

**Community
Youth Advance**
Teach. Reach. Keep.

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

While 2020 was a challenging year for all of us, there were still victories to celebrate at Community Youth Advance. **CYA students increased their math scores by an average of 25 percent and Reading/Language Arts scores by an average of 27 percent.*** For the first time in our 15-year history transportation was not a barrier to program access, parent engagement rose following our transition to virtual programming, and we dug deeper into existing partnerships, while celebrating and exploring new ones.



Our Mentees hosted a Community & Political Engagement forum with panelists including Edward Burroughs III, Vice Chair of the Prince George's County Board of Education, Tony Donaldson, Jr., DC Ward 3 Advocate, Maryland State Delegate Julian Ivey 47A, and Judge Gladys M. Weatherspoon who shared her time to teach our young men about understanding and exercising their rights.



Our Junior Leaders participated in the **WSP (Williams Sale Partnership Limited)** "Be a Future-Ready Engineer" workshop series, where they worked virtually with engineering experts in Bridges, Buildings, Transportation and Environment. Students participated in hands-on engineering projects and had the opportunity to network with industry professionals. This pilot program was so successful, we are planning ways to engage even more students this fall.



Giant Foods, the leading greater Washington D.C. regional grocery chain, made a financial commitment of \$500,000 to support long-standing community partner organizations, including Community Youth Advance. These grant funds, coupled with volunteer support from local Giant leadership, will expand our mentees access to service learning, skill building, and project management opportunities, while helping us build sustainable infrastructure in our mentoring programs.



Community Youth Advance celebrated a new partnership with The **University of Maryland's School of Public Health** and Dr. James Butler's Making a Difference: Applying Community Health (HLTH 391), a scholarship in practice course where students explore and apply community health concepts by working directly with a community partner. More than 24 undergraduate students, working in three groups, produced internal evaluation tools to track and monitor mentoring program success, a community-facing fact sheet, and a white paper on the benefits of nonprofit mergers, like the one that created Community Youth Advance. Those documents are helping us evaluate and improve our effectiveness virtually and tell our story to the larger community. Throughout 2021, we will continue to work with Dr. Butler's class to gather, evaluate, and report on the data we gain because of this partnership.



2020 also presented us with many challenges. Our students, families, partners, and staff suffered professional and personal loss. We continue to pray for the safety, comfort, and peace of our community.

- Screen fatigue hit us hard, enrollment struggled, and engagement was an uphill battle.
- Our students and parents faced frustration with new technology, and our staff sorely missed our collaborative in-person environment.
- There were processes we tried that did not work, ideas that never got off the ground, and financial projections that caused us stress.

Eventually, we learned to pace ourselves, be prayerful, and always bring an attitude of success to each day, each challenge, and each other.

I am so proud of the work we have done together, and so incredibly thankful for your continued partnership and investment into our students, our programs, and our mission.

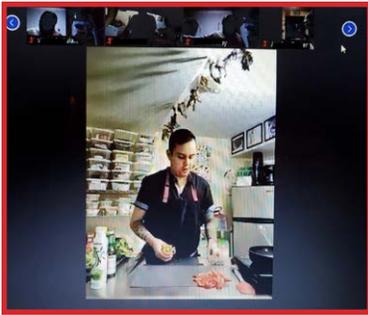
We will continue to face challenges in 2021 and beyond, but I am confident that together, we can harness the power of community, and transform out-of-school time to **Teach**, **Reach**, and **Keep** youth on the path to success. I am excited and looking forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Danielle Middlebrooks
Executive Director



CYA GOES VIRTUAL



Math, Science, Delicious: Stem meets culinary arts over the summer with our Chef Suarez. With transportation eliminated as a barrier, quarantined students had

access to more than 1,000 hours of small group experiential learning courses and events.



Personal Progress: Virtual tutoring was a huge win for our students. 1:1 Tutors continue to help students stay on track with homework and reinforce core skills. It was such a success

we are seeking additional funding opportunities to double our capacity!

