



# Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

## Omega International Fatherhood and Mentoring

"A Mandated Program"



### Illuminating Stories About

#### Fatherhood

#### Youth Leadership Brother, You're On My Mind

#### Mentoring

Vol 12

October, November, December, 2025

No. 4

**Greetings Brothers:** this is the day the Lord has made; let us Rejoice and be glad in it.



**Ricky L. Lewis**  
42<sup>nd</sup> Grand Basileus  
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

**Refurbishing This Institution:** I have been traveling quite a bit throughout Omega-land. During my travels I've gotten to know many brothers in our beloved Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated. When I became your Grand Basileus in July 2022, I said we wanted to do all we could to stop the *school-to-prison-pipeline*. You listened; you renewed your agency in our communities.

I said we could be impactful in our communities with our fathers, our families, our friends. You went to work. Our membership has grown, our initiatives are many; our educational enterprises are impactful—witness attendance at our Dr. Moses C. Norman, Sr., Leadership Conferences; the Omega Prayer Call—with its vibrant parking lot *talkin'*—under the able stewardship of Brother Roi Johnson, Grand Chaplain; the Purple Table Talk (*which is a registered trademark belonging to Omega*)—guided by Brother Claude Tolbert; and yes, the Bundy Book Club, calling us back to our *scholastic roots*. Our Supreme Council meetings have been plentiful and meaningful—witness the number of brothers who have had the opportunity to observe our decision-making process; what mighty work we have accomplished together. Let us continue to live our creed.



I encourage each of you to **prepare a Living Trust...now!** It is imperative that we leave our families in a good place. In seven months, Omega will be guided by new leadership; in the meantime, let us continue to do three things:

**One**, reclaim and retain members – indeed, there is strength in numbers, there is a charge for us to keep; a calling to fulfil – our membership is watching what we do and speak!

**Two**, protect our brand by paying attention to how we present ourselves to the public. Let us tell the story our prodigy will build on. Remember, social media can be a blessing or a curse.

**Three**, continue to be engaged and vigilant in the sacredness of our families, schools, communities, and mentoring.

Finally, let us continue to live our 4 cardinal principles – Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift – if not us, then who? RLL

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# Omega International Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee



See I-YLC Website: <http://www.i-ylc.org>



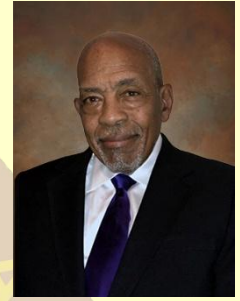
**Raymond J. Bell,**  
Chairman  
[raybell6h89@msn.com](mailto:raybell6h89@msn.com)



**Keith G. Pemberton**  
Vice-Chairman  
[k.g.pemberton@poyfs.org](mailto:k.g.pemberton@poyfs.org)



**Cyrill Weems**  
Vice-Chairman  
[ceeweems@gmail.com](mailto:ceeweems@gmail.com)



**Robert W. Fairchild**  
Fatherhood Advisor  
[rfairchi@msn.com](mailto:rfairchi@msn.com)



**George D. Taylor, EdD**  
Newsletter Editor/Publisher  
[geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net)



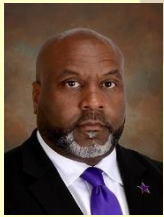
**Ahmad Qawi**  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters Liaison  
[morpheus8dawg@gmail.com](mailto:morpheus8dawg@gmail.com)



**Jerry Leftwich** Special  
Projects/IYLC  
[JerryLeftwich@yahoo.com](mailto:JerryLeftwich@yahoo.com)



**Ah-Lon K. Peoples**  
IT Support Lead  
[ahlon.peoples@gmail.com](mailto:ahlon.peoples@gmail.com)



**Eric E. Lindsey**  
1<sup>st</sup> District  
[ericelindsey@gmail.com](mailto:ericelindsey@gmail.com)



**Matthew Stevens**  
2<sup>nd</sup> District  
[matt.stevens1@me.com](mailto:matt.stevens1@me.com)



**Michael Frazier**  
3<sup>rd</sup> District  
[frazier\\_mw@hotmail.com](mailto:frazier_mw@hotmail.com)



**Jehoshaphat K. Jones, PhD**  
4<sup>th</sup> District  
[jehoshaphatkjones@outlook.com](mailto:jehoshaphatkjones@outlook.com)



**Julius Hill**  
5<sup>th</sup> District  
[juliushill89@yahoo.com](mailto:juliushill89@yahoo.com)



**Warren T. Davis**  
6<sup>th</sup> District  
[wtdavis63@hotmail.com](mailto:wtdavis63@hotmail.com)



**Jonathan Gaines**  
7<sup>th</sup> District  
[7dfatherhood@gmail.com](mailto:7dfatherhood@gmail.com)



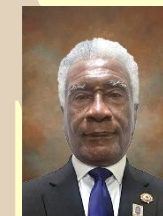
**Michael Graham**  
8<sup>th</sup> District  
[mike.graham1911@gmail.com](mailto:mike.graham1911@gmail.com)



**Sedric Myers**  
9<sup>th</sup> District  
[sedricmyers@msn.com](mailto:sedricmyers@msn.com)



**Cyrill Weems**  
10<sup>th</sup> District  
[ceeweems@gmail.com](mailto:ceeweems@gmail.com)



**George D. Taylor, EdD**  
12<sup>th</sup> District  
[geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net)



**Michael Robinson**  
13<sup>th</sup> District  
[mrobin12004@yahoo.com](mailto:mrobin12004@yahoo.com)

## ~~~~~ NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE ~~~~~

**March 15, 2026**

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2026, Submit information for January, February, March, 2026**

**Our Goal: Publish Information from Each District, Each Quarter**

**About:**

**Fatherhood, Youth Leadership, Mentoring, Brother You're On My Mind**

**For info: [geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net)**

**See Grand Conclave I-YLC Flyer HERE:**

**[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rCdiNLrj65qhFg\\_n5SVA4Zx3jvK7Uztu/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rCdiNLrj65qhFg_n5SVA4Zx3jvK7Uztu/view?usp=drive_link)**

## A Message from the Chairman: Brother Raymond J. Bell

### From Ancestors to Now: The Power of Black Fatherhood

**F**or more than 400 years, Black fatherhood has endured as an unbroken force of strength, sacrifice, and perseverance. From African ancestors who led families with wisdom and purpose, to enslaved fathers who nurtured hope under the weight of oppression, Black men have continually found ways to father—even when systems sought to deny our humanity. Though history attempted to erase our presence, it could never and will never extinguish our influence.

Across centuries of bondage, segregation, and systemic injustice, Black fathers passed down faith, resilience, and identity. They taught their children how to survive hostile worlds while still striving for excellence. Their lessons were not always written or spoken aloud; *often they were modeled through quiet dignity, hard work, and unwavering love*. This legacy is a testament to perseverance—the same perseverance that defines Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

In today's world, Black fatherhood remains a powerful counterforce to broken narratives and diminished expectations. Black fathers and father figures embody **Manhood** by leading with integrity and accountability. They champion **Scholarship** by encouraging curiosity, discipline, and lifelong learning. They demonstrate **Perseverance** by remaining present despite social and economic challenges. And *through mentorship and service*, they commit to the **Uplift of the Underserved**, ensuring that every child has access to guidance, protection, and opportunity.

As members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and stewards of Omega International Fatherhood and Mentoring, we stand on the shoulders of generations who refused to surrender their role as fathers. By investing time, wisdom, and love into our children and mentees, we honor the sacrifices of those who came before us.

Now is our moment to act. Let us be intentional in our presence, bold in our mentorship, and unwavering in our commitment to fatherhood. Let us reach beyond our homes into our communities, ensuring that every child knows what it means to be seen, supported, and valued. By living our Cardinal Principles daily, we secure the future—one child, one family, and one legacy at a time.



Raymond J. Bell, Chairman  
Omega International Fatherhood and Mentoring  
Committee

**Brother Raymond J. Bell**  
**Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter**  
**6-89-H / LM4473**  
**Chairman, Omega International Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee**  
**Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.**

**See 85<sup>th</sup> Grand Conclave I-YLC Flyer HERE:**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rCdiNLrj65qhFg\\_n5SVA4Zx3jvK7Uztu/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rCdiNLrj65qhFg_n5SVA4Zx3jvK7Uztu/view?usp=drive_link)



## On Mentors and Mentoring: Building Strong Mentors

### The Hamster Wheel of Our Black Sons

By Roi T. Johnson



Roi T. Johnson  
"A Friend to Every Omega Man"  
Grand Chaplain, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

I've been intrigued in recent days by a quote that I came across from a noted American author, G. Michael Hopf, who dropped this line in my consciousness: *"Hard times create strong men, strong men create good times, good times create weak men, and weak men create hard times."*

It has long been my practice to look upon the social and economic conditions of the young Black male and wonder who has it best: the one who came of age in his adolescence in the good times of booming economy, technological advancement, and social progressivism, or is it the one who must scratch and claw his way up the rough side of the mountain?

