



Fatherhood Initiative

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring (FIM) Newsletter



Youth Leadership Conferences

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Project Manhood

Vol. 8

Brother, You're on My Mind! ©

July, August, September, 2021

My Brother's Keeper

NO. 3

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

~ CONGRATULATIONS ~

BROTHER ROBERT W. FAIRCHILD

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., International Founder's Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient.

Greater Little Zion Baptist Church (GLZBC) Minister of Music, Brother Robert W. Fairchild, has been awarded the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's highest award, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., International Founder's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Brother Fairchild is only the fourth recipient of this prestigious award that is given to Omega men who exhibit the highest ideals of Omega's four Cardinal Principles: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift.

For more than fifty years, Brother Fairchild has enhanced the lives of our citizens and communities all across this country and around the world. He has served Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., at every level of leadership, and his work on initiatives such as the Omega Political Actions Committee; Voter Education, Registration, and Mobilization; and Omega Day at the Virginia State Capitol has impacted citizens across the Washington Metropolitan area.

His greatest accomplishments may have been working as the Chairman for the Fraternity's International Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative. At Omega's International Conclave Meeting in 2010 in

Raleigh, N.C., Brother Fairchild, and Brother Thabiti Boone presented a template for each chapter in the Fraternity to establish a Fatherhood and Mentoring program.

Their presentation was so well received by leadership and members that it was passed by unanimous vote as one of the Fraternity's programs. Since then, Brother Fairchild and Bro. Boone have annually organized panel discussions from a list of Who's Who in the area of Fatherhood and Mentoring for the Annual Legislative Conference of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Congratulations to Brother Fairchild (rfairchi@msn.com) on this great achievement and prestigious award. ///



Brother Robert W. Fairchild

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN: FIMC Partnership Pays

“NEXT LEVEL” LEADERSHIP INSPIRED BY DR. DAVID MARION, 41ST GRAND BASILEUS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., has paid dividends for fraternity entities through Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee (FIMC) partnerships with outside organizations.

The relationships have been financially profitable for the fraternity. Four agencies, the Department of the United States Army’s Project Endeavor Mentoring Program, Regions Bank Financial Education, Obama Foundation - My Brothers’ Keeper (MBK) and the Boule extended their financial resources to support FIMC activities.

The U.S. Army’s scholarship of \$125,000 has established a pilot program to support youth mentoring in collaboration with chapters in 22 cities around the country from Boston to California and at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). The program focuses on incorporating leadership and character development initiatives in chapter Project Manhood programs and activities. Talent acquisition opportunities with the U.S. Army Civilian Personnel and college internships are etched in the program.

The MBK initiative housed at the University of Massachusetts - Boston worth \$40,000 is a multifaceted system focused on metrically advancing historically marginalized persons within the scope of education, vocation and civic engagement. Fraternity members acting as mentors and guest presenters will receive financial compensation.

Regions Bank embarks on educating moderate-low-income families, youth and college students attending HBCUs. The Regions Bank program

garnered \$150,000 and spread the wealth to fraternity entities. The 5th District FIMC Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) received (\$1000); 2nd Vice Grand Basileus - How to Build Credit Session (\$1000); Phi Kappa Kappa Chapter - Next Level Training Award and HBCU YLC (\$1000); Chi Omega Chapter, HBCU YLC (\$500); Theta Rho Chapter – Next Level Training (\$500); Mu Mu Mu Chapter, HBCU YLC (\$500); Psi Kappa Kappa Chapter, HBCU YLC (\$500); Xi Omicron Chapter HBCU YLC (\$500) and Nu Epsilon Chapter HBCU YLC (\$500).

The Boule recognized exemplary Project Manhood programs awarding \$5000 each to Delta Omega Chapter, Eta Pi Chapter; Sigma Phi Chapter and Xi Omicron Chapter. Several chapters are planning virtual and in-person YLCs for the Fall 2021: Tau Tau Chapter and the Omega Educational Foundation, Compton, CA, October 9, 2021; Iota Alpha, Knoxville, TN, October 23, 201; Phi Kappa Kappa, East Point, GA, November 16, 2021 and Psi Alpha, San Antonio, TX, December 6, 2021. Chapters and Districts are encouraged to reach out to their District FIMC chairmen to participate in FIMC programs.

NEXT LEVEL EXECUTION is the fraternity’s marquee that will inspire youth to excel, and families’ economic status to elevate in order to change the social economic trajectory for generations. ///



**S. Earl Wilson, Chairman
Fatherhood Initiative and
Mentoring Committee**

Brother Robert W. Fairchild, Fatherhood Initiative Advisor

Fathers, Take Your Children to School

FATHERS TAKING THEIR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL is so important but often overlooked as to the impact that it can have on the student, the teacher, the principal and yes even the student body. I was in a men's group communication session last week with a group of fathers and the conversation came up. I know that as we work with fathers, we encourage them to be more involved with their children in as many facets of their lives as possible. Listening to the conversation of these men it highlighted how critically important it is for fathers to be engaged in this act of taking their kids to school.

Listening to the father's conversations, they brought up point-after-point from their personal experiences. Some of the points brought up were: going to the child's school the father had an opportunity to see and understand the environment in which their child/student would be working; they felt that their child's confidence was boosted; the child felt a sense of pride (*my dad brought me to school*); the child observing the father-teacher conversation which in itself carries a lot of expectations/messages for the student and the teacher especially in PWIs; many fathers indicated that it caused them to want to be more involved in the student studies and progress; the fathers saw the value of having follow up visits to see how things

were going not only during PTA times but just dropping by periodically; several fathers visited the principal to introduce themselves to let them know, *"I am concerned about my child."*



The bottom line is fathers felt that their taking their child to school had a significant impact on getting their child off to a good start in the school year. One other point that I noted in this communication session - older fathers were helping the younger inexperienced fathers.

As we do our work with young fathers it is critical that we work to help them understand how important their involvement is in situations such as taking your child to school. Brothers, if you do not have a men's group discussing father-child issues going on in your chapter, church or community, please set one up and get the conversation going. The experience will be well worth it and what you can learn and/or share can go a long way toward having a better relationship with your child. ///

Brother Bob Fairchild

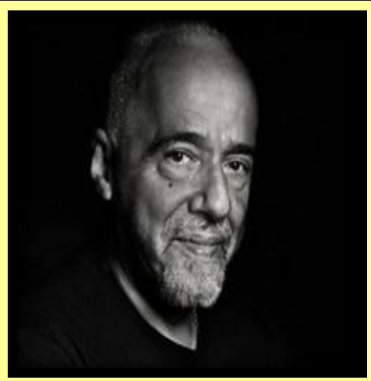
To Build or To Plant

In life, a person can take one of two attitudes: to build or to plant. The builders might take years over their tasks, but one day, they finish what they're doing. Then they find that they're hemmed in by their own walls. Life loses its meaning when the building stops.

Then there are those who plant. They endure storms and all the vicissitudes of the seasons, and they rarely rest. But unlike a building, a garden never stops growing. And while it requires the gardener's constant attention, it also allows life for the gardener to be a great adventure.

Gardeners always recognize each other, because they know that in the history of each plant lies the growth of the whole World.

Paulo Coelho



International Fatherhood Representative, Brother Thabiti Boone: Dads Matter



Brother Grand Basileus Dr. David E. Marion addressing the U Mass/MBK Fellows at signing of the MOU

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC., EMBARKS ON LATEST HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

Dr. David E. Marion, Grand Basileus of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., announced that he has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Obama Foundation's My Brother's Keeper (MBK) initiative, the University of Massachusetts-Boston and the City of Boston for the fraternity to establish a



Gregory A. Blaize, Executive Director, MBK City of Boston,

"Multigenerational Mentoring Pilot-Program" with the University of Massachusetts-Boston.

Gregory A. Blaize, Executive Director, City of Boston's My Brother's Keeper Alliance - **Obama Foundation, Office of Mayor Kim M. Janey** - Civic Engagement, expressed

great delight in helping to bring this *historic* initiative and partnership together.

In a statement from the mayor's office, he said, " *We in The City of Boston, are proud to embark on the grand mission of My Brother's Keeper with the impactful partners of Big Brothers Big Sisters Eastern Massachusetts, UMASS Boston, and the historical yet contemporary excellences of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.,*" he said, " *to pioneer our innovative MBK program, not only at an institution of higher learning, but throughout our great community of Boston and beyond.*"



Brother Thabiti Boone
Int'l Representative

The MBK Alliance focuses on building safe and supportive communities for boys and young men of color where they feel valued and have clear pathways to opportunity. The goal of the program, according to Brother Thabiti Boone, International Fatherhood Representative, who played a key role negotiating the



partnership, *“is to increase graduation rates and career readiness of the mentees, through President Obama's MBK Milestones.”*

The specific MBK milestones are: 1. *Getting a Healthy Start and Entering School Ready to Learn*, 2. *Reading at Grade Level by Third Grade*, 3. *Graduating from High School Ready for College and Career*, 4. *Completing Post-Secondary Education or Training*, 5. *Successfully Entering the Workforce through Increased Engagement in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics*, and 6. *Successful development of Social Emotional Competencies*.

First District graduate members of the Fraternity, through their Richard Jarvis Mentoring (RJM) Program, will serve as One-to-One Mentors to the MBK Fellows. The RJM Program cover 5 content modules: 1. Setting Educational Goals; 2. Personal Mental Health and Self; 3. Financial Literacy; 4. Future Mentorship, Future Dads; and 5. Character and Leadership Development.

The program will include group Workshops and Career Enrichment activities. Through these established partnerships, i.e., the University of Massachusetts-Boston and the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization, the Fraternity will be providing a Mentorship experience on a college campus to undergraduate young men, as well as, multigenerational mentoring support to middle school males.

