

**“THE MINORITY MALE
EXPERIENCE: A DIALOGUE
ON AFRICAN AMERICAN
MALE STUDENT SUCCESS”**

NACTC Summer 2015 Conference
Greenville Technical College
Richard Dawkins & Julian Nixon





*IF YOU TREAT AN
INDIVIDUAL AS HE
IS, HE WILL
REMAIN HOW HE
IS. BUT IF YOU
TREAT HIM AS IF
HE WERE WHAT
HE OUGHT TO BE
AND COULD BE,
HE WILL BECOME
WHAT HE OUGHT
TO BE AND COULD
BE.”*

— JOHANN WOLFGANG
VON GOETHE

CALL ME MISTER



MISTER- (Mentors Instructing Students Towards Effective Role Models)

CALL ME MISTER is a scholarship teaching program developed to build leadership and meet the shortage of available teachers from a more diverse background in South Carolina's elementary schools. The program recruit, trains and certifies individuals to become elementary school teachers in the state's public schools



AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The purpose of this organization is to increase persistence and retention of GTC African American Males through academics, mentorship, leadership and exposure.

The benefits of AAMLI include fellowship, accountability, hope, collaboration, networking, exposure, and academic resources.



STATISTI CS

Year:

2014-2015

Active members:

13

Retention Rate:

100%

Persistence rate:

93%

Average GPA for academic year:

2.306

GPA's below 2.0:

2



6 TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Penal System and Criminal Record

Poverty

The 1st Generation College Student

Decision Making Skills

Family Life

Identity



STEREOTYPES ARE AWESOME!

But only one of them is a convicted felon

PENAL SYSTEM AND CRIMINAL RECORD

Challenge

African Americans now constitute nearly 1 million of the total 2.3 million incarcerated population

African Americans are incarcerated at nearly six times the rate of whites

Together, African American and Hispanics comprised 58% of all prisoners in 2008, even though African Americans and Hispanics make up approximately one quarter of the US population

According to Unlocking America, if African American and Hispanics were incarcerated at the same rates of whites, today's prison and jail populations would decline by approximately 50%

One in six black men had been incarcerated as of 2001. If current trends continue, one in three black males born today can expect to spend time in prison during his lifetime

Solution

Substance Abuse Counseling

College Skills 103

First Year Experience (FYE)

Transportation to and from school

Work Study (No Job)

A Safe Place (Mr. Dawkins' Office)



U.S. POVERTY



FACTS

In 2013 if a family of four amounted to \$23,550 in annual household income

State ranks seventh in the percentage of people living in poverty areas

poor neighborhoods= poor housing conditions and fewer job opportunities

Nearly a third of both African-Americans and Hispanics, compared to 13.5 percent of whites

FACTS

A third of people age 25 and older who did not complete high school, and about 5 percent of those with a bachelor's degree or higher.

Forty percent of people 16 and older who were unemployed.

Minimum wage vs living wage

GREENVILLE, S.C. POVERTY



OUR Challenges

Am I really poor?

Rural environment, please meet your new Urban home.

I provide for my household, because I am the man of the house

I'm successful, so I am obligated to take care of someone, right?

Financial Aid is free money

OUR Solutions

Opposite of Poverty is...

Financial Literacy (SunTrust Story)

Greenville Leadership Breakfast

100 Black Men

Scholarships, Grants and Character

Letters of Recommendation

Job References

1ST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT

Challenge

First-generation students often come from low-income, minority or immigrant families and do not have the same set of life skills and personal capital of middle-to-high income bracket students.

Parents of first-generation students also do not have the life experience to adequately guide their children to the next step in succeeding in the college-educated workforce.

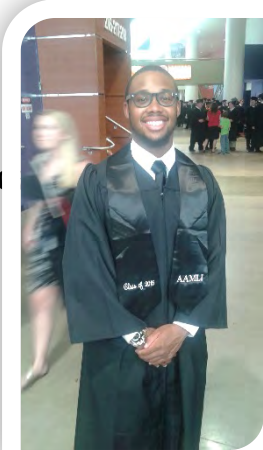
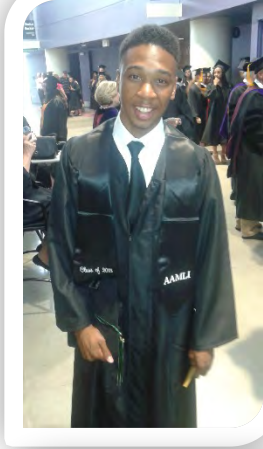
First-generation students ... may be less prepared than similar students whose parents are highly educated, to make the kind of informed choices ... that potentially maximize educational progression and benefits

Solution

Institutions will need to reinvent themselves and aggressively commit to engaging African-American students in the college experience (Wyatt, 2011).