I've heard the testimonies of so many men of Omega who are first-generation collegians, or who worked odd jobs to obtain their degree, or whose only – yet best – option was to serve in military duty first so that they could afford to keep current the demands of tuition costs coupled with the daily expenses of living. There is seemingly consistent in these men a battle-tested resolve to make it because their failure is not an option. There is something that they collect along the way in the value system that says to them that nothing is free in this life, and if you are going to make it you must take advantage of opportunities as they present themselves. *Hard times create strong men!*

**Who is there to help her  
raise her sons? Who is  
there to give guidance to  
the aimless male who walks  
in a man's body yet ...**

Yet, I see before me now a generation of adolescent males who have much in the way of creature comforts—quite often provided by mothers who love their sons—but there is a missing dimension in their lives that makes them vulnerable to the vicissitudes of life that flatten their trajectory on the timeline of maturity and sound judgment. They are often in possession of ample creature comforts, as evidenced by the brand name on their sneakers, logos on their apparel, and sleeping in a bedroom that they share with no one. They wear name-brand shoes (and have multiple pairs), but they are not sure in which direction to walk. *Good times create weak men!*

I heard an Omega man speak from the pulpit of a church where he was invited as the Men's Day speaker. He was a pillar of the community and professionally sat in the superintendent's chair in the school system of one of

America's great cities. Though invited to inspire church men, his words were cutting to the assembled Black church women. He offered up these words: *"The problem with you women is that you love your sons, but you raise your daughters."*

There was chilling truth in his not-too-well-received observation. Who is there to help her raise her sons? Who is there to give guidance to the aimless male who walks in a man's body yet has boyish *frontal lobe* development? Who is there to be consistently present showing the young lad a consistent example of what Manhood looks like, and who is willing to love him enough to challenge the behaviorally errant, soon to be young man, with adult expectations of conduct upon him? In what way is not a curse but a blessing of opportunity for principled Men to step forward and answered the clarion call much in the same way that the prophet Isaiah felt compelled to respond to the Lord's question, *"Here am I, Lord, send me."*

Both the fate and future of our sons are at stake here, and they live in a world where no one feels sorry for them. For these deserving young men, *can strong men create good times*, for these our sons?

**Brother Roi T. Johnson** is Grand Chaplain of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He serves as a member of the fraternity's Supreme Council, is a member of Delta Mu Mu Chapter (Atlanta, GA), and is *"A Friend to Every Omega Man."* For the past thirty-three (33) years, he has served as Pastor of the New Springfield Baptist Church in Greene County, GA. He serves the fraternity as spiritual leader and oversees the success of the **International Prayer Call** which is convened via conference call *every morning*, Sunday through Saturday at 6:30 a.m. (ET), 5:30 a.m. (CT), 3:30 a.m. (PT). To partake of the prayer call, dial (267) 807-9601; pass code 674166340#. For special prayer requests or praise report send email to: [pravingomegas@gmail.com](mailto:pravingomegas@gmail.com).

## Shout Out to HBCUs & Black Greek Letter Org (BGLO) Bringing Uplift

By Zebby Miles, President,  
Alumni of Lambda Epsilon Foundation, Inc.

### HBCU Alumni, Use Your Tools: Technology Can Multiply Our Impact

**G**reetings Brothers! As we close 2025 and welcome 2026, *let's commit to working smarter—not just harder*—in our mission to uplift families and mentor youth.

Lock in your personal, professional, and fraternal goals for the new year then map out the plan so you can work it out and walk in it!

**Technology cannot replace brotherhood;** it amplifies it.

The same smartphones we scroll for entertainment can coordinate mentoring sessions, track student progress, and connect brothers, fathers, and mentors with resources. Virtual meeting platforms let busy professionals mentor students despite conflicting schedules. Group messaging apps keep mentor-mentee relationships consistent between in-person meetings.

#### Here is a basic technology toolkit:

*Scheduling apps* (Calendly, Doodle) eliminate the back-and-forth of coordinating mentor sessions

*Video platforms* (Zoom, Google Meet) connect mentors with mentees across distances

*Shared documents* (Google Drive) help track student goals and progress

*Payment apps* (CashApp, Venmo, Zelle) make micro-donations frictionless for small projects

*Social media & websites* showcase your chapter's work, inspiring others and can even attract volunteers

THE HUMAN TOUCH REMAINS IRREPLACEABLE—technology simply removes barriers. Let's get better using the tools we have available – hardware, software, websites, applications, equipment, and yes, even AI! A brother working two jobs can still mentor via video call. Alumni scattered across states can collectively fund a local youth program. Brothers can coordinate "**Brother You're On My Mind**" check-ins through personal and group texts. Strive to treat everyone with honor and respect; grow our network; learn from one another; capitalize on our different perspectives and diverse skill sets; and forge a well-oiled machine that produces good fruit!

**Trust but verify:** Don't let technology replace face-to-face relationships, but do let it create more of them. Use tools to handle logistics so you can focus your energy on what matters—building the next generation of leaders.

Our Alumni of Lambda Epsilon Foundation (ALEF) demonstrates this principle. We leverage online donation platforms, social media outreach, and digital communication to coordinate scholarships for Tuskegee students and support for Booker T. Washington High School in Tuskegee.



Brother Zebby Miles and ALEF  
"Raising the Bar"

Over the past two years, we have provided nearly \$15K in scholarships to Lambda Epsilon Brothers and incoming freshmen from the local high school; donated towards the maintenance/renovations of the Baldwin monument on campus; funded textbooks for dual-enrolled students and purchased an athletic track and field timing system for the local High School; and, we have raised nearly a quarter of a million dollars for an endowment account (*part of Tuskegee's ongoing \$300M Capital Campaign*), all organized through digital tools that let alumni nationwide contribute and stay engaged.

**Bold Moves & Big Wins Mix** in 2026 when we combine Omega's timeless values with modern tools!

Support ALEF's community work: (no donation is too small!)

**ALEF Donate:** (<https://alef.foundation/donate>)

**ALEF Endowment** Donations: Tuskegee University  
(<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/TUALEF>)

**Text to Give:** Text TUALEF to 71777 (fees may apply)

Bro. Zeb Miles, 5-90-LE, LM #3993,

## Brother Robert W. Fairchild, Fatherhood and Mentoring Advisor Awareness, Advocacy, Partnerships, Celebration

### Merry Christmas and a Happy New Fatherhood and Mentoring Year

**A**s we move through this Christmas season, we can reflect on the progress we have made in getting fathers engaged in the lives of their children and families. We have been recognized and thanked on many occasions for the work that we do. We cannot rest on the progress that we have made. We must continue to move this needle forward.

Father absence dilutes the power that both parents operating as a team brings to the family table. The family unit is the heart and strength of the community.

In this current political climate parental guidance is critical to wise decision beings made during the many challenging moments that young people face. Every day brings new challenges. Just because some challenging moments and experiences may not directly affect us, it does not mean they will not someday cross our path.

We all have a responsibility to help prepare the next generation for the issues and difficulties that they may face. As members of Omega, we must think of ourselves as Bridge Builders.

It is important that every chapter be engaged in this effort. We can have a significant impact on our communities and many lives. Chapters not engaged please take a moment of self-reflection and ask yourselves why not. Working with fathers and young people can be a very rewarding and meaningful experience. The need for what you can bring to the table is great. We must remember, we are members in our community and we have a responsibility to that community. Failure to participate can lead to very

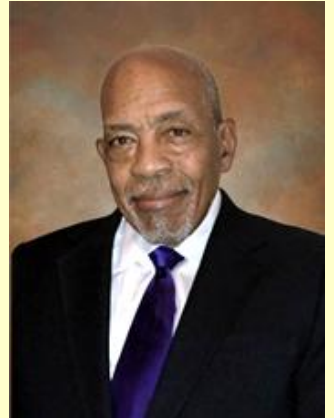
negative consequences when we don't help those whom we know needs our assistance. We are blessed to have the ability to work and make a difference.

ONE MORE POINT, *we must stop looking to other people to help us when we can do it ourselves.* We bring to the table our ability of having a better understanding of the issues and needs of our people. Some time we look to various government agencies to step up and work with individuals.

Agencies like Social Services have resources and funding, *even though they may not have enough personnel to effectively do the work.* When we first started this work, we were advised to reach out to them to work in partnership. In many cases they have welcomed our participation as partners in addressing the needs in our communities. One of the main tenets in our Fatherhood and Mentoring effort is Partnership. Let's work toward 100% participation

A powerful Christmas gift that you can give to young fathers, children and families is some of your time to work with them in the new year!

Bro. Fairchild



Brother Robert W. Fairchild  
Fatherhood Advisor



Cary D. Jacobs\*  
25<sup>th</sup> Grand Basileus  
1961 – 1964

### ~~~ A look back on “Omega and the Bloody Year of 1963” ~~~

Grand Basileus **Cary D. Jacob** endorsed president John F. Kennedy's call for peaceful solutions to the nation's racial problems, but disagreed with his call to moderate the 1963 March on Washington. Grand Basileus Jacob acknowledged the “*courageous leadership*” that brother **Jessie L. Jackson**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Grand Basileus was providing in the movement.

In the prophetic words of Grand Basileus Jacob: “*We have given our time, money and energy in the movement. [We] cannot afford to rest on our record, good as it is. We must grid our loins, grit our teeth and strain our purse, and thus, continue to do our part in helping those who are bearing the burden in the heat of the day to carry the load, so that when the battle has been fought and the victory has been won, we can then look back over a well spent life.*”

From the book, With Faith in God and Heart and Mind: A History of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, by Maurice J. Hobson, Eddie B. Cole, Jim C. Harper II, and Derrick P. Alridge, 2025, page 185 and *The Oracle* 52, #3, September 1963.



## ... a Charge to Keep ...

**G**ood Brothers, I pray this message finds you and your families in excellent health and high spirits. As we are preparing to celebrate **Father's Day on June 21, 2026**, the Omega International Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee, under the leadership of Brother Raymond Bell, 89-Eta Chapter, is seeking your input on the proposed Father's Day theme.

