essay Contest Winner Runner Up - Ms. Rachel Perry at Zama Middle High School: Bro. Eric Blue, Assistant Principal Ms. Latasha Tia, Principal Mr. Henry Lefebvre, Ms. Rachel Perry and father, and Bro. Baba Ibrahim.

Photo 3 – ULL Brothers present \$500 scholarship to International High School Essay Contest **1st Place Winner – Ms. Ashton Williams at Yokota High School:** Bro. Scottie Jarrett, Ms. Ashton Williams, Bro. Marcus Snoddy, Bro. David Days, Principal Ms. Marian Leverette, Bro. Paul Jordan and Bro. Lymas Johnson. ///



See our website: omegafandm.org

Friendship is Essential to the Soul!