

Saving Our Youth



**SEPTEMBER 2024
Newsletter**

**After School Programs
Community Service
Employment Assistance**

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL DAYS!

*Let's start with our
2024-25 Programs*

After the youth have dinner and take care of their chores, below are the after-school programs we have for them this school season.

TUESDAYS

Dinner

5:00 – 5:30 PM

Not left Behind By Choices (5:30 PM – 8:00 PM)

At Saving Our Youth VA, our focus is providing resources to help underserved youth achieve their goals and face the future with confidence and hope. This project will help our youth understand the importance of exploring entrepreneurship as an option. They will learn how systemic barriers of employment have affected them and how entrepreneurship might be an option.

Voting Booth 6:45 PM - 7:00 PM

Between classes on Tuesdays and Thursday, the youth will vote on issues that affect them. The votes will be calculated and we will briefly discuss them. Anyone that wants to comment on their vote will be welcome to do so.

WEDNESDAYS

Dinner

5:45 – 6:30 PM at St. Giles Presbyterial Church

Resurgence 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Wednesday's program is offsite. We take the youth to St. Giles where they are a part of that Discipleship Class for youth grades 6-12. It teaches a diverse group of youth how to apply scriptural truth to life with studies to help prepare them for the issues they face each day. But it's not all work, it's a lot of fun as well.

THURSDAYS

Dinner

5:00 – 5:30 PM

Writing is Fundamental 7:15 PM - 8:00 PM (1st and 3rd Thursdays)

Everyone knows that reading is fundamental, but writing is indeed fundamental also. The ability to write well is critical for research papers, essays, and presentations. Strong writing skills not only improve your academic performance but also enhance your ability to articulate complex ideas. Our students will be writing a short novel this year which will be finished by the end of January. During the process, the students should increase their knowledge of proper grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, clarity, brevity, engagement, and proofreading.

City Builders – Sewing 5:30 PM - 6:45 PM (2nd and 4th Thursdays)

At Saving Our Youth, we provide a place to express creativity, help youth learn a multitude of skills, and, most of all, connect with community members. Every year, we plan a special program for our youth who we call City Builders. This year we are focusing on sewing. This class started on 8/15/24 and the youth love it.

Voting Booth 7:00 PM - 7:15 PM

Mondays and Thursdays.

Lyrics and Beats 7:15 PM - 9:00 PM (Starts in October)

We're bringing back Lyrics & Beats. Lyrics & Beats is a program that offers weekly classes in hip-hop nutrition and creative expression. The program is designed and curated by Zenobia Bey, Community 50/50.

UNASIGNED DATE

CTW – College, Trade, Work

Our future is in the hands of our youth, they are the ones we must depend on to take us into our golden years with hope for the future. Whether they aspire to go to college, trade schools or straight to work when they graduate, we help them with guidance and education to maneuver through the process.

Although we have no schedule programs on Mondays and Fridays, the youth are welcomed to come to the center for help with homework or just to meet with each other to chat, play games or basketball. We now have a basketball court courtesy of Shanika McClelland.

Summer 2024 Recap

What fun we had with the youth this summer with several trips and activities! VA Beach, 3 days; Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center; Black History Museum, then we walked to Washington Monument, White House and Lincoln Memorial; Petting Zoo; Resurgence Trip to a college in Pennsylvania; BBQ at the Executive Directors home; National Night Out where Ace won 2nd place in talent show; Spaghetti Dinner Night at St. Giles; Pocahontas Park; We have not received the money for the New York Trip yet but the donor still said he's going to donate. I told him that we could go for 2 days instead of 3 but he said no, he wants us to go for the full 3 days.



Message from Executive Director



Brief School Safety Tips

Many parents just think they need these tips for their little children, but teenagers need the same guidance. So, here's just a few tips that I suggest.

Develop a healthy sleep routine. Help your teens adjust to earlier bedtimes as their summer times may have been to go to bed pretty late. Sometimes simply reading a book can help them settle down.

Have your teens turn off electronic devices before bedtime unless they use a sleep sounds app. Quiet and calm conditions are helpful when trying to fall asleep. I know that sometimes teens feel they need to have the TV on to fall to sleep. If that's the case, I suggest they have a lite or inspirational music station on.

Teens like to play around at the bus stop. Remind your teens to stay out of the street, wait for the bus to stop before approaching it from the curb, and look out for cars going around the buses. The cars should stop but you know there are some drivers out there that don't.

If your child has a chronic condition that could result in an emergency on the bus or at school, make sure you work with the school nurse or other school health personnel to have an emergency plan.

Children who eat breakfast function better. So, encourage your child to eat the school breakfast or the nutritious breakfast you supply for them.

Bullying or cyber bullying is when one person picks on another person repeatedly. Bullying can be physical, verbal, or social. It can happen at school, on the playground, on the school bus, in the neighborhood or through mobile devices like cell phones. Listen to your children and keep your ears open for hints of them being bullied or them being the bully.

Have A Safe and Healthy School Year!

Sewing Machines Needed

If you, or someone you know, has a gently used sewing machine you no longer need and/or sewing supplies and would like to donate to Saving Our Youth for our new Sewing Class, that would be greatly appreciated. We currently only have 1, but we would like to have 3.

Thank You



DONATING AND VOLUNTEERING



**We depend on you for our staying power.
Organizations live, but then die when they only depend on grants.
Individuals like you are our lifelines.**

*So please remember us throughout the year with your giving.
Any donations we receive are tax deductible.
You can also help the youth through volunteering.
See the links below.*

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