Multigenerational mentoring, said Boone, *“is designed to foster an interconnected mentoring relationship between generations of men - older and younger and mentor and mentee – all connected around shared values and kinship.”*

“As the only public four-year university in the city of Boston, we have a unique commitment to serving our diverse student body,” said **Dr. Joseph N. Cooper, Special Assistant to the Chancellor** for Black Life, and Director of the UMB MBK initiative. *“Our new partnership with the Obama Foundation, MBK, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., in forming a pioneering university chapter of MBK at UMass Boston reflects our shared values of empowering young Black and Brown men to be leaders in the 21st century for their families, communities, in their careers, and throughout the world.”*

Mentoring programs traditionally, have served elementary, middle and high school students. *“Far too often,”* said Brother Boone, *“Black males in college*

lose the close guidance and support mentorship provides to ensuring that they continue to not just survive but thrive while on campus.”

Once the undergraduate MBK fellows complete their mentoring from Omega Mentors, they will be trained and guided as Mentors to the Big Brother/Big Sister Middle School young men. Program success will serve as a blueprint for future MBK programs. *“We are excited about the mentorship the young men will receive and provide. We collectively believe in the limitless potential of Black and Brown men and we are committed to ensuring they manifest the fullness of their talents and greatness,”* said Dr. Cooper.

Brother Boone was thankful to the fraternity leadership for its work in helping to bring this project forward. He said, *“the Fraternity, under the leadership of Brother Grand Basileus Dr. David E. Marion, 1st Vice Grand Basileus Brother Ricky L. Lewis, FIMC Chairman Brother S. Earl Wilson, FIMC Fatherhood Advisor Brother Robert W. Fairchild (who was significant in bringing this program to fruition), 1st District DR Brother Lennitt Bligen, 1st V-DR Brother Raymond Bailey and 1st District FIMC Chair Brother Anthony Lilley. have demonstrated their enthusiastic and unrelenting support for the new program.”*

Brother Boone reminded all that the initiative was a Team effort and groundbreaking journey. *“Let's continue to be the pioneers and leaders of Fatherhood and Mentoring,”* he said.



Dr. Joseph N. Cooper
University of Massachusetts

In celebrating Brother Richard Jarvis: Brother Boone said, “he (Brother Jarvis) and the fraternity always had a vision of MBK coming to the 1st District. Unfortunately, he passed away during the beginning of this process. We're glad we were able to make it happen in his honor. ///

tb/gdt





**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**

About Fathers: Implications for The Schooling of Our Children

Greetings to one and all! I pray that we are all remaining safe and vigilant in working our way through the continuing scourge that is the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the sake of our families and our communities, it is incumbent upon each of us to be alert and informed, and to ultimately make the decisions that serve our best interests. Regardless of the failures of those leaders who have placed politics as the priority over our country's general welfare, we must lead our homes and our communities selflessly and with reason and intelligence.

In keeping with the theme of this issue of this newsletter, I want to share some brief thoughts regarding issues that can arise for fathers, as it relates to the schooling of their children.

LEGAL CUSTODY (LC): We have discussed this concept numerous times in this space over the years. As a reminder, LC is basically the status conferred upon parents, by court order, which

treatment that is needed for the child. Decisions about religious (or not) teachings that the child will be exposed to and practiced during their formative years. And particular to this discussion, the child's schooling, Pre-K through Grade 12.

Obviously, caring and engaged parents want the very best educational experience possible for their child. Unfortunately, those same parents can have disagreement about what that actually looks like. Those parents who have LC have the authority to decide what that educational experience ultimately entails.

JOINT LEGAL CUDTODY (JLC): This situation involves estranged legal parents. In the vast majority of circumstances, both parents are deemed capable and authorized to participate, *equally*, in important decisions, like the child's schooling arrangements. JLC assumes and requires that the *parents should confer* and reach a joint decision about where the child attends school, how the child's day-to-day arrangements transpire, activities for the child's participation, disciplinary issues, as such may arise.

SOLE LEGAL CUSTODY (SLC): In situations where the LC is not jointly shared, one or the other parent is conferred what is called *Sole Legal Custody*. In this situation one parent is deemed incapable, for myriad reasons, of being suitable to make life decisions for the child, and is thereby displaced from such authority. The parent who is granted SLC has the only voice in making life decisions for the child, and has no legal responsibility to confer with the other parent before making such decision as where and how the child will attend school.

It is a *sad and far too often occurrence* that courts are placed in the unfortunate posture of having to declare a SLC situation and that child is deprived of the involvement of both parents, collaboratively, acting in the best interest of their child, and the sharing of the costs and resources needed to give their child the very best educational opportunity possible.

determines which of the legal parents have the right and responsibility to make the important, essential decisions that impact a child's upbringing. Decisions such as the health care
Reasons that SLC is ordered by the court can include, but are not limited to:

- Abuse/Neglect
- Incapacity (Mental Defect)
- Abandonment/Absence
- By choice of the Parent
- Documented and proven examples of not serving the best interest of the child.

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WHEN THE COURT CAN TAKE CUSTODY: In JLC cases, parents can and do disagree about what the child's educational experience should entail. This is the point at which the court can be engaged. Either parent can petition the court to intervene and make the decision that the two parents are at impasse about.

The court retains jurisdiction of the case involving the child, until that child turns 18 years of age. That means when JLC cannot agree on decisions for the benefit of the child, the court has the authority to hear the positions of both parties in a court hearing.

At that hearing both parties "make their case" as to why their opinion should be the decision enacted for the child. The parties are, of course, allowed to represent themselves, or hire legal counsel to represent them. The parents should come to that hearing with all of the evidence and witnesses they feel will support the case that they are attempting to make.

After the court has examined and considered the testimony and evidence provided at the court hearing, the court will render a decision, which could:

- Adopt the opinion of either of the parents. Or,
- Adopt portions of each party's opinion and fashion a "hybrid" approach to resolving the issue, Or,
- Reject both parties' opinion and substitute the courts independent decision as to what serves the best interest of the child.

As always, I close with some practical advice.

Be reasonable and open to compromise, if at all possible. Have continuing, ongoing conversations that evaluate how the child's educational experience is progressing. The sooner that issues are identified, the better it helps to confer and find mutually agreeable solutions. As the child gets older and more mature, include them, as much as appropriate, in the decisions that will affect THEIR educational experience. Without question, parents should make the final decision. But it's potentially going to be a lousy decision if the child ain't buying into it!

As much as possible, try to NOT leave it to the court to make this important decision about your child! A very viable alternative is to seek out the local mediation center (most communities have such an entity) to help find a resolution. They are trained to take the personality and emotion out of the discussion and to instead help find common ground. Put the work in on the front end, so as to avoid the misery and strife that you'll likely find on the back end, if you don't put the work in!

In Friendship...For Life!

Brother Gregory C. Pittman, Esq.

Confucius On Knowledge

On matters beyond his ken a gentleman speaks with caution. If names are not right, words are misused. When words are misused, affairs go wrong. When affairs go wrong, courtesy and music droop, law and justice fail. And when law and justice fail them, a people can move neither hand nor foot. So a gentleman must be ready to put names in speech, to put words into deeds. A gentleman is nowise careless of words.

Did You Know?

At the turn of the 21st century, more than half the country's more than 36 million African Americans lived in the South; 10 Southern states had Black populations exceeding 1 million. African Americans were also concentrated in the largest cities, with more than 2 million living in New York City and more than 1 million in Chicago. Detroit, Philadelphia, and Houston each had a Black population between 500,000 and one million.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/African-American>



International Youth Leadership Conference Celebrates: BACK TO SCHOOL DAYS

NATIONAL MILLION FATHERS MARCH

BY Brother Keith G. Pemberton

Chairman of the International Youth Leadership Conference



NATIONAL MILLION FATHERS MARCH took place on Friday, September 17, 2021. **Waldo C. Falkener Sr., World School** participated with the assistance of the brothers of Mu Psi Chapter (NC A & T State University) and Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter (UNCG).

The Million Fathers March is a national event where fathers bring their children to school. The Brothers played an integral role of setting up for the motorcade, greeting father figures, holding the picture frames for photos, gathering data through the QR Code surveys, directing traffic, serving Krispy Kreme donuts and breaking down and cleaning up.

Members of 2021 Mu Psi Chapter performed a march down for the faculty and other volunteers at the conclusion of the event. The school is named after Waldo C. Falkner Sr. who was an Omega man initiated at Delta Chapter in 1925.

More than 150 fathers participated in the event and also signed up to participate in the school's *Father Figure Monthly Virtual Webinar - All Pro Dads* - with the intention of paying PTA membership dues. The theme for the month of September was Confidence. Father Figures and their children dialogue about confidence and what confidence looks like from a father's perspective and from a child's perspective. ///



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Ω Keep it on, Brothers!



Ω Just a little ... Ω



... bit longer!!!

FATHERHOOD CHANGED HE!

FATHERHOOD CHANGED ME and continuously teaches me about humility. My toxic masculinity was defused by the birth of she. Ignited by chauvinistic views prior to her arrival. I saw through a distorted lens that was clothed in arrogance, selfishness, and bad pride. My futile attempt to remedy this problem was to replace camera. You see, I thought it was a functionality issue since I've dropped it many times.

But it wasn't until I looked at the lens through a magnifying glass to see it had been cracked, worn down, shattered, fogged out, with what seemed to be a permanent haze. Too thick to see the clear blue sky accompanied by endless orange horizons at sunset.

A once pure lens that capture the essence of a father kissing his son on the forehead before watching his son trot down the railroad tracks off to school. It snapped a moment in time of a pregnant mother glowing before she birthed her first born. Out of so much agony there is beauty.

You see the moment I met she, I was taken back to that 5-year-old boy in Philly reaching out for my mom's arms asking her for more pork sausages mom, please. Transported into a dimension where time didn't matter, hate was a grain of sand on the beach being consumed by **LOVE**.

I breathed in life for the very first time when I held her in my arms. My failures transformed into success, doubt converted into faith, fear was disrupted by courage and in that moment, I could taste love. I've smelt the fragrance of love but never have I ever, tasted it.