ONLINE CLASS EXPECTATIONS

Be on time

MUTE yourself while others are speaking

Raise your hand on use the chat when you want a turn to speak

Keep your camera turned on & participate

Be Kind, respectful & pay attention

Sit in a quiet place with good lighting

Miss your face!

EmoGenius: Though we were distant, our commitment to excellence was not. Our programs set early expectations and we worked together as a team bring our attitude of success, celebrate each other, and have fun with each opportunity we had.

Until We Meet Again:

Our Mentoring to Manhood graduation and our summer Closing Ceremony were not quite the same in 2020, but we still felt the love! You can still check out the M2M 100% Graduation celebration on our YouTube channel and follow us on Social Media throughout the year.



CYA VISION



2020 has given us vision into new areas of need for our students, parents, school partners and community as a whole. We are using what we have learned to frame our goals for the coming years:

School Year 2020 – 2021:



95% of CYA students will achieve on-time graduation or promotion to the next grade.



85% of CYA students will demonstrate improvement in homework completion and on-time submission.



70% of CYA mentees will gain civic engagement experience in an area of their interest.



5% more CYA mentees will be matched with a 1:1 mentor.

School year 2021 – 2022:



80% of CYA students will improve proficiency in reading and math.



70% or more of CYA students will meet or exceed state reading and math standards.



70% or more of CYA high school students will gain internship experience in a field of their interest.



10% more CYA mentees will be matched with a 1:1 mentor.

CYA LEADERSHIP

Danielle M. Middlebrooks

Executive Director

Marcus N. Daniels, Board Chairman

NAI Michael/The Michael Companies

Rob Malone, Founder

The Arc Prince George's County

Cassius Priestly, Treasurer

Truist Bank

Sherry Howard, Parent Liaison

Environmental Protection Agency

Leonard Lucchi

O'Malley Miles, Nysten & Gilmore, P.A.

Sterling Owens

Senior Director, Sales Operations and Strategy

Lorena Vallejo

WesBanco

Keith Singletary

Chick-fil-A

Therman Evans

National Education Association

Jeron Davis

RLJ Equity Partners

Christina Manning

PNC Bank

Albert Wynn

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Join our Board! Email info@cyadvance.org for more information



CYA STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



ALASSANÉ
(11TH GRADE MENTEE,
5 YEARS IN PROGRAM)

My name is Alassané, I am a Junior in high school. I have been Unleashing my Brilliance at Community Youth Advance for 5 years.

CYA programs have taught me to be accountable for my actions and choices, they also taught me about how to prioritize school before personal hobbies.

The biggest impact CYA programs had on me was learning to deal with stress and irritation, I struggled with finding outlets or ways to keep myself calm.

CYA Programs have also given me the confidence to be outgoing and be straight forward. The mentoring program has shown me how benefiting it is to be truthful and honest and I have also learned about the characteristics of being a man. CYA programs and mentors help teach us how to be strong. They open our minds and eyes to the possibilities of life, they show us that we are not alone or that we are cared for by others and these programs help us understand that we are all important. Our mentors help build our character so we can help improve and fix the world we live in.



GLENDY
(10TH GRADE ACADEMICS STUDENT,
5 YEARS IN PROGRAM)

My name is Glendy and I am in 10th grade. I began Unleashing my Brilliance with Community Youth Advance in Saturday School when I was in 5th grade. I am now a part of the CYA Junior Leadership Academy.

I'm really proud to be a part of the program because it has exposed me to many opportunities both socially and academically.

I have always struggled in math, but Saturday School has helped improve. The Saturday School and Junior Leadership Academy teachers always take the time to make sure I understand the concepts, especially those that I would still have trouble within day school.

Socially, I feel like I have grown because of this program. It has helped me become more independent and I have come out of my shell and become more sociable. I used to be extremely afraid of public speaking but with the opportunities Community Youth Advance has given me, I have become more confident in it.

CYA STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



ZOEY
(8TH GRADE MENTEE,
2 YEARS IN THE PROGRAM)

My name is Zoey and I am in the 8th Grade. I began Unleashing my Brilliance with Community Youth Advance through the Lily Sisterhood Girls Mentoring Program when I was in 7th grade. I got involved in the program through Mr. TW at school. He sees me as a leader, and he talked to me and my mother about how Lily is leadership development opportunity.