Mentorship and advising that mandates interaction between students and professors or other staff members that can provide real-world guidance

Colleges and universities should also place focus on developing skills and employability among students.



DECISION MAKING



Challenge

“The Halo Effect” and the Video Game Culture

College education is no longer an absolute answer for unemployment

Parental Involvement

How do you practice long term planning in a short term educational environment?

Solution

Starfish Early Intervention Software

AAMLII Council and Advising Accountability

Student + Academic Program Director + Nursing Counselor + Faculty Advisor = 1 Associates Degree and 2 Health Science Certificates

Accountability Model (Public Exposure, Exec. Board, Paraphernalia)

FAMILY LIFE

Challenge

74% think society isn't doing enough to support young men and boys of color.

Almost two-thirds say they are better off financially than they were five years ago, but 82% are concerned that Whites still make more than Blacks for doing the same jobs.

52% see the media portrayal of African-Americans as generally negative.

60% of respondents agree we are making progress in providing access to health care.

Almost 1/3 are concerned that their children are not getting a quality education.

44% said they knew someone who had committed suicide or was killed.

Seventy-four percent say efforts to reduce crime and violence in their neighborhood is losing ground or staying the same.

Solution

Like other American families, they need federal, state, and local policies that are designed to strengthen all families regardless of race, class, or composition.

Law enforcement improvements related to drugs and alcohol is one of the most urgent priorities.

Low-income blacks and other Americans also need universal health care policies, jobs that pay cost-of-living wages, and affordable housing in safer neighborhoods. The children and adults in many of these families are in dire need of quality education. Recreational and other leisure-time outlets must also be made available to the youth and children in cities. Middle- and upper-income black families would benefit from an end to discriminatory employment and promotion policies designed to limit their upward mobility.

Forbes



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Yahoo

ADI TATARKO
Houzz

IDENTITY

Challenge

Fatherless = 57.6%

Theory about being a product of my environment

Unemployment, I would like for you to meet Joblessness

1st Generation college student, high school graduate, home owner, married-before-children, non-alcoholic...