My pallet became refined that I no longer desired bad food. I only wanted organically grown and grass fed. Which clearly makes me stronger, faster, and healthier. Because I knew I was about to run many marathons for the rest of my life.

She overwhelmed me with **LOVE**. That agape kinda of Love. It was in that moment that I finally understood my purpose in life. Fatherhood changed me.

By Brother Malik K. Murray, Author, and father



Data, Data, Data: Fatherhood and Mentoring takes Time, Talent and Treasure!

CHAPTERS AND DISTRICTS are providing the necessary time and talent to help our communities. There are many philanthropic companies and organizations around the globe that are looking to support efforts like ours. In order for Omega to compete for that support, we need to be able to provide data showing the impact of our programs and services.

To this end, Brother First Vice Grand Basileus, Brother Ricky Lewis, has charged Brother Jerry Leftwich of the 4th District, to create a **Basic Data Collection Form** to capture what we do. Thus, the purpose of this form is to provide an electronic document that Brothers can access and complete at any time. The form is a **Google Doc** that seeks very basic information. It compiles the data and provides a picture of our Fatherhood and Mentoring activities.

There are many data points that can be asked – from demographic information to academic, behavioral and financial. The form takes less than 5 minutes to complete

and will greatly assist to more accurately quantify our efforts. Upon approval, the Brotherhood will be asked to not only use the form moving forward, but record previous activity data at the Chapter and District level.

We can always look to obtain more complicated data by sponsoring studies, asking undergraduate and graduate Brothers to leverage research or dissertation projects or by partnering with established organizations. Now is the time for us to establish a baseline of some impact information so that we have hard data to support or work (How many youths are served, Number of Service Hours; How much funding has the Fraternity provided in our efforts).

Let's begin to get the credit deserved for the work done in Omega! It's Data, Data, Data – Smart Data! ///