Our mission remains steadfast: *to uplift, empower, and strengthen families through the principles of Fatherhood and Mentoring*. Your commitment and support, along with that of your families, are vital to ensuring the success of this initiative.

Fatherhood stands as one of the most vital pillars of family and community life. It embodies leadership, guidance, and unconditional love, qualities that shape the moral and emotional foundation of future generations. Celebrating fathers is not only an acknowledgment of their sacrifices and commitment but also a reaffirmation of the values they instill: integrity, perseverance, and service.

Within the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, honoring fatherhood aligns with our mission to uplift and strengthen the Black family, emphasizing that the presence, mentorship, and example of strong fathers are essential to the growth of our youth and the advancement of our communities.

Please review the proposed theme options below and be prepared to share your selection during your next chapter meeting.

### **Proposed Father's Day Celebration Themes:**

Options:

#### **1. Where Do We Find Strength in Our Roots as We Celebrate Black Fatherhood?**

This theme honors the cultural, spiritual, and familial foundations that define Black fatherhood. It invites reflection on the values, traditions, and resilience passed down through generations—elements that continue to fortify our families, communities, and Brotherhood today.

#### **2. How Do Our Fathers Shape Our Legacy of Leadership?**

This theme explores the profound influence of father figures in cultivating leadership within Omega Psi Phi and the broader community. It emphasizes the role of fathers as mentors and visionaries who inspire the next generation of leaders.

#### **3. In What Ways Can Fathers and Sons Strengthen Their Bonds Through Brotherhood?**

This theme highlights the shared experiences and values that unite fathers and sons within Omega Psi Phi. It encourages dialogue and activities that deepen familial and fraternal connections through mentorship and shared purpose.



**Brother Eric O. Johnson**  
**Omega International Father's**  
**Day Committee**

As we are preparing to celebrate Father's Day on June 21, 2026, the International Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee, under the leadership of Brother Raymond Bell, 89-Eta Chapter, is seeking your input on the proposed Father's Day theme. Your thoughtful feedback will guide us in selecting a theme that best reflects our collective vision and commitment to the ideals of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

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

In Friendship,  
Brother Eric "EJ" Johnson  
Omega International Father's Day, Chairman  
Third District, Alpha Omega Chapter  
Keeper of Records and Seal

## A Point of View: Living History with Brother Dr. Carl A. Blunt

### Just A Thought: The Evolution of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Achievement Week Program

#### PART 2 (Continued from last issue)

**T**he 14<sup>th</sup> annual conclave at Tuskegee, Alabama in December of 1925, revealed that the celebration was not only to recognize past Negro achievement, but concentrate on outstanding, recent, and current Negro achievements as well.

The brothers would still recognize the Negro's achievements of the past, but they were interested in presenting to America the many significant achievements by Negroes of the day and accomplishments that might escape public notice and thus not be properly recorded.

#### NEGRO ACHIEVEMENT WEEK

The fraternity resumed the expanded and rebranded celebration in 1926 as Negro Achievement Week. The aim was to:

- Inspire pride within the Negro race.
- Acquaint the Negro with the fact that unlike before, he is nobly achieving in his own lifetime.
- Let the Negro believe that as his brother achieves, through him so does he in his own way.

Since its inception in 1921, Bro. Linwood G. Koger had detailed each chapter's achievement activities so well that in 1927, at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conclave held in New York, the fraternity took control and Bro. Koger was named Director of the Achievement Week Project. That was the first time the execution of the Achievement Week Program was made the primary responsibility of one person.

TO PROVIDE CONFORMITY, Bro. Koger, promptly outlined and distributed to every brother the programs' purpose and instructions that still form the basics of today's National Achievement Week Program as it has been known since 1948.

#### WOODSON AND THE FRATERNITY

The relationship between Bro. Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the fraternity, regarding who instituted a national Negro History Week Program is a debate that still exists in some circles.

Some students of Omega history interpret the fraternity's early implementation of the Study of Negro History and Literature in 1921 as a national program and its subsequent observance in 1922, 1923 and 1924 as evidence that *Omega Psi Phi* be recognized and not Bro. Dr. Carter G. Woodson as the major catalyst of the national observance, which was rebranded as Negro History Week.

Others debate the fact that the brothers, in their search for a national program were inspired by Bro. Dr. Woodson's 1920 Conclave speech and his ongoing work on Negro achievement and the fraternity merely embraced and implemented the essence of his work.

#### DREER/GILL HISTORY BOOKS

Based on the chronology contained in both the Dreer and Gill history books it could be deduced that there may have been some tension between Bro. Dr. Woodson and the fraternity regarding ownership, which eventually led to the renaming of two separate but similar Negro Achievement Programs.

In the December 1926 issue of the Oracle on page 5, there is an article that touts the fraternity's success in bringing national exposure to Negro History and having other Greek letter organizations expressing their willingness and support to help inspire Negro youth to greater achievement. However, in the November 1927 Oracle there is a scathing editorial that indicates Bro. Woodson felt the fraternity's program infringed on his ASALH Negro



Brother Dr. Carl A. Blunt  
32<sup>nd</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Grand Basileus,  
2006-2010

history project and suggested the fraternity kill its history program.

A month later in the December 1927 Oracle on the editorial page 3, there are several responses to the previous comments regarding Woodson. The opinions ranged from those who said the negative comments regarding Woodson were in bad taste, or that the Oracle was read by the public and should not be a place to wash dirty laundry, to statements asking "What has Woodson ever done for the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity"?

REGARDLESS of who is recognized as the originator, the programs began in a period when racism dominated social thinking and both programs' goals were to show the perseverance and accomplishments of the Negro race and remove any inferiority complexes that may have been impeding the progress.

Omega is not what is on you, it's what's in you!

As Always, Yours in Friendship & Fraternity

**Brother Dr. Carl A. Blunt** is an author, lecturer, and immediate past Board Chairman of the Omega Youth Leadership Academy.



# The Fatherhood Journey – Through the Eyes of Age!

## When God Sends You an Angel!

By Larry Hammond, Sr.

I received the call one afternoon that changed my life. A doctor from Washington, D.C. was on the line, informing me that my father had been admitted to the hospital after experiencing chest pains. I was living in Pasadena, California, at the time, and the distance between us suddenly felt like an ocean. At 80 years old and living alone, my father needed me. I told the doctor I would be on the next flight out.

I arrived the following day and rushed straight to the hospital. My father was resting quietly, but the news I received from the medical team was anything but comforting. They told me that although his heart tests were normal, he had begun acting irrationally and had to be sedated. When I asked what was happening, the doctors said he was showing signs of dementia—likely Alzheimer's.

The words hit me like a blow. I left the hospital in a fog and returned to my father's house. Snow had begun to fall, blanketing the neighborhood in silence. I tried to rest, but was awakened by a knock at the door. It was the police, informing me that the three cars parked in front of the house—my father's cars—were on an emergency route and had to be moved immediately.

So there I was, a Californian long removed from East Coast winters, out in the freezing night shoveling snow, scraping windshields, and moving cars. Exhausted, I returned to the hospital the next morning. My father seemed fine—lucid, calm, himself. But the doctors explained that this was common. He was “sundowning,” meaning his symptoms would intensify later in the day.

I spent the day researching, asking questions, trying to understand. And then, as evening approached, I watched my father transform before my eyes. Confusion. Agitation. Aggression. A man I did not recognize. He had to be sedated again.

That night, back at his house, I sat in disbelief. The weight of responsibility pressed down on me. What was I supposed to do? How could I help him? The next day, the hospital informed me that they would be discharging him soon and that I needed to arrange follow-up care. As I watched him decline again that evening, panic rose in my chest.

It is said that God sends angels when you need them most.

I learned that this is true. As I sat in my father's room, head in my hands, a new doctor walked in—a Black

woman who introduced herself as the physician now overseeing his case. She examined my father, then turned to me with a calm, steady presence. I asked every question I could think of. She listened. She reassured. She understood.

And then I said the words that changed everything: **“He can never go back to that house.”**

The reality of what I was saying hit me like a tidal wave. I told her I needed to take my father back to California—but I needed at least three more days for him to remain in the hospital so I could prepare. I knew it was a huge request. She looked at me for a long moment, then said quietly, **“I will take care of that.”**

In that moment, I knew God had sent me an angel. As if that were not enough, another blessing arrived. A friend—my fraternity brother—heard what I was going through and said, without hesitation, “I’ll go with you.”

And just like that, **Operation Transplant Dad** was underway. A direct

flight to Los Angeles was booked. Bags were packed. My wife was ready on the West Coast. Everything was set.

The next morning, I told my father we were leaving. He lit up at the thought of going home. After final instructions from the doctors and a bag full of medications, we loaded the car. I told my father I had an urgent matter to handle in California and needed him to come with me. Concern flickered across his face, but his *father's instinct* to help took over, and he agreed.

When we landed in Los Angeles, a new chapter began—one filled with challenges, joy, exhaustion, laughter, frustration, and love. Caring for my father became one of the hardest and most meaningful journeys of my life.

And through it all, I never forgot the angel God sent me in that hospital room—the one who gave me the strength, clarity, and courage to take the next step when I didn't know how. There comes a moment in life when the roles shift—when the son becomes the father to the father, or the daughter becomes the mother to the mother. When that moment arrives, you will need strength beyond your own. You will need grace. You will need guidance.

And if you are blessed, **God will send you an angel too.///**



Bro Larry Hammond, Sr.