I think the best part of the program is us being able to get on the Zoom call, talk to each other, and still be able to do activities. I really like the activities that we do like the cooking demo and the time capsule project.

Through the program I have learned that sometimes it is okay to open up to others around you, and that you have to have your friends' backs. I also learned that sometimes you have to show by example and most times others will follow. As a leader at the school, I know others look up to me and I take pride in that.



ELIAS
(6TH GRADE ACADEMICS STUDENT,
5 YEARS IN PROGRAM)

My name is Elias, and I am in the 6th grade. I began Unleashing my Brilliance as a First (1st) Grader in CYA's Saturday School. I struggle with dyslexia and Saturday school has made learning fun and helped me improve my math and reading skills. The program is different from regular school learning. We conduct experiments, engage in competitions, and we have gone on amazing field trips that make learning come to life. I am thankful for my experiences and the teachers, tutors and partners who made it possible.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE: APPLYING COMMUNITY HEALTH

In 2020 our partnership with The University of Maryland grew through Dr. James Butler's HLTH391 students. These students worked directly with CYA leaders to develop tools that will enable us to evaluate and improve our programs as CYA continues to grow. Here is what our Executive Director had to say:



I cannot overstate the importance of the work Dr. Butler's class produced. By conducting research into effective mentoring programs serving students of color nationwide, the class produced tools for us to evaluate and improve our programs using research-based best-practices. The work of these students gives us the ability to evaluate our programs quickly, frequently, and critically ensuring that our young people continue to grow and benefit throughout their time with us.



Visit the CYA News page on our website to read the full white paper and fact sheet created by Dr. Butler's class and be sure to subscribe to the CYA Newsletter to stay informed on the progress we make using our new evaluation tools.

About Scholarship in Practice HLTH391

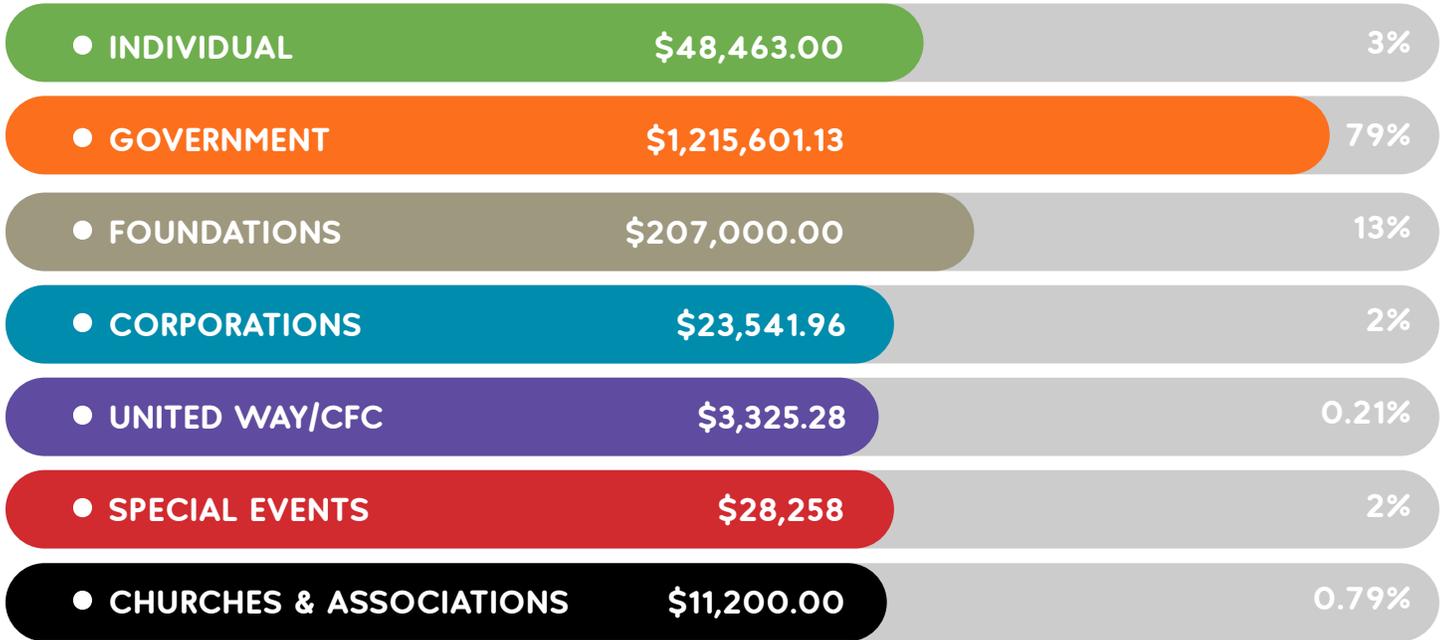
In this scholarship in practice course, students further explore and APPLY community health concepts, including the public health approach, social determinants of health, Healthy People 2020, community level theoretical models, healthy public policy, advocacy, health communication, health literacy, cultural humility and cultural competency, and health equity. Specific skills students will develop include community organizing and building, behavior modification, conducting community needs and strengths assessments and asset maps, planning, implementing, and evaluating a community health program/ intervention in collaboration with a community partner, and serving as a community health resource person.