Brother Jerry Leftwich
4th District, Chairman, FIMC

***** Around the Districts *****

~~~~ NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE ~~~~

4th Quarter 2021, **December 15th** Information for October, November, December, 2021

Our Goal: Publish Information from each District, each Quarter; Fatherhood and Mentoring Programs, Youth Leadership Conferences, Project Manhood, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Brother You're On My Mind.

Please submit to: geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net



First District Prepares to Launch MBK/UMass Mentoring Program

Boston, MA – For well over a year, brothers of the First District, led by First Vice DR Raymond Bailey along with Fatherhood and Mentoring Chairman, Brother Anthony Lilley under the leadership of DR Lennitt Bligen is ready to begin the start of the MBK/UMass/City of Boston mentoring program. Brother Bailey and Brother Lilley worked with the Three Boston Chapters, Gamma Chapter, Iota Chi Chapter and Eta Phi Chapter to select 20 mentors for young men attending school at UMASS Boston.

The Program will run for 10 weeks. The mentors and mentees will meet once a week. Every two weeks, the 1st

District will bring all the mentors and mentees together to get feedback and provide a speaker for each module that is to be completed.

Brother Thabiti Boone, International Representative, and Ms. Jordan Cherry provided the District with MBK **MentorHub** Training (*the training program set up for the brothers*). The training took place on Thursday 9/16/2021.

Brother Lilley, says more updates will come as the First District proceeds with making a difference for the young men in the Boston Area who attend UMASS Boston. ///

WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR



Boston, MA - With more than 24,000 students in Massachusetts public schools who have been identified as homeless and the pandemic causing continual financial hardships, Iota Chi Chapter, an unaffiliated association of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., partnered with Target (T3363) to provide students in need with school supplies such as a backpack, notebooks, markers,

rulers and other essential items needed for educational purposes.

Together over 50 new bookbag full of essential school materials were distributed to both Boston Public and Cambridge Public School students. Here are more photos and a video describing the event: ///

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6n6z4ah7m6wd4pa/AABYiDotQZ36LepagRIZIeb9a?dl=0>

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"Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything"
George Bernard Shaw

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Ω Keep it on, Brothers!



Ω Just a little ... Ω



... bit longer!!!

Lambda Rho Participates in Dad Hero Community Event

WATERBURY, CT – OFTEN, DADS ARE THE UNSUNG HEROES of the family. They can be called upon to do the tasks that no one else wants to do, with little recognition. To highlight the important roles that fathers play in their children's lives, their families and their communities, the "Dad Heroes" were celebrated.

In an event collaborated together by My People Clinical Services, the Department of Children & Families, New Opportunities Inc. & FAVOR, the 3rd annual "Dad Hero Community Event" took place. Formally known as "Dads Matter Too" community day, this year the name was changed to put more of an emphasis on just how important the father is.

It was a day packed with games, music, entertainment, various food trucks and even a movie screening. In an event tailored specifically to honoring them, Fathers from all over were able to celebrate the gift



of fatherhood with their children. The most integral part of the day was that fathers were given citations for their various efforts in working with their children and communities. Lambda Rho Chapter was able to partner with New Opportunities Inc. to help support this great event. ///

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

It's About LOVE:

I Took the Shot Because of Love

By Brother Donald Williams II, District Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee
Brother Zanes Cypress, Jr., DPR, 2nd District

On the weekend of Saturday, August 14 - 16, 2021 we conducted an ACT/SAT Summer Boot Camp. My closing remarks to comfort and uplift students and parents as the COVID-19 delta variant increases was: "*According to the CDC the "Delta Variant" of COVID-19 accounts for approximately 99% of all new infection cases.*" I encouraged them to exercise proper judgement and safe practices as children return to the school buildings.

My "new" message centered on LOVE. I stated that the virus is "real" it hasn't gone anywhere. Transmission rates are on the rise. Hospitals are currently experiencing a spike in infections among young people that need increase care due to in COVID-19 cases. We are losing

friends and family members because individuals elect not to be vaccinated.

My reason for taking the shot was based on LOVE! My five-year old granddaughter and two-year old grandson are two reasons I rolled up my sleeve and took the shot. I expressed my LOVE for my family by taking the vaccine shot because I wanted to keep them safe. I want you to keep your family and friends safe. If I became ill because of not being vaccinated, guess what? The game is over for the three-day ACT/SAT camp that impacts hundreds of students annually. The valuable strategies and test-taking skills that were taught would not have occurred if I contracted the virus and must fight for my life. When you are able to receive the vaccine shot, do it in the name of LOVE.

As students return to school parents are navigating what this pandemic means for their families, children and other kids in their lives. Until our children are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine, parents must educate children about safe practices so they can incorporate into their



daily routine. I believe the next three years or until we get this virus under control the pathway forward will be the 3Ws: watch your distance in groups, wash your hands and please wear your mask.

The American Academy of Pediatrics advises parents to make sure children vaccinations are up-to-date before getting the vaccine. Check with your family Physician.

Exercise good judgement by wearing a mask as it provides protection for the entire community. Truly it's about LOVE! ///



- 11% Population - 45%
- 2ND Shot – Mission Accomplished!
- Pediatric cases increase significantly among our youth in July 2021 (CDC source)!
- Help get the word out about Vaccine Shot for Veterans and Spouses. Make VA Appointment at (202) 745 -4342.
- 3Ws: Until we get this virus under control the pathway forward will be to watch your distance in groups, wash your hands, and please wear your mask. Exercise good judgement by wearing a mask as it provides protections for the entire community.
- Mitigate = Vaccinate



Brother Donald Williams, II, Demonstrating Love and Caring: Leading by Example

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” – Nelson Mandela

POST SCRIPT: On Wednesday, September 22, 2021, it was an honor to have the Grand Basileus, Brother Dr. David Marion, acknowledge and recognize Eta Pi Chapter for being the 2nd District Chapter of the Year under the Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee. A special moment was captured when Jermariah Pou, a mentee, expressed heart-felt remarks on how the men of Eta Pi significantly impacted his life since middle school to the present. Jermariah is serving his country in the U.S. Army and was speaking from the barrack at Fort Benning, GA. Everyone felt his passionate words as he described what it means to be mentored by Omega men. All who heard him, hearts were touched and emotions moved when he shared that this was a tough time for him because his mother had recently gone home to be with the Lord. And having the support truly means the world to him. Mentoring Matters! ///



A FATHER'S LOVE REFLECTION & TRIBUTE: **Fathers Love for Children in A New Normal**

By Brother Donald Williams II, 2nd

District Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee,
Immediate Past Basileus Mu Nu Chapter
Brother Zane Cypress, Jr., DPR, 2nd District

Brother Donald Williams can't help but to think about children in this unprecedented season of adjusting to a new normal as we all press through this globe pandemic. "When I reflect on my own

childhood," he says, "I think about my own father's love for his family."

This Tribute: From a Son who Loved his Dad, and "I miss him so much."

MY DAD WAS A LOVING, CARING AND THOUGHTFUL MAN who taught me so much about how to conduct myself as I navigated my adolescent years. These were extremely challenging times in the 11th year of the 20th century. My dad was a community leader as a member of the Board of Mission for the United Methodist Church when I was a teenager raised during the early years of the 20th century. My father's lesson started early in my childhood prior to age 17.

"...I didn't want to do anything ... that would cause embarrassment to him."

I am now 82 years young, here is my tribute and favorite memory from my childhood that centered on teaching me how to drive a car. He was so patience with me. He told me that driving was a big responsibility and learning to drive was a serious matter.

My Dad gave me the keys to the family car before departing for a business trip. While he was away, I got into a car accident and felt badly because I was doing something that I didn't have no business doing. I sideswiped another car while joy riding. When Dad returned from the business trip, I had to man-up as he entered the house. I remembered saying *"Dad, I really need to talk to you right away."* I knew he was going to the garage sooner or later, so I felt compelled to tell him before he saw the damaged to the family car. When I showed him the car, I knew things weren't going to go well for me. I just knew that he would be angry.

My Dad inspected the car by walking around to assess the damage. He looked me in the eye and saw how shaken I was in that moment. The only question he asked me was: *Did you learn your lesson?* I responded with *"Yes Dad;"* I was so disappointed with myself. I remembered sharing that I didn't want to do anything wrong that would cause embarrassment to him. See, during that time the opposition did bad things to attack prominent leaders and their families routinely! My Dad just hugged me!

Although I just knew him as my Dad, it really wasn't until the age of 15 through 16 (high school student) that I realized how important a leader he was in the fight for Black America. I remembered one occasion in 1950 the Maryland Governor came over for dinner at the house.

My Dad was born on September 10, 1891. He earned four degrees including a Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1916 from Howard University in Washington D.C. He served during World War I as a Chaplain in the rank of First Lieutenant in the United States Army. He worked with Mary McLeod Bethune on the Methodist Federation for Social Services.

He ascended to Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church (MEC). He passed away on May 1, 1974, in Baltimore. My Dad was on the front lines fighting racism and working with other leaders to make life better for generations after him. ///

Can you guess who this father's tribute is about?

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Ω Keep it on!



Ω Just a little ... Ω



bit longer!!!

My Dad was one of the founders of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the first Africa-American fraternity founded on a black campus. Dad's Favorite Saying: Life is like a maze; you learn to get around it. My Dad taught me that you get more done with love than hate!

**The Honorable
Bishop Edgar
Amos Love -
Founder
(September 10, 1891 -
May 1, 1974)**



Brother Jon Edgar Love, Sr., (pictured on the left and in the center) is the son of the Honorable Founder of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., with his son Jon Edgar Love Jr., (pictured in the white T-shirt) and daughter Virginia Elizabeth Love (Ginger)

The Inaugural *Campout* with the Pittsburgh Ques: A Father's LOVE Tribute

Iota Phi. 2nd District

**By Brother Carlton Heywood, Corridor VI, Western Pennsylvania
Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee**

On the weekend of Saturday, July 16, 2021, the men from Iota Phi Chapter in Pittsburgh planned, organized and executed a wonderful overnight camping trip for the children.

As the restriction for COVID-19 are relaxing a bit across the country and more people are receiving vaccinations for protection, Brothers of the Iota Phi Foundation and Chapter ensured that all members were properly vaccinated before the camping excursion. The leadership having taken proper precaution felt comfortable and at ease bringing children together for this great exposure experience. Despite the rainy weather everyone "*saw it through.*"