## History Bears Witness to the Truth

### Brother Charles “Chuck” Clemons, Jr., 12<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain

#### Avoid Empty Chatter: Loose Lips Sink Ships

By Bro. Charles “Chuck” Clemons, 12<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain

**D**uring World War II, the phrase “Loose lips sink ships” became a powerful slogan reminding soldiers and civilians alike that careless talk could have deadly consequences. The message warned against revealing information that might aid the enemy.

Comedian Flip Wilson later revived the phrase through his beloved character, The Reverend, humorously warning his congregation, “And the looser the lips are, the faster the ship sinks. And some of the lips in this congregation done sunk aircraft carriers!” Though delivered in jest, Wilson’s line carried a timeless truth: reckless speech can do real damage.

As men, fathers, mentors, and Omega Men, we know how words can build up or tear down. We’ve all been in those moments—maybe at a family cookout, chapter meeting, or fraternity gathering—when good conversation turns unexpectedly sour. One offhand remark, a misunderstood joke, or a frustrated comment can shift the atmosphere and leave lasting tension. What started as laughter becomes a long evening of misunderstanding or even division.

Our goal as leaders is not to silence fellowship or genuine conversation, but to remember that words carry weight. **Proverbs 18:21 reminds us that “Death and life are in the power of the tongue.”** It’s a sobering truth that calls us to greater mindfulness. As men of purpose and character, our speech should reflect wisdom, love, and respect.

Empty chatter, gossip, and speculation rarely produce anything good. They distract from purpose and can erode trust in homes, churches, workplaces, and fraternities. **The Apostle Paul** cautions believers against “vain babblings” in **2 Timothy 2:16**, warning that such talk leads only to ungodliness. Likewise, **Titus 3:9** urges us to avoid foolish controversies that generate strife instead of solutions. These Scriptures highlight a

consistent theme: careless words weaken communities, while thoughtful speech builds them up.

In today’s fast-paced world of group chats, social media posts, and endless opinions, it’s easier than ever to let loose words go unchecked. But as Omega Men and mentors, we must lead by example—especially before the next generation.



Bro. Charles “Chuck” Clemons  
12<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain

**The young men watching us** learn more from how we communicate than from what we say. Every exchange, whether in jest or frustration, teaches a lesson about discipline, respect, and self-control.

When tensions arise, it takes strength—not weakness—to pause, reflect, and speak with intention. Sometimes the most powerful statement a man can make is silence. It’s in those moments of restraint that peace has room to flourish.

Scripture reminds us that one day we will give account for every careless word (**Matthew 12:36**). This truth should not bring fear but awareness—that our words matter deeply to God and to one another. So, before letting “loose lips” sink ships, families, friendships, or our Fraternity, let’s choose words that uplift, heal, and unite.

**The mark of true manhood is not how loudly we speak, but how wisely we listen and how carefully we respond. ///**

Brother Charles Clemons, Jr., 12<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain, author of “UNDIVIDED: A Biblical Response to What Divides U.S.,”  
1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 2020

## 1<sup>st</sup> District: Brother Eric Lindsey, Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

### Eta Phi Chapter collaborates with 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Young Men's Thanksgiving Dinner

Eric Lindsey First District FMC Chairman

**Roxbury, MA** – The Eta Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., proudly collaborated with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Young Men's Thanksgiving Dinner held at the Boston Public Schools Headquarters in Roxbury, MA. Sponsored by Boston Public Schools Academic Mentoring, the evening was filled with food, fellowship, and meaningful connection.

Sitting down with more than 30 young men from our community was a deeply rewarding experience. This dinner provided an opportunity for both the young men and the brothers to express their appreciation and gratitude for one another. It allowed the brothers to meet these young men where they are—not simply to talk at them, but to truly break bread, build relationships, and fellowship in an authentic and meaningful way.

Through an ongoing partnership with **The Gathering**, Eta Phi has consistently invested in the growth and development of these young men by providing transformative educational, cultural, and recreational



experiences. These opportunities have included trips to NASA, visits to HBCU campuses, Harvard University, skiing in the Berkshires, rowing on the Charles River, and participation in the International Youth Leadership Conference—each designed to broaden horizons, build confidence, and inspire leadership.

Special thanks to Brother Kazembe Abif (3-23, Eta Phi Chapter) for connecting our chapter with this outstanding group of young men and the participation of the Undergraduates Brothers of Gamma Chapter to make this an unforgettable evening of fellowship and uplift. ///

### Black Fatherhood: Manhood to Fatherhood Series - Self-Love & Self-Care

Eric Lindsey

**Boston, MA** – During Achievement Week 2025, Eta Phi Chapter co-hosted the second installment of the **Black Fatherhood: Manhood to Fatherhood Series**, titled “The Self-Love & Self-Care Conversation,” on December 13, 2025, in Randolph, MA.

Held at La Scala Restaurant in Randolph, MA, the program brought together 50 Black fathers and community leaders for an empowering evening centered on mental, emotional, and spiritual wellness. A full-course meal was provided, creating a welcoming and intimate environment that encouraged open dialogue.

The discussion focused on the importance of self-care and self-love as foundational elements of effective fatherhood. Participants engaged in honest conversations about the pressures Black men face while balancing leadership roles, family responsibilities, and societal expectations. Fathers were encouraged to challenge harmful narratives that equate strength with silence and to embrace wellness as a vital component of manhood.



Photo by Hailey



Throughout the evening, attendees shared personal experiences and practical strategies for managing stress, maintaining emotional balance, and modeling healthy behaviors for their children.

The program concluded with a hands-on wellness breathing and guided reflection session led by special guest Rev. Dr. Larry Green, author, and mindfulness coach.

**The Black Fatherhood: Manhood to Fatherhood Series** is a collaborative initiative between the Eta Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the Norfolk-Plymouth County Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and the Omicron Chi Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. These organizations remain committed to creating safe, supportive spaces that affirm Black fatherhood and promote holistic well-being. ///



## **Lambda Rho Chapter Hosts Pardons & Paroles Forum as Part of Its Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative**

**Waterbury, CT** – On November 3, at Grace Baptist Church, the Lambda Rho Chapter hosted a powerful community forum as part of its ongoing Fatherhood and Mentoring Program.

In collaboration with the Connecticut Board of Pardons and Paroles, the chapter provided an essential opportunity for individuals and families to receive accurate, first-hand information about the pardon and parole process in Connecticut.

Participants were guided through the criteria required to file an application, including documentation needs and associated fees. Representatives from the Board of Pardons and Paroles also clarified eligibility for Absolute Pardons and Certificates of Employability—two critical tools that can open doors to employment,

restore dignity, and support long-term stability for individuals seeking a fresh start.

The session fostered honest dialogue, offering attendees the chance to ask questions, dispel myths, and better understand the timelines and expectations of the pardon system. By hosting this educational event within its Fatherhood and Mentoring Program, the Lambda Rho Chapter demonstrated its dedication to strengthening families, empowering fathers, and ensuring that community members have the resources needed to rebuild and thrive.

This collaboration with Grace Baptist Church and the Connecticut Board of Pardons and Paroles exemplifies Lambda Rho's commitment to uplift and serve—providing pathways to hope, healing, and renewed opportunity for all. ///

## **Lambda Rho Chapter/Saint Mary's Hospital Host Black Men in White Coats Youth Summit**

**Waterbury, CT** – On November 8, the Black Men in White Coats Youth Summit—sponsored by Saint Mary's Hospital, Granville Academy, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Lambda Rho Chapter of Waterbury—delivered a transformative day of education, mentorship, and inspiration for more than 1,300 students.

Held at both the Palace Theater and the University of Connecticut Waterbury Campus, the summit brought together youth from across the region to explore careers in medicine, STEM, and health sciences through immersive, hands-on learning experiences.

The mission of the Black Men in White Coats initiative is to increase exposure, inspire youth, and strengthen mentoring relationships—especially for students who may not otherwise have access to role models or clear pathways into healthcare professions. This year's summit fully embodied that mission, offering students a rare opportunity to interact directly with medical professionals, educators, and industry leaders.

Throughout the day, participants engaged in a wide range of hands-on activities, including CPR demonstrations, medical incubation exercises, robotics



simulations, wound dressing on advanced robotic mannequins, and blood pressure measurement training. The event's success highlights the powerful collaboration among Saint Mary's Hospital, Granville Academy, and the Lambda Rho Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Their shared commitment to youth empowerment and educational access continues to open doors for students of all ages.

With over 1,300 students in attendance, the summit stands as a testament to what community partnerships can achieve, reinforcing the belief that mentorship and exposure can spark lifelong aspirations and strengthen the next generation of medical leaders. ///

# Annual Daddy Daughter Dance

Brother Frantz Paillant Iota Chi '2



**Boston, MA** — The Iota Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., proudly hosted its Annual Daddy Daughter Dance, a beloved tradition that celebrates the strength of family bonds, the importance of fatherhood, and the power of mentorship in the Greater Boston community. This signature event brought together fathers, father figures, and daughters from across the city for an unforgettable evening filled with love, laughter, and legacy.

The dance continues to stand as a reminder that fatherhood is a cornerstone of community building. In a time where positive male role models are needed. This event shines a spotlight on the incredible fathers and mentors who lead with integrity, compassion, and purpose.

Throughout the evening, the beauty of fatherhood was on full display. Fathers and daughters shared dinner together, laughed during games of musical chairs, posed for photos, and danced together across the floor. Each moment reflected the deep joy and responsibility of fatherhood — building memories that daughters will carry with them for a lifetime.