To learn more contact:
Dr. James Butler
jbutler9@umd.edu



FY20 REVENUE BY SOURCE:



TOTAL: \$1,537,388

FY20 EXPENSE BY PROGRAM



TOTAL: \$1,174,922

MAJOR DONORS

We are honored to have the sustaining support of these individuals and organizations who donated \$1,000 or more in 2020.

INDIVIDUALS

Jeron Davis
Rufus Rivers

Keith Singletary
Scott Smallwood

Thomas Smith
Albert Wynn

ORGANIZATIONS



ELECTED LEADERS

Tom Dernoga & the Prince George's County Council District 1 Team
Dannielle Glaros & the Prince George's County Council District 3 Team
Todd Turner & the Prince George's County Council District 4 Team

SPECIAL THANKS

Gretchen Van der Veer & Fair Chance | Prince George's County Public Schools
Chelsey Green | Kelvin Dukes | The College Park Marriott Hotel & Conference Center



We celebrated our **15th Anniversary LIVE**
from the College Park Marriott
on November 9, 2020.

Head to our CYA Executive Director Special Reports page on YouTube for a behind the scenes look at the work and partnerships that helped us reach this milestone!

 Tune in at tiny.cc/cyanewsatnoon

UPCOMING EVENTS



SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2021
I'LL ALWAYS LOVE MY MAMA
VIRTUAL FITNESS EVENT

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2021
GRADUATION &
CLOSING CEREMONIES



SUMMER PROGRAMMING

VARIOUS DATES, SEE WEBSITE & FOLLOW
US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR MORE
INFORMATION AND UPDATES

SEPTEMBER 2021
FALL MENTORING
PROGRAMS KICK OFF



OCTOBER 2021
FALL ACADEMICS
PROGRAMS KICK OFF

GET INVOLVED



Community Youth Advance harnesses the power of community to **Teach, Reach and Keep** youth on the path to success. We can't do that without YOU! Ignite your passion and get involved today!

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BECOME A MENTOR:

DJohnson@cyadvance.org
KRobbs@cyadvance.org

BECOME A COMMUNITY PARTNER:

info@cyadvance.org

JOIN OUR PROGRAMS:

info@cyadvance.org
240-770-3870

BECOME A TUTOR:

CMartin@cyadvance.org

BECOME A SPONSOR:

DMMiddlebrooks@cyadvance.org

Donate online at CYAdvance.org/donate,
or text **BRILLIANCE** to 44-321

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Other ways to give...





**Community
Youth Advance**

Teach. Reach. Keep.

Community Youth Advance harnesses the power of community and transforms out-of-school time to Teach, Reach and Keep youth on the path to success. With your help we can continue to expand our capacity to support students in need. Visit www.cyadvance.org today to learn more.