What can happen when a few good Omega Men and a few kids get together for some weekend camping in the woods? A whole lot of memories and fun for all! During the weekend of July 16th through 18th some brothers from the Iota Phi Chapter held its first official "Campout".

Although Pittsburgh's Iota Phi chapter has sponsored camping trips before it has now become an activity that will support the fraternity's Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring efforts to touch the minds and hearts of our young people.

Chapter members, Mike Howard, Andre Patterson, Frank Torbert, Jack Taylor, and Rob White *rough it* with the kids and had great fun doing so. The kids were given instructions on how to pitch a tent, build a campfire, prepare a meal outdoors and survive in the primitive campgrounds at the Bear Run Campground in Portersville, PA. This activity was the springboard of the Iota Phi Foundation's Outdoor Adventure Program. The next activities are planned to include fishing, boating, hiking, and ongoing mentorship. ///





Chapter members with students are Brothers Rob White, Andre Patterson, Frank Torbert, Jack Taylor and Mike Howard, they stand strongly behind the youth.

Brother Frankie Torbert leads the way.

“Let your light so shine among Men that they may see your good works; and Glorify your Father which is in Heaven.” Matthew 5:16



Sitting by the warm glow of the camp fire enjoying conversations

Conversation sitting around the camp fire about life situations and current events

**“We receive three educations, one from our parents, one from our school masters, and one from the world. The third contradicts all that the first two teach us.”
Charles Louis de Secondat Baron de Montesquieu**



3rd District: Brother Michael Frazier, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring



Kappa Iota Iota & Gamma Epsilon | Back to School | August 2021

Fort Eutis Virginia, Kappa Iota Iota | On August 23, 2021, Kappa Iota Iota (KII) and Gamma Epsilon (GE) Chapters stuffed backpacks to support the South East Community, Newport News Virginia “Back to School” Block Party August 28, 2021. KII’s Young Men of Distinction (Mentorship Program) had 16 young men to volunteer along with members of the Newport News Fire Department, Zion Baptist Church, and Achievable Dream Middle High School staff.

The group filled backpacks with over \$3,000 worth of school supplies to give to 1,300 deserving students. Jehlan Williamson and Zyon Sebree from Gamma Epsilon stuffed backpacks and conducted a step show with enthusiasm that received a loud ovation from all the participants. KII Brothers Baron McKeithan (KII Chair, Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee), Bob Smith, and Lloyd Boxley all agreed that this project was an overwhelming success for the community. ///



Williamsburg Virginia, Zeta Mu Mu | On Tuesday, August 24, 2021, at 2:00 PM, the Fatherhood Initiative of the ZMM Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., along with Oliver Walmon of the Child Development Resources’ Fatherhood Program of Williamsburg Virginia united to address the needs of local children in preparation for their return to school this fall. This partnership provided the fathers participating in the Fatherhood Mentorship Program bookbags for their school age children to assist their transition into the upcoming school year.

In a short time period, members of the Zeta Mu Mu Fatherhood Initiative and the Child Development Resources’ Fatherhood Program has established a strong bond. These programs will continue to focus on their mission *to equip fathers with the tools needed to become outstanding fathers in their homes for the sake of their children and exceptional leaders in their communities for the sake of our society.*



Bro. Corey Sales and Oliver Walmon from CDR Fatherhood.

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Fairfax County Virginia, Psi Alpha Alpha | In expected fashion, the brothers of PsiAA, Third District, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., realized the true importance of the first “First Day of School” in over a year. At 8:00a.m. on Monday, August 23, 2021, the chapter’s group chat began “blowing up” as brothers posted pictures of their excited kids on their way to school.

Chapter members also felt the excitement as they watched how thankful their kids were to be going back to school in person for the first time in over 18 months. Assistant Keeper of Records Brother Hector Sheppard understands the critical nature of social interaction and community, *“It’s supposed to be better for learning. Many kids were getting depressed at home and many good students were failing in this new virtual educational environment.”*

Vice Basileus Brother Myron McDaniels, whose son Ian is entering his freshman year at Cornell University, echoed those sentiments, *“It is important for students to physically attend to build and continue to build relationships with their peers and academic professionals.”* Brother Tony Wells was extremely complementary of the hard-working teachers and administrators who are also in a transitioning period. He said, *“The dedicated educators of the local school districts are great at pulling the best out of our committed students and being in person helps with the needed socialization of our children.”*

Brother James Cherry, Psi Alpha Alpha Fatherhood Initiative Chairman added, *“My oldest daughter is a senior in high school, and she spent the past two academic years watching the senior classes miss their senior activities, including prom, and participating in virtual graduations. She got her vaccinations as soon as they opened it for her age group in Fairfax County just to make sure she was doing her part.”*///

Prince William County Virginia, Pi Lambda Lambda

On August 17th, 19th and 21st, 2021, the Omega U was participating in and supporting the Prince William County Public Schools Community Day Events at Unity Braxton Middle School, Graham Park Middle School, Rippon Middle School and the Neabsco Community Park Back-to-School celebration. Prince William County is the 2nd largest school district in the 3rd District.



Whether it is the first day of elementary school, senior year of high school, or freshman year of college, the brothers of Psi Alpha Alpha captured the unadulterated joy their kids felt on getting back into the physical classroom.



Bro. Jeffrey Allen, Basileus of PLL, and Bro. Charles Hunter, Vice Basileus of PLL, is with Dr. LaTanya McDade Superintendent of Prince William County Public Schools.

It was another opportunity to sign up young men for our Omega U Mentoring Program and also share with the community the great work PLL does throughout Prince William County and surrounding areas. We also had the opportunity to meet with Superintendent of Prince William County Schools Dr. LaTanya McDade. ///



Lawrenceville Virginia, Omicron Omega | The Omicron Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity partnered with the players of the Hening Athletic Association to promote literacy and leadership through football. The brothers began working with the players in January 2021 by leading them each month in a book study and discussion. The men of the Omicron Omega Chapter made the connection between football and life for the players through the book, "Chop Wood, Carry Water". The brothers were able to meet with the players bi-monthly to teach topics in leadership through the book.



Brothers of Omicron Omega supported the Hening Athletic Association football team in their first scrimmage on August 30, 2021.

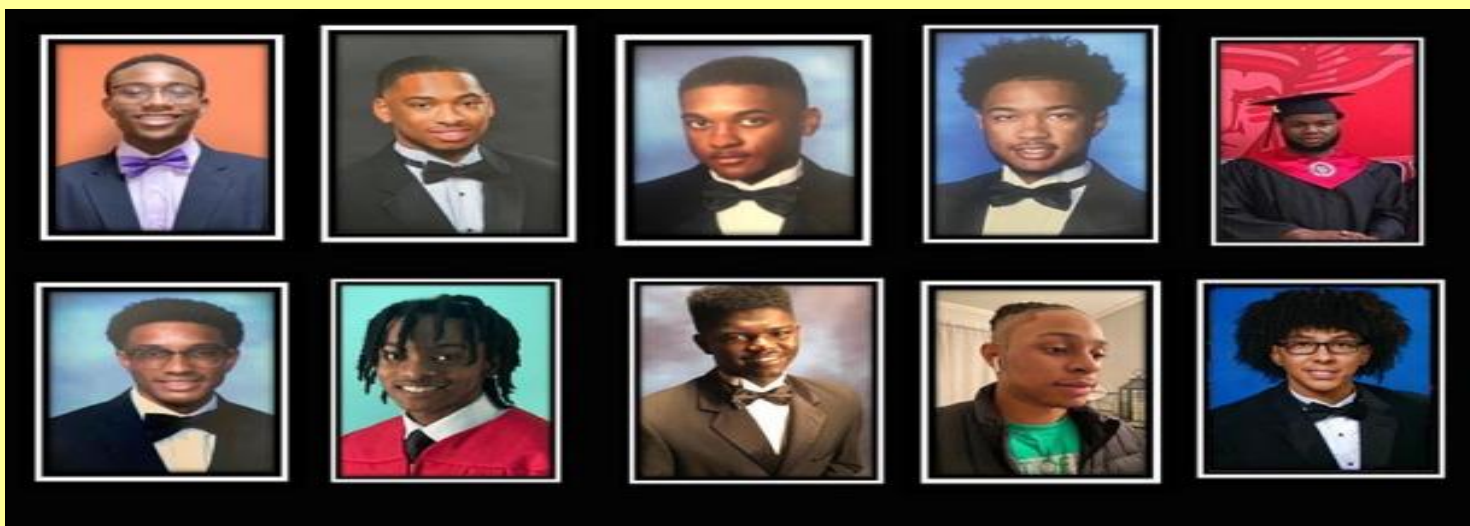


BBBS of Hampton Roads members participated in a virtual escape Room challenge. Bro Clyde Abdull Wallace and his wife Gail, TGF Bridgebuilder, Mr. Alexander Hightower.

Virginia Beach VA, Gamma Xi Chapter | The Golden Fold (TGF) mentorship program staff members participated in the 2021 Big Brothers/Big Sisters "Escape for Kids Sake" fund raiser in April. The Six member staff surpassed their \$1,000 goal in donations by 128 percent for a total of \$1,284.78 in donations. Gamma Xi rose to the occasion in funding for the cause. The Virtual escape challenge was a fun team building experience for TGF staff while supporting a great cause.

Suffolk Virginia, Alpha Iota | The Golden Fold mentoring School or joining the United States military. The graduates group had 10 graduates who will be attending a local Virginia pictured below are:

Pierce Adams, Antonio Green, Marcus Green, Gabriel Ingram, Amahri McClain, Adam Owens, Christian Watts, Jalen Webster, Allen Wiggins and Monet Williams. (Submitted)



The Gold Fold Mentoring Program | 2021 Graduating Seniors





Brother DR Conrado B. Morgan, 3rd District Representative



Bro. Shawn Lacey, Third District First Vice District Representative



Bro. Joe Briggs Esq, speaking to students as a guest speaker about “Seeds of Success” at the inaugural Third District Youth Leadership Conference on September 11, 2021.

Historic Moment: Third District Host First Youth Leadership Conference

The third District hosted their first Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) on September 11, 2021 using the virtual zoom platform. The event catered to students primarily from 8th grade to graduating seniors in Virginia and District of Columbia. In addition, the event had 129 participants, 86 being students.

The theme of the conference was a focus on Teen Mental Health and Seeds of Success. The YLC featured guest speakers Bro. Shawn Lacey, Third District First Vice District Representative and Bro. Joe Briggs Esq. of the NFL Players Association. The event kicked off with a prayer from Bishop Enoch Perry and opening remarks from **Third District Representative, Bro. Conrado B. Morgan.**

Bro. Shawn Lacey began his career in education in 2000 and transitioned to Loudon County Public Schools, Virginia in 2010. He became the Principal at Leesburg Elementary in 2018. He spoke to students on the approaches for understanding youth mental health, with an action plan to help a youth who may be facing a mental health problem. This included understanding the local and free resources available to parents, students, teachers, and friends. checking on friends, and finding and locating available resources as applicable.

Bro. Joe Briggs Esq., was a scholarship athlete at Texas Christian University earning three varsity letters as a committed student leader on campus. After the completion of his externship as a US Senate Legal Fellow, Mr. Briggs was hired by the NFL Players Association to manage their Financial Programs Department. Currently, he is the Public Policy Counsel of the NFLPA and first individual to lead the NFLPA Government Relations Department.

Brother Briggs is also a professor at Georgetown University and often speaks on subjects ranging from politics to sports and everything in between. Bro. Briggs spoke on the seeds of success. They included preparation, focus, hard work, and dedication. He reminded them that success is what happens when preparation meets opportunity and that at their age and any age opportunity is all around you. He excited the audience with his words and recapped his message by understanding that success may be defined by others, but it can only be confirmed and felt by you.

This was an historic moment for the Third District Fatherhood Initiative & Mentoring Committee with the successful execution and service to the community. The Third District YLC is available for streaming on the district website at www.3rddistrictques.org.



Xi Alpha Welcomes Local Elementary School Children Back-to-School

Charleston, WV – This pandemic has taken a toll on so many, and it has been very difficult on our school aged children.

The virtual learning endured last year was a huge challenge for many youths. When it was determined, the schools were going to have in person education this year, the brothers of Xi Alpha Chapter thought it would be a nice gesture to go to Mary C. Snow Elementary school to provide special back-to-school greetings. The brothers along with some other community leaders, cheered the youth on and wished them a great school year. The principal stated she was, “overwhelmed with the number

of men that came out to greet the students... everybody is in a positive vibe, and I am just really happy to be here today.”

The Brothers had a great time and thought it not robbery to start their day investing into the youth. Xi Alpha has historically worked with multiple schools, and we have been told by administrators; **attendance is better, disciplinary infractions reduce, and the overall atmosphere is more improved, when positive men are visible in the schools.** Hence, Xi Alpha will continue being those examples of positive college educated men who will be present for our youth. ///



Back to School in Cincinnati

Cincinnati, OH – The Social Action Chairman of Beta Iota Chapter, Brother Kevin Dewalt represented his chapter and the 4th District by participating in the Ethel M. Taylor Academy back to school event on August 19th, 2021. The school was named after Ethel M. Taylor, who understood the needs of her community and worked to improve its quality of life and support the importance of a good education. She began her crusade for the school in 1957 and when the building was completed in 2007, it was named after this community pioneer. Brother Dewalt was present on the first day of school to welcome students to a new year and show that Omega supports Cincinnati youth, its community and scholarship. ///