The night reached its most emotional moment as the event closed with the traditional song, “Dance With My Father” by Luther Vandross, filling the room with love and reminding all in attendance of the power of a father’s presence.

**Our Deepest Gratitude:** We extend our deepest gratitude to our valued partners and supporters who make this event possible year after year.

Special thanks to the Yawkey Boys & Girls Club for graciously hosting this year’s dance, the Boston Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho, our brothers from the Eta Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., CornerStone Collaborative of Massachusetts, the dedicated public servants and good people in City Hall, and the many community leaders, organizations, and families who continue to invest in the mission of strengthening fatherhood and mentorship.

Together, we are building more than an event — we are building a culture of love and leadership that reaches far beyond the dance floor. The Daddy Daughter Dance represents what’s possible when community organizations, city partners, and families unite for a shared purpose: to uplift the next generation.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to ensuring that every father and daughter in the Greater Boston area has opportunities to connect, grow, and celebrate together. The work of fatherhood and mentorship is never done, but through events like this, we continue to write a powerful story of unity, resilience, and hope for our city. “When we honor fatherhood, we strengthen families. When we strengthen families, we strengthen communities.” ///

## Chi Omicron Chapter Youth Reading Program

Written by: Bro. Darnell Tucker (2-19-XO)  
Chi Omicron Chapter, Public Relations



**New Haven, CT** – On Monday, November 10, 2025, the Chi Omicron Chapter held a reading and mentoring program at Barack Obama Magnet University School of New Haven, Connecticut.

This Achievement Week event included brothers spending time with third grade students to encourage reading, learning, and positive life values.

During the visit, the students were taught what fraternities and sororities are and why they exist. The

brothers also explained the Cardinal Principles of Omega Psi Phi which are Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

These ideas were shared in a way that the children could understand and use in their everyday lives at school, at home, and with friends.

The main part of the program focused on reading to the students. The brothers read from the “**I Am and Who Is**” book series.

These books tell the stories of important African American leaders and role models such as Muhammad Ali, LeBron James, and Barack Obama. The students learned about working hard, believing in themselves, and never giving up on their goals.

More than 70 students took part in the program. Each student received donated books so they could continue reading and learning after the event was over. The excitement and positive energy from the students showed how much the program meant to them. Chi Omicron Chapter is committed to serving the community and helping shape the next generation. This reading program was another step toward building strong, confident, and motivated young leaders. ///

### ~ The New Program ~



“It seems only a reasonable proposition, then, that, if under the present system which produced our leadership in religion, politics, and business we have at least been kept from advancing to real freedom, it is high time to develop another sort of leadership with a different educational system. In the first place, we must bear in mind that the Negro has never been educated. He has merely been informed about other things which he has not been permitted to do. The Negroes have been shoved out the rear door into the obscurity of the backyard and told to imitate others whom they see from afar, or they have been permitted in some places to come into the public schools to see how others educate themselves. The program for the uplift of the Negro in this country must be based upon a scientific study of the Negro from within to develop in him the power to do for himself what his oppressors will never do to elevate him to the level of others.”

**From the book, The Mis-Education of The Negro, By Carter G. Woodson, 1933.**



## **2025 Back-2-School Game Changer Conference for Young Males and Parents**

Submitted By Donald Williams II  
25<sup>th</sup> Basileus, Mu Nu Chapter, Montgomery County, Maryland



**Germantown, MD** – On Saturday, October 25, 2025, the Mu Nu Chapter joined other community organizations to provide impactful and meaningful leadership that uplifted a community at Montgomery College, Germantown Campus, Maryland.

UCF Youth Development Organization sponsored the Back#2#School Game Changer Conference bringing together the local community to transform lives.

The spirit of the Lord was presence, a record number of men poured into young males was simply amazing, and the student's response was electric and indescribable to see the community come together for such a time as now!

Theme: Future Ready – Level Up! Approximately, 225 participants were present including, parents, volunteers, and male students. They were equipped with meaningful strategies to succeed in challenging times!

The Fall 2025 “Back#2#School Game Changers” conference, tailored for 4<sup>th</sup> graders through high schoolers designed to help them “focus forward” and compete in pursuit of excellence.

In urgent times like now it is clear that we are stronger working together to help make “hope happen” for families and students.

This is a collaboration model that connects the public school district, local churches, fraternities and sororities, and other like-minded individuals and mentoring organizations in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Shoutout to the Planning Team, Presenters, MCPS Leadership Team, Mighty Mu Nu Chapter, Pan Hellenic Council, Lodge members, and community leaders for being presence in moments that matter!

Mu Nu Chapter challenge other Chapters to bring your community together, collaborate to make a difference in strengthening families, and help students navigate this ever-changing society.

THANK YOU, Mu Nu Chapter, we had five Basileus in attendance including Basileus Elected Donnell Boykin who delivered the conference greeting. We are grateful to all presenters and participants who sacrifice their time to uplift, equip, encourage, and empower our community with important, meaningful, and impactful messages. ///

### **Mentoring Leadership Matters and Save Lives!**

For such a time as now, our community must see Omega Leadership Excellence in action, more than ever before!

# Essential Resources for Every Chapter's Mentoring Program

By Brother Matt Stevens

Earlier this year, Brother Matt Stevens, Chairman of the Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee for the 2<sup>nd</sup> District, published the **Welcome 2 Work Mentor Guide for Youth**. This set of guides was created to assist mentoring programs in teaching critical thinking, workforce readiness, and entrepreneurship exploration.



## The three-book collection:

Brother Stevens, drawing on his own experience as a mentor, addressed a persistent problem for Chapter leaders: generating consistent, high-quality content. He noted that he "often found it challenging to create lesson plans for mentoring sessions," explaining that *"Most of the material was extremely detailed making it hard to break down into 60-minute activities and the expense of these items were beyond any budget at my disposal."* His solution was to do the necessary research, interview hundreds of educators, and create his own effective, affordable tools.

Today, the curriculum is a current resource being used in communities throughout the Country by fraternities and sororities, schools, community-based organizations, police athletic leagues, youth sports teams, and churches. The materials are designed as a comprehensive three-book collection, featuring case studies and role-playing exercises ideal for experiential learning.

**Make A Decision:** Focused on Social Emotional Learning (SEL), using case studies and role-playing to engage teens (ages 12-16) in enhancing decision-making and critical thinking abilities. Reverend Randal Lasiter, Pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Paterson, NJ, noted, "Our youth ministry is fond of the case studies found in Make A Decision. The young people read and respond to the case studies and ministers help guide them to incorporate Christian values into the decisions.

**Soft Skills Matter:** This definitive guide focuses on workforce readiness, preparing teenagers to secure and excel in a job. It covers essential topics like job interviews, professional networking, workplace professionalism, and financial literacy. Jazmin Brown, a mother of a teenage boy in Houston Texas brought the book to help her son Jamal, to prepare for and succeed in a job interview. She stated, "The exercises in the book help me teach my son how to tie a necktie and prepare for interview questions. I'm pleased to report that he was successful in securing the job.

**Build The Business:** This step-by-step guide is designed to turn a great idea into a real, money-making company. It covers business planning, marketing, and managing money. Dr. David Miller, Founder of the Baltimore Rites of Passage Program, asserted that his organization provided the book as gifts and planned to assist the youth in creating and supporting businesses "In the spirit of Ujamaa (cooperative economics)".

The guides are highly effective for starting crucial conversations. Brother Byran Morrison, Chairman of the Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee of Rho Mu Mu Chapter in Chicago, was impressed by the tools' immediate usefulness. He stated, "we had been searching for tools that were easy for the mentors and youth to use to start conversations. We were impressed by how the book used real life experiences our youth encounter every day and presented them in a format that allowed adults to provide real time guidance in critical thinking and conflict resolution."

To learn more information: contact Brother Stevens 973-820-8999, [Matt.stevens1@me.com](mailto:Matt.stevens1@me.com), or visit [www>Welcome2Work.org](http://www>Welcome2Work.org). ///



# Shaping Tomorrow's Workforce: Young Men's Career Expo a Huge Success!

By Brother Frank Dookie

**Neptune, NJ** – On October 26, 2025 the Phi Upsilon Chapter helped to host the Young Men Employment Network Conference. Eighty male teenagers, ages 13 to 18, took a significant step toward their professional development.

Held at College Achieve High School in Neptune, New Jersey, the event focused on crucial career exploration and workforce readiness skills.

The expo included members of Fraternities, Law Enforcement agencies, Colleges and Universities, and the Corporate and trade sectors.

Frank Dookie, Chairman of the Phi Upsilon Chapter Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee, asserted "many employers have stated that today's youth are extremely intelligent and quick learners, who have the capacity to add value to a company and increase sales. We have found that one of the major reasons for termination of these young people is the lack of soft skills, such as arriving to work on time, providing quality customer service, and taking initiative. This is where mentoring can be helpful."

The event proactively addressed these concerns through engaging activities. Mentors guided the young men through a series of case studies

and role-playing exercises, offering practical and preventative guidance. Jason McKnight, a 17-year-old student, shared his positive experience: "I had fun going through the examples with the mentors and learned a few new things on how to present myself at work. I hope to get a job this summer and will use these skills."

## Mentors Mold Future Leaders



Mentors from 12 diverse career sectors volunteered their time, sharing their experiences to help shape the young participants' professional thinking.



Brother Bill Burton, Basileus of the Phi Upsilon Chapter, who is also Managing Assistant Director of Technical Services at Kean University, emphasized plans to provide follow-up mentoring, which may include taking the boys on a tour of Kean University, with a

specific focus on their new artificial intelligence major. These types of efforts are essential for keeping youth engaged and assisting with their long-term career development.