Black Lives Matter



Solution

AAML I Council

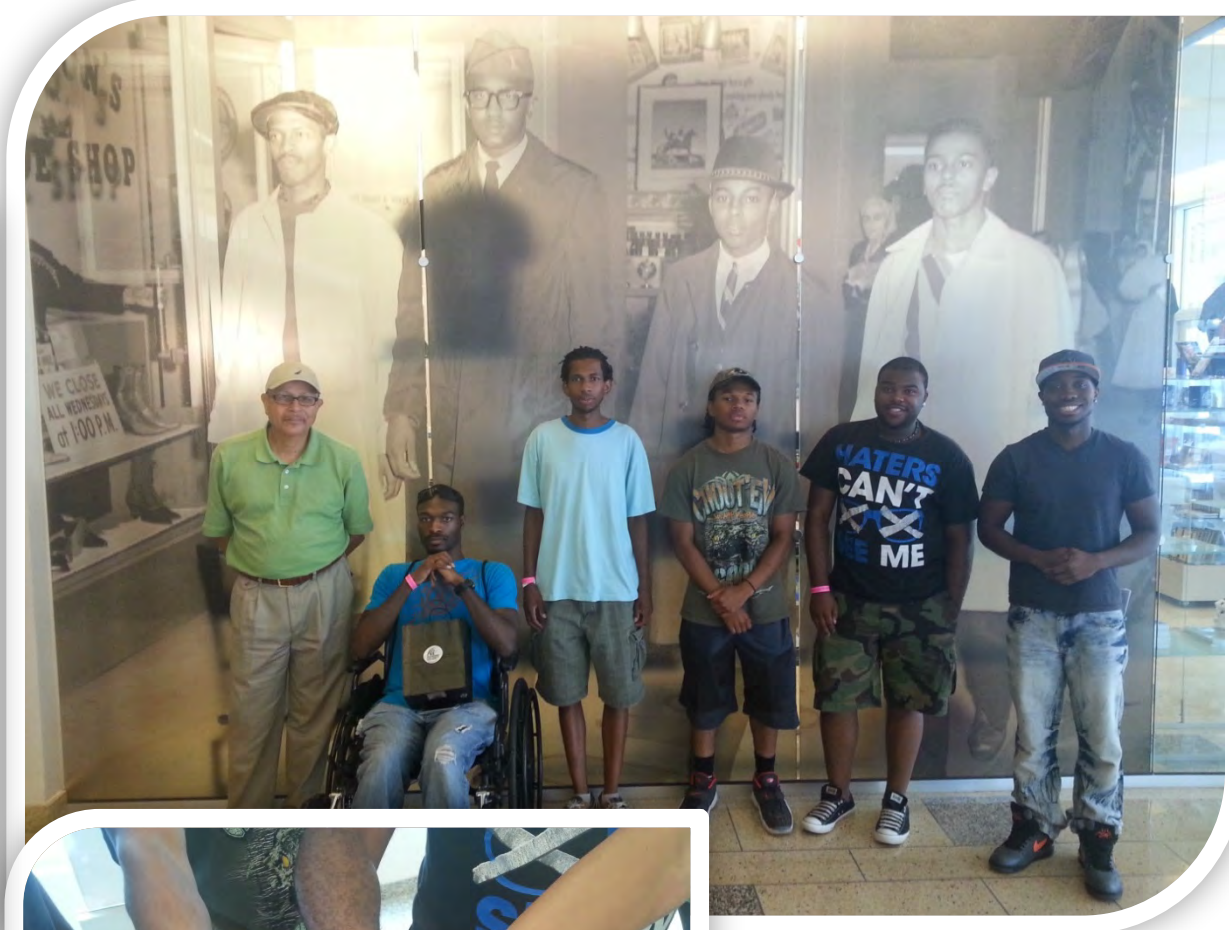
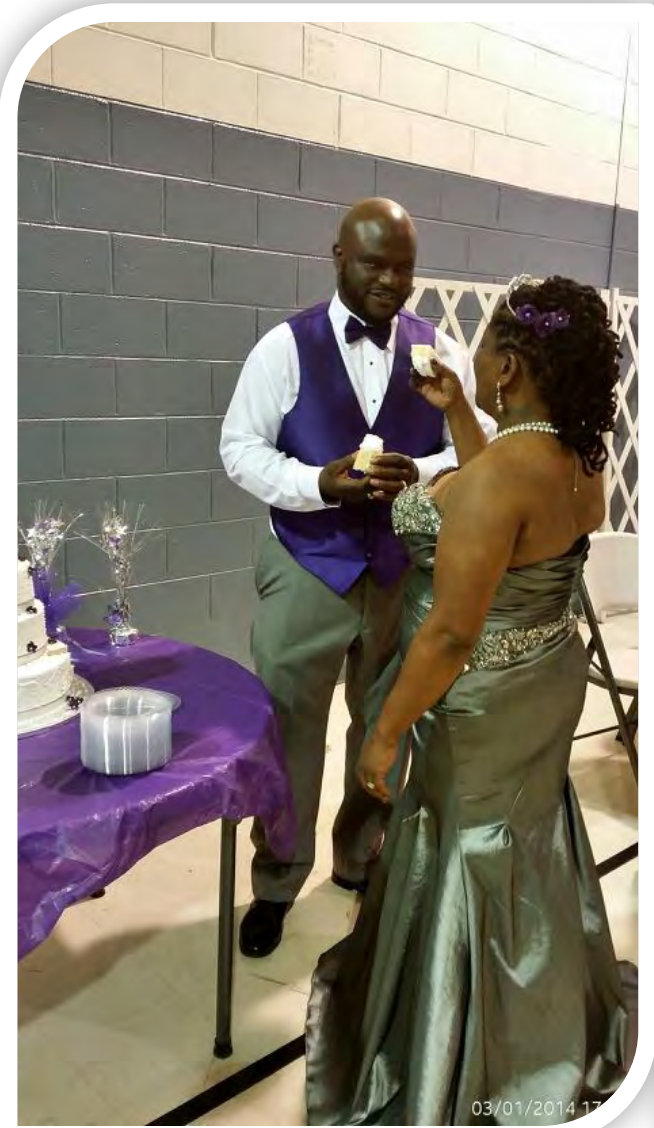
Emersion Trips

Black History Month

Man Time

AAML I Men's Breakfast

Greenville Leadership Breakfast



QUESTIONS?



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