The Legendary 5th District: FIM Committee Tackles Issues of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

The Legendary 5th District under the leadership of District Representative Brother Sam McKenzie and First Vice District Representative Brother Quincy Snider continues to offer District-wide programming that promotes not only Fatherhood but also the entire family, and the Community at large.



Nashville, TN – On Thursday, September 9th the 5th District's Monthly Fatherhood Rap Session sponsored by Gamma Phi Chapter, focused on the issues of mental health and substance abuse.

More than twenty Brothers and community members participated in this video-based session which proved to be quite interactive. The discussion was led by Mr. Barrett Battle who himself struggled with addiction, and who after many years of sobriety is now a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor.

The 5th District was proud to also have in attendance 1st Vice Grand Basileus Brother Ricky L. Lewis who continues to support the work of the International and District Committees through active and consistent

guidance, participation, and encouragement. Mr. Battle helped participants to understand that often substance abuse and poor mental health go hand-in-hand. As an example, he talked about how chronic alcoholism can lead to depression, mood swings, and an overall denial of reality.

Included in the discussion was information about local and regional resources that are available to anyone who may need help. Among the most poignant statements made by the presenter during the workshop was: *"If you ever wondered if you might have a problem - then you probably do."* ///

5th District FIMC Committee Welcomes Brother Dwight Jones as Vice Chair

THE 5TH DISTRICT WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE that Brother Dwight Jones (initiated Tau Rho 2013 and currently serving at Theta Iota Chapter in Jackson, Tennessee) has accepted the responsibility of Vice Chairman of its Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee.



Brother Jones will assist the Chairman specifically with strategic planning, and helping to keep all 15 Committee members informed and engaged. In addition, Brother Jones will be asked to use his extensive expertise in helping to promote and implement Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee programming throughout the States of Kentucky and Tennessee. ///

Welcome aboard and thanks for your service!



The Mighty Sixth District Boasts of Many Organizational Subcomponents that Substantiate and Bolster its Strength and prominence



THE MIGHTY SIXTH DISTRICT is comprised of strong Brothers who are very compassionate about fostering and promoting wellness amongst the brotherhood and throughout their communities.

Just as the Creator's Words encourages us all to always help the Last, the Lost and the Least (The Youth), Omega Men take it upon themselves to educate, encourage, and empower young men in various ways in the Mighty Sixth District. One such way is Sigma Pi Graduate Chapter's teen outreach – The Titans of Omega Teen Mentor and Leadership Academy (hereafter referred to as The Titans; or The Titans of Omega). The Titans of Omega strive to exemplify the four cardinal principles of our illustrious fraternity – Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

The Titans of Omega is the Brainchild of the Basileus of Sigma Pi Chapter, Brother Nathaniel Dicks, who has over 50 years in the fraternity. Brother Dicks had a vision that he penned over eight years ago until he entrusted his vision to a few other Brothers of Sigma Pi in the Fall of 2019. During that Fall the Titans of Omega began meeting in-person on the 2nd Saturday of every month in the Aiken, South Carolina inner-city area.

The Academy, per its purpose and mission statement, identified males in the Aiken, Barnwell, and Edgefield County region who ranged from ages 13 to 19 (8th Grade to 12th Grade). Those young men were chosen because they displayed the character of young men who would benefit from academic, social, and economic uplift and who have a desire to be nurtured and developed intellectually and spiritually through persistent and deliberate instruction.

The young men and their parents are to be commended as the core group of Titans and Omega Men have been dedicated to the mission. There has been nearly 100% participation on monthly empowerment sessions on Zoom since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic last February/March. The sessions have been facilitated by several professionals, coaches, athletes, and businesspersons from all over the nation. The topics of the some of the Zoom sessions have been the following: Life Skills Training; Career Development; College Campus Tours; Test-Taking Strategies and Workshops (ACT/SAT); Job-Shadowing; Financial Literacy; Empowerment Panel Discussions and Community Clean-Up Projects. ///



Omega Lamplighters certify as Domestic Violence Peer Ambassadors

Chi Omega/Upsilon Psi Chapter

Tallahassee, FL – Omega Lamplighters took part in Class XII Induction Domestic Violence training to certify as Peer Ambassadors at their local community schools. The training was facilitated by Keely O'Rourke – Director of Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, Inc.

The Domestic Violence Coordinating Council was jointly created by the City of Tallahassee and Leon County Commissions to ensure well-coordinated community response to domestic violence.

Each month the DVCC meeting welcomes representatives from all agencies, advocates, and groups working with domestic violence survivors or perpetrators. Omega Lamplighters serving as Peer Ambassadors provides another safety net level within the community and local schools where their peers can have comfort and trust reporting domestic violence.

To review these program initiatives, visit: <http://www.thedvcc.org/> ///

Becoming a Millionaire Training, How to Make a Movie, Learning to Swim, and Starting Your Own Business

Delta Mu Mu Chapter –

Metro Atlanta, GA – The Brothers of the Delta Mu Mu Chapter - Atlanta, GA host their first Black Rhinos Mentoring Program meeting with mentees and parents for 2021 - 2022 calendar year. Mentees were advised of four planned short structured courses as a choice of selection for 2021 -2022. The courses consisted of:

- (1) Becoming a Millionaire
- (2) How to Make a Movie
- (3) Learning to Swim
- (4) Starting Your Own Business.



The first meeting concluded with lunch and mentees participating in football drills and 7 on 7 play.



tiative





OMEGA SPARKS, OTHERS COLLECT ITEMS FOR VICTIMS OF HURRICANE IDA



Montgomery, AL – Manhood Inc. Co-Chairmen Brothers R. Thomas and J. Lovejoy accepted 1,224 pairs of shoes from “Division 12 Consulting” toward the **Hurricane Ida Relief Initiative** for residents of the 9th Ward in New Orleans. Hurricane Ida Relief Board of Directors President Bro Andre Howard & Co-Chairmen Brothers Thomas and Lovejoy with Omega Sparks, unloaded 18-wheeler going to 9th Ward in New Orleans.

Omega Sparks Partnered with several community-based sponsoring organizations including: the Tuskegee United Women’s Club, Citizens That Care, Team Penni McClammy, The H&W Riders, Division 12 Consulting, The Blazer Boys, Caring for Citizens of Alabama, Have A Heart 4 Children, Councilman Cornelius Calhoun and WKXN Radio. ///



Nu Phi Chapter Houston Independent School District – 2021 Ruby L. Thompson Elementary First Day of School “It’s Show Time”

Houston, TX – Nu Phi Chapter greeted elementary students and their parents at the HISD Thompson Elementary First Day of School “It’s Show Time” Celebration which occurred on Monday, August 23, 2021. Fraternity members, teachers, and staff kicked off the school year right by welcoming students back to school and assisting with traffic control.

Mrs. Erica Brame-Manuel, principal of Thompson Elementary, expressed her appreciation to the brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity’s Nu Phi Chapter for their tireless work in volunteering at the school. Mrs. Joi Taylor, Teacher’s Counselor Specialist, coordinated this special event.

“This celebration helps put parents and students more at ease on the first day of school when it is a festive atmosphere,” Mrs. Brame-Manuel stated, “For children who are attending school for the first time, some of them cry when being dropped off by their parents until they see other students and begin making new friends.”

Teachers and staff wore t-shirts that read “It’s Show Time” indicating it was time to begin another school year. Each student had their temperature taken in accordance with CDC COVID-19 guidelines prior to entering the school facilities and received name tags to ensure their safety.



This event is held in conjunction with the Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi “Real Men Read” program where members volunteer to mentor and read to students at Thompson Elementary School. Brother Tawan Williamson, Social Action Committee coordinator, said, “As the students embark on this 2021-2022 in-person school year, the Nu Phi Chapter is honored to partner with Thompson Elementary as they kick off their ‘It’s Show Time’ celebration. We are here to UPLIFT and provide support to the staff, scholars, and parents of the 3rd Ward community in Houston, TX.”



Rho Beta Beta Omega Lamp Lighter's Barbershop Talk

August 22, 2021 – The Lamp Lighters participated in “The Barbershop Talk.” The discussion kicked off with the young men having an opportunity to share future goals, while also discussing plans for college. In addition, the young men were all given a pen and notepad and encouraged to write out their plans that would subsequently lead to the development of their roadmap to graduation.

This plan consisted of short-term and long-term goals, some of which they later shared with the group. The group Mentors provided feedback and guidance as well as asked clarifying questions of each young man,

after actively listening to them present their educational aspirations and plans to achieve their goals.

The Mentors contributed to the conversation by sharing their stories centered on their educational Journey and college experiences. The young men were also made aware of grants and scholarships that exists and a brief explanation of how to obtain them.

Barbershop Talk concluded with a task for the young men to complete prior to the next meeting that included a series of short-term, quick goals, which can be achieved by the end of the school year. The young men received a courtesy haircut to get them ready for an exciting first day of school. ///



Psi Alpha Chapter Fatherhood Initiative Committee

By Brother Jeremy Neal, Director of Public Relations

San Antonio, TX – On August 13, 2021, Bro. Anthony G. Peay, Vice Chairman, FI Committee, provided superb leadership and spearheaded the collection of funds within the Fatherhood Initiative Team to purchase backpacks in support of the August 14, 2021, Cleft of the Rock Church 2nd Annual Backpack Drive. The outpouring of support was amazing by every team member. Approximately \$400.00 was collected which resulted in the purchase of 40+ filled backpacks in support of our school-age youth. On the day of the event, Brothers Anthony Peay, Archie “Ice” Peay Jr. (Chairman, FI Committee) and Bro. Morris “Butch” Allen (Team Member) was on-site for the issuance of the backpacks.



On August 30, 2021, Bro. Archie “Ice” Peay Jr., Chairman, FI Committee, engaged and collaborated with Mr. Sam Gomez, San Antonio Fatherhood Campaign, and acquired 30 Sport Coats for distribution to the Veteran fathers in the San Antonio community. The team donated the sports coats to the Jacqueline Smith Foundation. This non-profit organization mainly focuses on providing sensible solutions on homeless veterans.



Bro. JG Wideman (FI Team Member) took the lead and picked up all the sports coats and delivered them straight to the foundation. Prayerfully these coats will contribute immensely to these homeless veterans (fathers) and motivate them to greater heights.

On September 2, 2021, Bro. Archie “Ice” Peay Jr., Chairman, Psi Alpha Chapter FI Committee, and Brother Anthony G. Peay, Vice Chairman, Psi Alpha Chapter FI Committee, conducted a Zoom meeting to announce the Father of the Quarter winners for the 3rd Quarter of Omega Year 2021 May 1, 2021, thru July 31, 2021. The awards were presented to Bro. Paul L.

Booker (Omega Category) and Mr. Jason Toney (Citizen Category).

Also in attendance were Bro. George M. Mayers Jr. (Basileus, Psi Alpha Chapter), Bro. John Lester (Vice Basileus, Psi Alpha Chapter), Bro. Jimmie McMillion (Immediate Past Basileus, Psi Alpha Chapter), Mr. Jeremy Neal (Director of Public Relations, Psi Alpha Chapter) and several of the FI committee members (Bro. Morris “Butch” Allen, Bro. Jerrel Scriven and Bro. Jazz Shinault). Both Bro. Booker and Mr. Toney will receive an engraved mug along with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Basileus. ///