## Law Enforcement Engagement

Major partners of the event were the Asbury Park Police Department and the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department. Undersheriff Darryl Breckenridge announced in his opening remarks that his department is eager to involve young people in ongoing mentoring programs focused on careers in law enforcement.

Sean Matthews, a 15-year-old from Lakewood, noted a shift in perspective: "I had never considered law enforcement as a possible career because I've never met an officer who took the time to teach me. Today I learned a lot of new things about the police department, and I hope to participate in the mentoring programs afterwards."

Pastor Lyddale Akins provided the opening prayer and highlighted the value of the interactive format: "I thought that the interactive exercises were important because they allowed youth to think critically about decisions that can be life changing and simultaneously get guidance of caring adults."

"The program was a great success, and our Chapter plans to continue these types of efforts through the year." Brother Burton stated.

For more information visit: [www.JerseyShoreQues.com](http://www.JerseyShoreQues.com)

## ~ ~ ~ On Wisdom ~ ~ ~



"Wisdom can be a welcome companion of old age. Those who find wisdom become the beacons for the rest of us. We are attracted by their peacefulness and the vast reservoir of understanding they have acquired through years of living. As enigmatic as it seems, wisdom is clearly recognizable. We see it, we feel it, and we want to be part of it."

From the book, Echo of the Spirit: A Photographer's Journey, by Chester Higgins, Jr., 2004.



**3<sup>rd</sup> District: Brother Michael Frazier, Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring  
Virginia, Washington, D.C.**

**Young Men of Distinction (YMOD) | Kappa Iota Iota (KII) | Bro. Lloyd Boxley, FMC Chair | Newport News, VA**



**Young Men Of Distinction Mentoring Program participated in Hampton's Holly Day Parade for a night of lights and holiday cheer on December 6, 2025 in Hampton Virginia.**

**KII – Newport News, VA | YMOD --** The holiday spirit was alive and glowing in downtown Hampton, VA as KII YMOD mentoring program proudly participated in this year's Holly Days Parade, bringing joy, community pride, and youthful energy to one of the Peninsula's most beloved seasonal traditions. The Holly Days Parade, a cornerstone of Hampton's holiday festivities, featured illuminated floats, marching bands, community groups, and local organizations as they paraded through the heart of the city on Saturday evening, December 6<sup>th</sup>.



**YMOD | HAMPTON HOLLY'S PARADE | WINTER 2025**

Thousands of residents and visitors lined Settlers Landing Road and Eaton Street to take in the sights and sounds of this long-running nighttime celebration of community and cheer. Downtown Hampton. As one of the Peninsula's longest-running illuminated holiday parades, the Holly Days Parade continued its tradition of spreading magic and cheer through captivating floats and spirited participation from local community groups.



**SALVATION ARMY | HAMPTON, VA | WINTER 2025**

**KII -- YMOD** and mentors from KII helped organize toys at the Salvation Army in Hampton, Virginia. The toys were donated as part of the annual Angel Tree program of the Salvation Army. The Angel Tree program provided gifts for more than one million children last Christmas to families at risk of not being able to provide presents for their children. The Hampton location is expecting to see over 700 families and over 2,200 kids from the Hampton and Newport News areas who will receive toys for Christmas. ///



Bro. James Cherry, PsiAA FMC Chair represented Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. on November 15, 2025 at the nation's largest HBCU College Fair sponsored by Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, VA.

**PsiAA – Fairfax, VA | MANUP Mentoring** -- On November 15, 2025, Psi Alpha Alpha chapter participated in the nation's largest HBCU College fair sponsored by Alfred Street Baptist Church, in Alexandria VA. The free hybrid event, held at the St. James Sports Complex in Springfield, VA, attracted more than 12,000 registered high school students over the two days (14-15 November) and hosted over 70 Historically Black Colleges and Universities that were providing on-site admissions, scholarships, and choir/band auditions. During the afternoon, a Divine Nine panel discussion was held entitled Beyond The Letters, The Divine Nine (Greek Life), in which Psi Alpha Alpha Vice Basileus, Bro. James Cherry (7-93-Lambda Gamma) served as a panelist. ///



*Bro. Joe Briggs (GE60) talking with Bro. Tony Wells (PsiAA2QQ2) and his daughter on attending the "Home by the Sea."*



### HBCU Festival | D9 Panel | Winter 2025

Bro. Cherry spoke briefly on fraternal history, his current role in the local chapter, and what drew him to join the ranks of being an Omega Man. Bro. Cherry fielded prepared questions concerning denouncing/Renouncing and how he reconciles his faith with his membership, social media governance,

hazing, and how a student should express interest in a particular organization.

Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter set up a booth at the fair to answer questions and provide information to the students and parents in attendance on the Fraternity, its associated philanthropic arm, the Bernie L. Bates Foundation and its scholarship and grant opportunities, and the local mentoring and social action efforts of the chapter. Collectively, the panel answered additional questions from students and parents in the audience concerning qualities organizations look for in potential members and encouraging the students to observe the campus organizations to ensure there is a cohesive fit with their personal morals and values. ///





**TRUTH & TRAUMA | NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY | FALL 2025**

### ***Truth and Trauma: Empowering Our Youth Through Emotional Intelligence and Healing***

The IMMERSED Mentoring Program is making a profound impact on student's well-being through Truth and Trauma — a mental health educational initiative rooted in emotional intelligence, behavioral awareness, mental hygiene, and domestic violence prevention. Designed specifically for students ages 17 to 24, Truth

and Trauma serve as a cornerstone of IMMERSED's Emotional Intelligence and Behavior pillar, offering interactive workshops and seminars that invite young adults to engage deeply in topics that affect their emotional lives and campus communities. ///



Bro. Myron McDaniel, Third District First Vice District Representative engaging Mr. Cameron Davis, a student at NSU and former Omega U Mentee of Pi Lambda Lambda, about smart ways to engage in conflict resolution at the Truth & Trauma seminar hosted by IMMERSED on October 28, 2025.

Bro. Myron McDaniel, who serves as the Third District First Vice Representative of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, engaged in a meaningful conversation with Mr. Cameron Davis—a student at Norfolk State University (NSU) and a former mentee of the Pi Lambda Lambda chapter's Omega U youth mentoring program—about

effective approaches to conflict resolution during the Truth & Trauma seminar hosted by IMMERSED on October 28, 2025.

In their discussion, Bro. McDaniel highlighted the significance of active listening and empathy, stressing these as essential strategies for resolving conflicts constructively. His practical guidance, rooted in his military leadership experience, serving as an Army Medical Physician, offered attendees valuable insights into maintaining respectful communication and seeking common ground when navigating disagreements. ///





### **IMMERSED | Truth & Trauma | Virginia Tech, Blacksburg Virginia | Fall 2025**

Bro. Latorris Williams (Lambda Phi 97) became emotional as he shared his inspiring journey. He overcame the challenges of growing up as a child of domestic violence. Through determination and resilience, Bro. Williams earned a football scholarship at Fort Valley State and pledged The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity INCORPORATED! Today, he serves as an active-duty military officer stationed at the Pentagon in Washington, DC.



**Bro. Latorris Williams being supported by Ms. Patrice Waiters and Ms. Christy Sims on October, 27, 2025 while serving as a panelist.**



**Bro. Wonzooly Bruce Jr., Bro. Latorris Williams, Bro. James Harris, Ms. Michelle Jones, Bro. Michael Fraizer**

Zeta Chapter hosted a mental health awareness seminar at Virginia Union on November 19, 2025. The mental health discussion was led by Bro. Wonzooly Bruce Jr., who moderated a discussion around mental health topics for students at VUU. Key topics included stress management, campus resources for mental health, and personal stories from students. Attendees left with practical strategies and increased awareness of support systems at VUU. Students actively participated by sharing their experiences and asking questions, fostering an open and supportive environment.

### **TRUTH & TRAUMA | VIRGINIA UNION, RICHMOND VA | FALL 2025**

By bringing these discussions into familiar campus spaces, IMMERSED helps normalize emotional literacy as an essential student competency. Truth & Trauma help students explore emotional intelligence and behavioral skills with peers, faculty, and trained facilitators, building not just awareness but actionable understanding.

**Campus Hosts: Virginia Tech, Norfolk State, and Virginia Union**

## **ELEVATING FATHERS AND YOUTH IN THE MIGHTY 4<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT**

**Garfield Heights, OH** – Across the Mighty 4<sup>th</sup> District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., brothers are proving that when fathers and mentors show up with consistency and love, young people rise. The 4<sup>th</sup> District Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee has launched a three-tier approach that begins with a simple idea: if we focus on our Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift, and walk beside our youth, we change lives, families, and communities. With the Great Zeta Omega Chapter, we currently support Daniel E. Morgan K-12, Garfield Heights Middle School, and The Ginn Academy.

**ELEVATING OUR FATHERS:** Central to this work is a deep commitment to supporting African American men. When Black fathers and father-figures are equipped, and valued, they become powerful anchors for their families and communities. Their presence in schools, on Zoom screens, and at community events tells every child: “You are not alone. Your life matters. Your future is wide open.” To sustain this support, the 4<sup>th</sup> District has launched **FatherhoodForum.org**, where fathers can discuss fatherhood, relationships, mental health, and service. Here, men are reminded that they, too, deserve encouragement, healing, and brotherhood. Strong fathers build strong children; strong children are the future to build stronger communities.

**ELEVATING OUR YOUTH:** Local Chapters are encouraged to “start where you are, use what you have, and serve who is in front of you.” That means beginning with ten youth at each level, elementary, middle, and high school, and building strong relationships with nearby schools. Educators become partners as brothers come into classrooms, not only to speak, but to listen, encourage, and guide. Every mentor completes background checks, every parent or guardian gives consent, and every young person knows they have a circle of men who believe in them.

### **MENTORING RECOMMENDATIONS**

To help Chapters replicate and scale our work, the 4<sup>th</sup> District offers these practical steps:

#### *1. Establish Your Mentoring Cohort and School Partnership*

Start with at least ten youth at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Build strong relationships with principals, counselors, and teachers to align on goals, secure space, and integrate mentoring into existing school and family supports.

#### *2. Create a Safe, Structured, Principle-Driven Program*

Require background checks for all mentors and obtain parent/guardian consent for participation and use of student images. Design regular sessions grounded in Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift, and keep a consistent weekly or biweekly schedule.

#### *3. Engage Families and Strengthen Academic Success*

Invite fathers, father-figures, and other male role models to attend sessions, co-lead activities, and participate in recognition events. Incorporate homework help, test preparation, and goal setting so mentoring directly reinforces academic achievement and future-readiness.

#### *4. Measure Impact, Celebrate Achievements, and Share Your Story*

Track attendance, academic growth, behavior, and leadership development to demonstrate impact. Celebrate every win with certificates, brunches, and trips while sharing brief narratives and photos (with consent) with the District Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee so your Chapter’s story can inspire all of us.

The 4<sup>th</sup> District model stretches beyond K–12. Through strategic partnerships with College Now Mentoring and UStrive.org, brothers connect with high school seniors and college students, especially our undergraduate brothers, who need help with essays, applications, scholarships, and navigating campus life. This ensures that support does not end at graduation; it continues as young people step into adulthood, careers, and leadership.

### **SUPPORTING THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

Our partnerships are opening doors for young men to attend the 85<sup>th</sup> Grand Conclave in Cincinnati, Ohio, and to participate in the International Youth Leadership Conference. Fathers and mentors are encouraged to accompany students, helping them experience Omega’s brotherhood, leadership, and service on a global stage.

For Chapters across the Fraternity and brothers around the globe, the message from the 4<sup>th</sup> District is clear: start small, stay consistent, and put fathers and youth at the center of your work. When we do this together, our impact stretches from classrooms and schools to homes and communities!

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## The Cleveland Foundation Keynote Address

**Cleveland, OH** – On November 12, 2025, **Brother Dr. Jehoshaphat K. Jones** (5-96-Epsilon Upsilon) of the Great Zeta Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. delivered the keynote address at the Cleveland Foundation. Schools across the Cleveland



Metropolitan School District gathered to recognize student achievement and scholarship reflected through performance on the Ohio State Tests. The Cleveland Foundation hosted the event, and the Zeta Omega Fatherhood Initiative and the 4<sup>th</sup> District Fatherhood & Mentoring Committee were honored to support the effort as proud strategic partners of Daniel E. Morgan School.

Brother Dr. Jones opened with a warm welcome and a reflection on what makes Omega Psi Phi distinct from other organizations. He explained that Omega is not simply a fraternity of brothers. We are a fraternity of friends. Those intentional friendships, he noted, are essential to the soul and essential to life, because they shape who we become and how we show up for others.

Brother Dr. Jones inspired students and parents to recognize that leadership is not reserved for titles; it is practiced every day through friendships and relationships. He challenged youth to become leaders by being intentional about who they connect with, how they show up for others, and how they influence their peers. He reminded the audience that positive friendships can sharpen character, protect decision-making, and strengthen personal integrity, while unhealthy relationships can derail focus and progress. His message encouraged students to lead within their circles by choosing excellence, modeling integrity, and lifting as they climb.

The keynote continued in an interactive format as students and parents reflected on three guiding questions: How do you help and serve yourself? How do you help and serve your friends? And how do you help and serve your community? Audience members offered examples that demonstrated how service and leadership can be lived out immediately.

### **Keynote Topic - *Serving Yourself: Building the Foundation***

Students and parents shared that serving yourself starts with discipline and self-respect. Examples included staying focused in class, completing assignments, studying consistently, asking questions, and setting goals. Others emphasized protecting your mindset, making wise choices, and taking care of your health so you can bring your best self to school and life.

### **Keynote Topic - *Serving Others: Strengthening Friendships***

When discussing service to friends and peers, audience members described leadership through kindness and accountability. Students noted that serving others can look like encouraging classmates, helping someone understand a lesson, including others, checking on friends, and choosing peace over conflict. Parents reinforced that real friendship requires respect, honesty, and dependability which are the same traits that define strong leadership.

### **Keynote Topic - *Serving the Community: Leading with Purpose***

As the conversation expanded to community, participants shared examples that begin at home and school. These included helping at home, volunteering at school events, supporting younger students, and representing their school with pride through positive behavior and leadership. Students also highlighted how small actions such as showing respect to adults, keeping the school clean, and standing up for what's right.

Brother Dr. Jones encouraged students to leverage scholarship to promote continued academic success by maintaining strong study habits, staying connected to positive peers and mentors, and using their achievements as motivation to reach higher goals. In doing so, students can lead by example and proving that excellence is not accidental, but intentional. The audience departed encouraged and energized, carrying an enduring call to action shared from **Brother Grand Chaplain Roi Johnson** at the 2025 Detroit Leadership Conference: "IF IT IS TO BE, IT IS UP TO ME."



## Mental Health Mondays: Changing Illness to Wellness Among Omega Men

**Cleveland, OH** – Mental Health Mondays is Zeta Omega Chapter's intentional space for Brothers to pause, breathe, and check in with themselves and each other. This "come as you are" gathering was created to help us live Omega's Cardinal Principles, especially Manhood and Uplift, not only in public, but in our private lives, homes, and hearts.

Too often, Black men carry the weight of work, family, church, community, and chapter responsibilities in silence. Mental Health Mondays responds to that reality by providing an Omega Man only, safe, and controlled environment where Brothers can speak honestly about what they are carrying and how they are really doing. As the facilitator reminds the group, we change the 'I' in illness to a 'We,' and focus on wellness.

Mental Health Mondays began in FY 2023-2024 as a vision of Brother Eric Patrick (8-23 Zeta Omega) and Brother Arlyn Davis (7-23 Zeta Omega). They recognized the need for a consistent, structured space centered on the mental and emotional well-being of Omega Men. Together they organized the first sessions and established the culture of confidentiality, respect, and brotherly accountability that continues to guide the program today.

For the first couple of years, Dr. Kelly Bullock Daugherty served as moderator. Her leadership, professional insight, and steady

presence helped Brothers share difficult topics and begin to see mental health as a core part of Manhood rather than something to hide. The work of Brother Patrick, Brother Davis, and Dr. Daugherty created the foundation that Brother Hayes is now building upon as the program grows.

On Monday, December 8, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., Zeta Omega hosted its most recent Mental Health Mondays' session at **Rival Barber Lounge**. The barbershop, long a trusted gathering

**Mental Health Mondays aligns directly with the mission of ...  
Fatherhood and Mentoring ...  
Healthy fathers and mentors are better equipped to show up ...**

place in the Black community, proved to be an ideal setting for honest conversation and brotherhood. Thirteen Omega Men were present for this second session hosted by Brother Estéban Hayes (6-17 Zeta Omega). The session was scheduled from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., but the conversation was so meaningful that it continued until about 9:00 p.m.

The evening followed a simple agenda where the Brothers began with an opening prayer that grounded the space and invited honesty and healing. They moved into a roll call so that every brother was seen and acknowledged. Each man then shared a recent unselfish act, which shifted

the focus toward service and reminded everyone that giving of ourselves can also protect and strengthen our own mental health.

From there, the group entered a courageous conversation about suicidal thoughts and how suicide had affected their lives. This portion of the dialogue was handled with great care, compassion, and seriousness, while reinforcing the importance of seeking professional help, counseling, or other support when needed. The evening closed with a group photo, informal fellowship, and a closing prayer, leaving the brothers encouraged, connected, and renewed.

Mental Health Mondays aligns directly with the mission of the Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee. Healthy fathers and mentors are better equipped to show up consistently for their children, their mentees, their partners, and their communities. When Brothers learn to recognize signs of distress in themselves and in one another, they also become better prepared to recognize and respond to similar struggles in the youth they mentor.

The December session ended with Brothers expressing gratitude for the space and a renewed commitment to check on one another between meetings.

The next Mental Health Mondays is scheduled for January 12, 2026, under the theme "Friendship Within The Industry of a New Year." ///

## **Dad's & Grads Creating Grads**

- Psi Tau Chapter -

**Lexington, KY** – Black Male Working Academy is a mentorship and workforce-readiness initiative designed to equip fifty-two (52) young Black males with tools for academic success, career preparation, and personal development. The 52 young men and their dads were introduced to ten (10) Omega men.

Psi Tau Chapter conducted workshop at BMWA's Dad's and Grads Creating Grads Breakfast and Workshops. The brothers shared how to help scholars to be successful in their academics. There was also a panel where Dads could ask questions on how to deal with this generation's young men.

**Session 1:** was a father-Son conversation we titled "Building Our Future Together," talking openly about goals, challenges, and the future. There is no judgment here. Just honesty, respect, and a commitment to grow together.

**Session 2:** was "Tell your dad one thing you're proud of," large or small. Then the dad's share one thing they were proud of. The session was very moving, some dad's stated they had never done that.