Supporting Omega-Men to Be Great Omega-Fathers

Bro. Cyrill Weems- FIMC Chairman 10th District

10th District - Michigan: Brothers in graduate Chapters Rho Mu Nu (Canton, MI) and Nu Omega (Detroit, MI) collaborate to develop a Fatherhood Support Platform for brothers in their combined chapter membership of over 200 brothers.

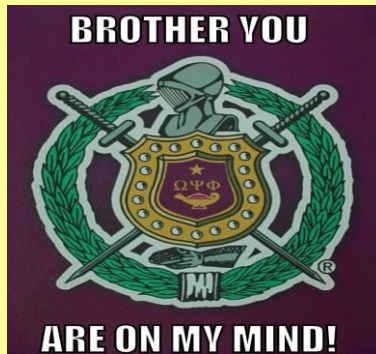
This platform was developed specifically to share Fatherhood topics with the brotherhood for awareness and development. The platform is structured with the session topic being presented by a *subject matter expert* brother followed by an open and collaborative discussion forum.

The Support Sessions have been held bi-monthly in a virtual setting since the beginning of 2021 in an effort to *help the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., grow in their awareness and development as Fathers* through exposure to presentations and discussion on important mind-provoking topics. Topics have ranged from Physical Health to Mental Health to Parenting and more.

A recent topic on Parenting had a specific emphasis on “Raising Daughters”. This was a well-attended Support Session that included many different perspectives on how to raise daughters. Some of the brothers approached it from a “Single Dad” perspective, some from an “Out of the Home” perspective, some from a “Daughter’s Only” perspective, some from a “Son and Daughter” perspective and others from an “In-home/Dual Parent” perspective.

All of the perspectives were enlightening to hear and learn from. It was interesting how some brothers had different standards/expectations (chores, dating, and more) for their daughter than they had for their sons. Others had the same standards for their daughters as they had for their sons. A brother’s past upbringing and life experiences had a huge impact on how they developed the standards and requirements for their daughters.

The brothers all agreed that “being present” was a MUST to provide the best environment for raising daughters. They also learned the early years, ages 2-4 and then again during the 12-14 years of age, were



critical years to be present and active in their daughters lives as 2-4 is when their daughters develop their personalities and 12-14 is the time of the challenging transition from youth to teen. The brothers also had alignment on the need to 1) Show their daughters Love; 2) Be conscious of the level of Discipline; and 3) Ensure their daughters have Self-respect and Self-esteem before leaving

home. With Omega Psi Phi’s value for protection of womanhood, this topic hit home for the brothers and provided an assortment of perspectives to help them think about how they were individually raising their daughters.

Forums like this are needed to help properly prepare the men of Omega to lead their households and their communities. The leadership of both Rho Mu Nu and Nu Omega are considering a similar forum for the men within their respective service communities. An analysis of how to reach the men (fathers) within the community and share these great topics is underway with hopes to have an outreach and engagement plan reach more and teach more.

Lastly, as a general support tool, Brothers are using the “Brother You’re On My Mind” image or text as a way to quickly let a brother know you are thinking about him and let him know he has your support regardless of what he is going through. Brothers simply send a text using the image or words containing “Brother You’re On My Mind” to brothers that cross their minds during the day.

Challenge: Send brothers in your phone contacts a “Brother You’re On My Mind” text as you think about them. Once you send one or receive one, you will understand the gratefulness and satisfaction of those simple words.

We, as Omega men, need friendship now, more than ever. F.I.E.T.T.S ///





Bro. Michael Haynes, STEM
Program Chairman Air
Toxic- Inspector, AQMD

PHI BETA BETA CHAPTER:
*Continuing to Raise the Bar, and Lead the Area on
STEM Career and College Prep Programs*

**Adding to the YLC: STEM PROGRAM-STEM
Career Webinar and TOUR THE CRENSHAW/LAX
TRANSIT PROJECT TUNNEL- “Purple Line”**



Inglewood, CA - Since 2008, Phi Beta Beta Chapter's **STEM** program, in conjunction with Phi Beta Beta Charities, Inc., (IRS tax exempt), Engineering and Math Program, which promotes **STEM** Career's and College Majors, for 6-12 grade Students in Southern California. **STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math)**, is a program that consists of two components, College Prep/Career Guidance and Academic Enrichment in Math, Science, Chemistry and Physics.

Recently, the Phi Beta Beta Chapter's **STEM** Program and the Association of Black Professional Engineers toured the Metro-rails, uncompleted Rail-Tunnel, being constructed for the final leg of the “Purple Line”. This line, is over 100 feet underneath Crenshaw Blvd., and extends from MLK to Florence Ave., Inglewood, Ca.

When the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project is complete in late 2021 it will open up underserved portions of the Los Angeles region to a new Public Transportation Option and bring light rail closer to the Los Angeles international airport, via the City of Inglewood. “It's very important for the residents of Inglewood and Crenshaw to connect to this network,” says Chapter Basileus, and **STEM** Program Coordinator, Brother Michal Haynes, Air Toxic- Inspector, AQMD.

During a recent tour, both High School and Junior High School **STEM** Program students, in conjunction with the Association of Black Professional Engineers, toured the completed Metrorail tunnel that lies over 70 feet below Crenshaw Boulevard.

After the safety briefing, guest accompanied by representatives of Walsh-Shea Corridor Constructors (a partnership between Walsh Construction Company and J.F.

Shea Construction Inc.,). This combined construction team began collaborating in 2011 when Walsh-Shea bid on the \$1.3 billion construction project for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro).

Proceeding over seventy feet below into tunnels under Crenshaw Boulevard, **STEM** program members saw principals of Civil, Chemical, Electrical, Mechanical and Computer System Technology put to the test. These tunnels will connect with the Crenshaw stations, before heading above ground and winding their way toward the LAX airport, through the Inglewood.

Once completed, the Crenshaw/LAX line will have eight stations along 8.5 miles southwest of downtown Los Angeles.

The route runs south along Crenshaw Boulevard before following an existing rail line alignment southwest into the suburb of Inglewood.

STEM Program members were told the construction is on schedule to be completed by the start of 2021 and Metro's ridership projection anticipates more than 16,000 boarding's each day by 2030.

Brother Haynes reported that, “Phi Beta Beta Chapter operates the first ever **STEM** dedicated Engineering camp at a local University, (CSUDH). Every Saturday, both in the fall and again in the spring, for 10-weeks, Middle-High School age students attend an Academic Enrichment program, designed to train our next generation of **STEM** Careers/College prep students. Phi Beta Beta, was one of the first Chapters the 12th District to promote **STEM** Careers of the Future using dedicated Webinars and direct Mentoring sessions with both Parents and Students”.

**“You teach them how to put on a Tie; we
will teach them how to earn the Money to
Buy the Tie”.**



During a recent Webinar, the **STEM** program partnered with the Inland Valley Uplift Foundation (IVUF) and delivered an excellent program which included the following presenters and topics:

Michael Haynes, Hazardous Waste /ER Inspector III, South Coast AQMD -**STEM** Careers of the future –Hazardous Materials/Emergency Response, Drones, Public Health-COVID and Water Reclamation;

Simeon Haynes, Environmental Engineer-STEM majors of the Future – Gas Cars Banned by 2035: “What you should know”;

Robin Thorn, Civil Engineering, CEO, CTI, Environmental, STEM Careers of the Future – Industries of Demolition, Construction and Engineering;

Terrence Hamilton, Software Engineer, Advancements in Robotics, software design and Artificial Intelligence;

Sam Sutherland, Electrician, An overview of qualifications and job performance for Electricians as a Career;

Jonathan Ogbogu, Student -UCR Pre Med, A student’s perspective on **STEM** Careers of the Future.

Phi Beta Beta was the first Chapter in the 12th District to revise the YLC-format by adding a **STEM** Career/College Prep segment. This has allowed the YLC, to take a “Hands-on” approach of directing attendees to Careers of the Future, thus redefining the YLC concept. We at Phi Beta Beta say, “**You teach them how to put on a Tie, we will teach them how to earn the Money to Buy the Tie**”. **STEM Careers are our FUTURE:**



*by Bro. M. Haynes, STEM Program Chairman,
Phi Beta Beta Chapter Inglewood, CA. ///*

My Letter to a Young Father

Dear Father,

I write this letter to you, young father, to encourage, inspire and uplift you as you embark upon this lifelong journey of fatherhood. Whether you've had exceptional examples of noble fathers in your lifetime or if you've yet to know or meet a compassionate confident man of valor. I say this, you are designed and well equipped to succeed at this thing called fatherhood.

This brief letter of recognition is intended to inform you that you've already won the battle by showing up daily for your offspring. As you mature in the true meaning of fatherhood within your home, community, and the world, I thank and commend you for the stellar job you're doing. Many men who came before you have walked a sub-par path due to the rough course that was laid before them. But you, my fellow father, possess a new vision for the future filled with foundational principles about life, business, partnerships and above all fatherhood.

I too, walk this unpaved path unafraid and unapologetically seeking wisdom, strength, and courage through the lens of vulnerability. My selfishness, arrogance, pride, and toxic masculinity has been transformed into understanding, compassion,

commitment, and showing up consistently. Although this road is not paved for our comfort, we have the tools to demolish generational dysfunction while constructing a new solid foundation for our children's future. One building block at a time we will carefully construct a promising future.

So as I conclude this letter to you, being a young father myself. I leave you with these words of uplift. Remember that we are all journeymen tradesmen who are set on the path of mastery. The many architects, engineers, and builders building a brighter future for our youth requires sacrifice, commitment, and fortitude.

Brick by brick we will build foundations with confidence, inner peace, consistency, compassion, and most important love. Amid weakness, trials & tribulations, regret, and doubt, we will remain steadfast on our assignment as kingly statesman.

As the world evolves, we must continue to evolve and do our due diligence to leave a legacy behind that will impact many generations to come.

Yours truly,

A young father
Malik K. Murray, Zeta Tau Chapter



Courtesy of Brother Keith Parker, Tau Tau

Director Project Fatherhood
Children's Institute
<https://www.childrensinstitute.org/>

I facilitate a fatherhood parenting group, weekly. This week's topics were: Working with Mom and Co-Parenting. At the end of each lesson, we provide fathers with tips that summaries the lesson so that they can begin to practice and use in the home.

10 Tips on Co-Parenting for the sake of your child.

To successfully co-parent, keep the impact on your child in the front of your mind. Use these 10 tips to help you with this task.

1. Your child will do better in life if he or she has the support of you and the mother.

2. Your child will have less stress if you and the mother value each other.

3. Don't talk badly about the mother in front of your child.

4. Don't talk with or confide in your child about a problem you have with the mother.

5. Tell your child often that he or she should love and respect the mother.

6. Tell your child that you love him or her even when you and the mother disagree.

7. Never tell your child he or she caused a problem between you and the mother.

8. Agree with the mother on how you will discipline your child before you discipline.

9. Don't break an agreement between you and the mother without talking with her first.

10. Listen to the mother's point of view before sharing your own. Ask her: Where does it come from? Why do you believe or Value it? ///

BACK TO SCHOOL, "VIRTUALLY": A PANDEMIC BLESSING/MOMENT

Submitted by Professor Dr. Larry Hygh, Jr., Zeta Tau Chapter

WHEN CAL STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO began the 2020 spring quarter with **virtual instruction** because of the global pandemic, Brother Dr. Larry R. Hygh Jr., full-time lecturer and internship coordinator in the communication studies department, decided to develop a virtual speaker series for his courses.

"I picked up the phone and started emailing my network that spans the globe inviting them to engage our students in the virtual classroom setting," said Hygh, who joined CSUSB in fall 2019 after more than 20 years in nonprofit communications and leadership. "They were all working from home, too, at that point."

Hygh has been able to *pull prominent people* in the industry into his virtual classrooms, including Mike McCurry, who served in the White House from 1995 to 1998 as press secretary to President Bill Clinton; Kenneth Moton, the co-anchor of ABC's World News Now and America This Morning; Bryce McAnally, director of media programs national advertising at Kaiser Permanente; and Calaya Stallworth, story editor at Netflix; among many others. Hygh asks all speakers, no matter what course, to talk about their career path before getting into the subject matter.

In the classroom Hygh *stresses the importance of being civically and socially engaged in the life of the community*. Since the 2020 winter quarter, he has taught COMM 4401 Strategic Communication Campaigns. In this course the students divide into teams and work with a local nonprofit to create a full public relations campaign and they execute a portion of the campaign over the course of the semester.

He is also the communication studies department's internship coordinator. "*I am able to stress the benefit and importance of internships because I am a product of successful internship experiences,*" he said. As an undergraduate at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, he had press/media-oriented internships with The White House (President William "Bill" Jefferson Clinton, 42nd president), U.S. House of Representatives (Rep. Max Sandlin, 1st Congressional District-Texas), and the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, GA. He has been a television anchor, reporter and disc jockey.

He has returned to the classroom and in-person instruction this fall but is still brining in speakers for the courses and having students work with local nonprofits. ///

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Ω Keep it on!



Ω Just a little ... Ω



bit longer!!!

IN MEMORIAM

Omega losses a Youth Mentor Icon
Phoenix, AZ. Phi Iota Chapter home of the “Desert Ques”



Bro. Ross receiving one of his many Community Service Awards, this one from the Phoenix Suns.

On Monday September 6th, Omega’s light in the “Land of the Burning Sands” was dimmed with the transition of Bro. Larry Ross, Sr., into Omega Chapter. Brother Ross’ sudden and untimely death came as a shock to his family and all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Larry was the co-founder and driving force behind the Omega Youth Leadership Academy, known throughout the nation as OYLA. Fueled primarily by Bro. Ross’ passion and commitment, OYLA boasts a veritable “Who’s Who” of volunteers, mentors and sponsors and is considered one of Arizona’s premier male mentorship programs for young men of color.

Entering its 17th year of service, OYLA continues to receive numerous accolades, awards and grants for its signature programs such as, the personal development “Living Above the Influence” Workshop, and the college preparedness West Coast and HBCU College Excursions.

The Arizona community and Phi Iota, share in the Ross family’s loss. Brother Larry Ross was a dreamer, a doer, an organizer, a motivator, a mentor, a family man, an Omega and a friend.

Even though Bro. Larry Ross Sr. has left this physical world and will be missed, his legacy will live on, therefore he will live on! **Ω**



SIGMA GAMMA GAMMA HOSTED 6TH ANNUAL YOUTH AND TEEN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Submitted by Basileus Brother Cortez Pree



Basileus Cortez Pree of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter presents youth election winner David Washington with a laptop



Brother Brian Tanner observes classes with his group

Okinawa, Japan – On July 24, 2021, Sigma Gamma Gamma hosted 6th Annual Youth and Teen Leadership Conference at the Foster Community Center at Marine Corps Base Butler in Okinawa, Japan. COVID mitigation was enforced as masked were required and students/parents' temperature were checked upon entry.

SGG Basileus Brother Cortez Pree provided opening remarks that laid the groundwork for the following topics: voting, peer pressure, anger management, team building skills, and financial management. The Youth Conference had a total of 15 participants and the Teen Conference had total of 12 Participants that consisted of males and females as they were broken down into teams.

They were given classes on public speaking and on how to vote. Each participant was provided with topics from their interior group as they had to answer questions that best suited their needs in the form of a politician. Each roup voted on a candidate to represent their group. Each group's candidate squared off in a debate in front of the participants and parents.

David Washington, Jr., was voted the winner of the Youth Conference and Savannah Barnett was voted as the winner of the Teen Conference. The winners received Laptops, while the runner-up received gift cards. The chairman for the event was Brother Brain Tanner, and he stated the event was a success as we educated the participants on the importance of researching the candidate that aligns with their core values. ///



Brothers Brian Tanner, VB Donald Gardner, Jr, Scottie Jarret and Justin Thurman pose with the YLC participants





SGG challenges students to a team building contest #1; SGG challenges students to a team building contest #2

Sigma Gamma Gamma Assist High School Senior

Submitted by Brother Toneo Gulley

Okinawa, Japan – On August 26, 2021, Sigma Gamma Gamma assisted a local Japanese High School Senior in need due to the COVID pandemic. **Help Oki** is a local Non-Profit Organization that provide assistance to the local community in need.

The unemployment and poverty rates In Okinawa, Japan increased by 30% in Okinawa due to the COVID pandemic. Several local high school seniors requested much needed assistance to allow them to further their education during their senior year. Sigma Gamma Gamma provided irons, several skillets, rugs, mops, dust pan, and school supplies to assist the student in need. ///



SGG Basileus Brother Cortez Pree Delivers Items to Help Oki to Assist Local Seniors in Need

13th International District Talent Hunt Winners

Submitted by 13th International District Talent Hunt Chairman Brother Cortez Pree

South Korea – Ms. Jennifer Chun was selected as the 13th International District 2021 1st Place Talent Hunt Winner. She is a rising 11th grader at Humphreys High School located on Camp Humphreys Army Base; She represented Lambda Xi Chapter located in South Korea. Brother Desmond Smith served as the Talent Hunt Chairman for Lambda Xi. The competition was keen as Ms. Chun had to battle against a ballet dancer, hip-hop dancer, pianist, and vocalist. She performed a semi-classical piano performance titled: *Pirates of the Caribbean*, composed by Klaus Bedelt and Jarrod Radnich. Ms. Abigail Handorf (singer) representing Theta Rho Chapter in Germany rendered a classic for the second-place finish. There was tie for 3rd place as Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter representative Ms. Ashton Williams (Singer) and Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter representative Ms. Miuta Price (dancer) battled to a tie. ///



Sigma Gamma Gamma conducts Boyz to Men(TORSHIP)

Submitted by Brother Toneo Gulley

Okinawa, Japan – On August 21, 2021, Sigma Gamma Gamma hosted another Boyz to Men event at Chapel 3 aboard Kadena Airbase in Okinawa Japan. The group was able to resume their culinary program amidst the COVID restrictions as all personnel were masked up per COVID mitigation protocol. Boyz to Men conducted three events throughout the day that consisted of Culinary, Car/Motocycle Maintenance, and Tying Ties.

The mentors provided instructions and oversight while the mentees prepared eggs (with/without vegetables), waffles, bacon, sausages, French Toast, croissants and biscuits. Upon the conclusion of the culinary portion, the mentees assisted with sanitizing the dishes and kitchen area. The mentees were provided instructions on level one car and motorcycle maintenance and tie tying classes. Upon conclusion, the mentees were pleased with the events as they expressed additional instructions in tying ties.



Sigma Gamma Gamma Assist New Life Academy with COVID Preparation

Submitted by Brother Toneo Gulley

Okinawa, Japan – On August 26, 2021, Sigma Gamma Gamma answered the call from New Life Academy Christian School located in Okinawa, Japan. New Life Academy is a local Japanese School that needed assistance with COVID preparations for the return of classroom instructions for the students.

Brother Anthony Polk, Brother Scottie Jarret, and Basileus Brother Cortez Pree assisted with power washing, desk/locker wipe down, and floor cleaning. The Principal, Charles Elston expressed great Thanks to the men of Gamma Gamma for assisting New Life with their COVID protocol procedures.



(L) Brother Anthony Polk



(R) Brother Scottie Jarret

"I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day; I'd rather one should walk with me than merely tell the way. The eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear, Fine counsel is confusing, but example's always clear; And the best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds, For to see good put in action is what everybody needs." Edgar A. Guest



Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter

Awards Scholarships to College-Bound High School Seniors

By Michael Robinson

Mainland, Japan – The Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in Mainland, Japan held its annual high school essay contest to select six winners for the 3rd Annual Dr. Kedric Webster College-Bound Scholarship for high school seniors in the Kanto Plains. This year, 7 students submitted applications from Yokota, Zama and Yokosuka High Schools along with a 750-word essay based on the topic: "As a graduate of the Class of 2021, our country and nation are faced with many challenges such as COVID-19, economic lows, social injustice, global warming and different political views. What will you do to help yourself, family, and community to overcome these challenges?"

The following students were awarded \$500 scholarships:

Ms. Rian Merritt – Nile C. Kinnick High School at Commander Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan; Ms. Carmen King – Nile C. Kinnick High School at Commander Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan; Ms. Emma Ball – Yokota High School at Yokota Air Base, Yokota, Japan; Ms. Jessica Vernon – Yokota High

School at Yokota Air Base, Yokota, Japan; Ms. Rachel Perry – Zama Middle High School at Camp Zama Army Base, Zama, Japan; Ms. Dana Navarro – Zama Middle High School at Camp Zama Army Base, Zama, Japan

This year in addition to the six scholarships, the brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter decided to award one \$500 scholarship to a high school senior planning to attend a Historical Black College (HBCU). The HBCU College-Bound High School Scholarship Recipient was Ms. Ashton Raquel Williams from Yokota High School at Yokota Air Base, Yokota, Japan. She plans to attend Johnson C. Smith University located in Charlotte, North Carolina. Her major field of study will be Social Work.

The Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter and the 13th International District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. congratulates the Class of 2021 and send best wishes as they strive to reach their goals in life. ///

Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter

Participates in Nile C. Kinnick High School AVID College Fair

By Bro. Michael Robinson

The Brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in Mainland, Japan set up a table display highlighting the top 50 jobs and careers in 2021 for college bound high school seniors. The AVID College Fair sponsored by Nile C. Kinnick High School in Yokosuka, Japan gave students an opportunity to learn more information about the college and careers of their choice. Over 25 different college representatives participated in the event.

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an in-school academic support program for

grades seven through twelve. The purpose of the program is to prepare students for college eligibility and success. Prior to the event Nile C. Kinnick High School Avid teacher Mr. Travis Stephens discussed the "Five Phases" of college acceptance:

1. Searching: Finding the right college from a far!
2. Applying: Going through the process that is unique for each college.
3. Waiting: You will work so hard and then have to sit and wait!!!!
4. Acceptance: Open the flood gates. Everyone starts hearing!
5. Committing: Now the hard part! Picking where you're going to go!

In addition, the brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter also provided two \$25 gift cards to high school seniors attending the college fair. ///

Friendship is Essential to the Soul!