**Session 3:** was "What's really going on?" "What's the biggest challenge you're dealing with right now—school, friends, motivation, stress, or something else?" "What's one thing you wish your dad understood about what you're dealing with?" Prompt to Fathers: "What's one challenge you faced in high school that your son may not know about?". We were attempting to show how showing vulnerability builds trust.

**Session 4:** The Future: What Kind of Man Do You Want to Be? "Describe the kind of man you want to become in the next 5–10 years. Fathers: "Share one quality of manhood that you hope your son carries into adulthood." We encouraged specific examples: responsibility, discipline, confidence, compassion, providing, etc.



**Brothers mentoring with young men during the Black Male Working Academy event.**

**Session 5:** The Gap: What's Standing in the Way? "Now that you've talked about the kind of man you want to be, let's talk about the gap." "What do you think is holding you back—or could hold you back—from becoming that man?" We discussed: Procrastination, Wrong crowd, Fear of failure, Lack of direction, Not asking for help and Anger or frustration. We asked Fathers, "What did you struggle with at your son's age that slowed you down?"

**Session 6:** Teamwork: How Can We Support Each Other? "No one becomes successful alone. Fathers and sons need each other." "What's one thing your dad could do that would help you stay on track?" Some examples: Check in more, Give advice, Hold me accountable, Come to my games/programs, Listen without jumping to conclusions. "What's one thing you want your son to commit to doing differently?" Some examples shared were: Better communication, turning assignments in, Respect around the house, Staying away from negative influences.

**Closing:** Building a Stronger Bond. "Before we close, we want each father and son to say one sentence to each other. Something meaningful." Starting with **Sons:** "Dad, one thing I appreciate about you is..." **Fathers:** "Son, one thing I believe about your future is..." Then we closed with: "You are a team. And teams win when they communicate, support each other, and stay focused. Today wasn't the end—it's the beginning." ///

## Theta Alpha Alpha Partners with 5<sup>th</sup> District Brothers to Host Youth Stem Event

**Bowling Green, KY** – On November 7, 2025, the brothers of the Theta Alpha Alpha Chapter, in partnership with brothers from across the legendary Fifth District, hosted an engaging STEM event for students at Bowling Green Junior High School in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

STEM—one of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.'s mandated programs—served as the foundation for a day of hands-on learning and mentorship. Brothers worked directly with the youth as they explored science and engineering concepts through the construction of solar-powered vehicles. The activity not only sparked curiosity but also allowed students to apply problem-

solving skills, creativity, and teamwork in a real-world context.

Throughout the event, brothers provided meaningful mentorship, guiding students through each step of the building process and encouraging them to see the possibilities that STEM education can unlock. The collaboration reinforced the fraternity's ongoing commitment to uplift, educational advancement, and community engagement.

The Theta Alpha Alpha Chapter extends gratitude to the brothers of the Fifth District and Bowling Green Junior High for helping make this impactful youth-focused event a success. ///

## Nashville State Community College President Welcomes H.G. Hill Middle School Rites of Passage Program



**Nashville, TN** – Dr. Shanna L. Jackson, president of Nashville State Community College, excused herself from a meeting to come and personally welcome Gamma Phi Chapter Inc's mentoring students, "Rites of Passage", to the campus of Nashville State. The tour guide was very knowledgeable on the many educational opportunities at the college.

Each opportunity had an income range that could be obtained. Although the programs were all two-year associate degree programs, tuition could be paid by good grades in High School and the two free years could be a steppingstone to advanced degrees, which could

equate to more income. The field trip was part of our mentoring module on the importance of education. Everyone may not want to go to a four-year college, but the free two-year route is a wonderful start for all. ///

**Nashville, TN** – The Gamma Phi Chapter, Nashville, Tennessee, hosted its annual College Planning and Career Share Program as part of the chapter's Achievement Week activities. Middle school and high school students and parents attended this event at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Magnet High School.

They heard presentations from Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools professionals, Gamma Phi Brothers with

professional education backgrounds, entrepreneurial expertise, and business innovation experiences. The audience received information about creating a plan for college attendance starting at middle school through high school, college, post-college graduate programs, and medical school. Refreshments were served to all attendees and expressions of gratitude were welcomed by Gamma Phi Brothers. ///



## The Mighty Rho Psi: Leading the Way for our Future Leaders

– Rho Psi – 5<sup>th</sup> District

**Nashville, TN** – Brothers Christian McLamb, Henry Stone III and Dante Hunte, undergraduate brothers at the Rho Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., represented their chapter as hosts for the mentees of the Gamma Phi Chapter from H.G. Hill Middle School on a tour of Tennessee State University, a HBCU rich in history and significance. The Undergrad brothers helped in answering the many questions the mentees had and gave them firsthand experience of campus life.

The tour started with a presentation from the University's admission office. Various topics covered were: admission requirements, the University's rich history, campus life, current curricula, and facilities. After a walking tour of the campus, the group enjoyed

a great lunch in the University's cafeteria. The mentees got an opportunity to sit among the college students and engage in conversation with them.

The Rho Psi Chapter (Undergraduate) and Gamma Phi Chapter (Graduate) are collaborating on Fatherhood and Mentoring efforts. Brother Julius Hill, mentoring chair at Gamma Phi Chapter, sees a great opportunity for collaboration after Rho Psi came to H.G. Hill for their Black History Program. The young brothers had all the students on the edge of their seats as they hopped and told the story of Black Fraternities on college campuses. The students continue to ask about when they are coming back. Both chapters are excited about future activities. ///

### Advocacy in Action: Brother Dejuan Conley Leads the Charge for Health Awareness



The Murfreesboro Ques and Mu Zeta undergraduates partnered to raise awareness on the spread of HIV/AIDS.

**Murfreesboro, TN** – In Omega, we pride ourselves on Scholarship, Uplift, and service beyond our chapter meetings. Brother Dejuan Conley, 8-22-Omega Lambda Lambda, embodies these principles through his commitment to improving the health and well-being of Black men in Tennessee and beyond.

Pi Gamma Gamma proudly highlights his leadership through the Fatherhood and Mentoring/Health Initiative, where he has raised awareness around the increasing rates of HIV/AIDS among Black men by studying statewide trends, collaborating with community partners, and ensuring culturally grounded information reaches those most impacted. His recent appearance on **Let's Talk** on 99.1 FM further emphasized the importance of education, early testing, and open dialogue on this critical issue.

Brother Conley's work extends beyond awareness through partnerships with **Cutting Out Stigma (C.O.S.)**, **Street Works Nashville**, and **Anointed Handz Barbershop**. By using his barbershop as a trusted community space, he creates stigma-free conversations around HIV/AIDS and male sexual wellness while providing prevention education, testing information, and access to resources. His impact now reaches beyond Tennessee, as he has been invited to support a public health initiative in Boston, where he will help pilot the program pending grant approval, reflecting the strength of his community-centered approach.

As part of Pi Gamma Gamma's Fatherhood and Mentoring/Health Initiative, Brother Conley continues to serve alongside our Mu Zeta bruhs, spreading critical information about sexual health and wellness. Brother Conley's service reflects an Omega man in action—scholarly, intentional, and committed to uplift.

Whether on the airwaves, in the barbershop, or through partnerships, he consistently centers the well-being of Black men and families.

As the Murfreesboro Ques, we proudly stand behind Brother Conley and remain committed to supporting this critical work. ///

**The Mighty 6<sup>th</sup> District: North and South Carolina**  
Chairman Bro. Warren T. Davis

**Annual Coat & Turkey Giveaway**

**North Carolina** – Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) District Chairman Brother Warren Davis, a proud member of the Alpha Omicron Chapter in Rocky Mount, NC, hosted his annual **“Coats Cause We Care”** and Turkey Giveaway this past November 2025. With the support of volunteers from the Divine Nine organizations, the event brought together nearly 2,000 people at the park to receive coats and turkeys for Thanksgiving and the cold winter season.

This initiative is designed to ensure that no one in the community goes hungry or cold during the winter months. Each year, the event has grown larger and more impactful. Over the past four years, the brothers of

Alpha Omicron have distributed more than 3,000 turkeys and well over 10,000 coats to families in need.

Brother Davis and the Alpha Omicron Chapter continue to embody the spirit of service, unity, and compassion, making a lasting difference in communities at large and beyond. ///



**Omega Scholars Program – Alpha Omicron Chapter**



**Rocky Mount, NC** – The Omega Scholars Program of the Alpha Omicron Chapter was recently treated to a special experience on the campus of North Carolina Central University. The brothers were warmly welcomed by the undergraduate brothers of Tau Psi Chapter, who provided an engaging tour and shared their stories about campus life. During the visit, participants explored the campus and gained valuable insight into the opportunities for higher education. Since its inception, the Omega Scholars Program has raised over \$500,000 to help send young men to college and pursue their academic goals at institutions of higher learning.

Brothers Corey Mercer, James Mercer, and Victor Ward, have worked tirelessly to ensure that no student is left behind in the pursuit of education and knowledge. This impactful program hosted every two years by the Alpha Omicron Chapter in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, pairs high school juniors and seniors with mentors. Over the course of six weeks, participants receive guidance, support, and resources designed to help them succeed academically and personally.

The Omega Scholars Program continues to embody the fraternity’s commitment to scholarship, mentorship, and service empowering the next generation of leaders. ///





## Traffic Safety Session - Tau Gamma Gamma Chapter

**Fayetteville, NC** – The Tau Gamma Gamma Mentoring and Fatherhood Program partnered with Westover High School, Westarea Elementary School, and Fayetteville Chief of Police Roberto Bryan to deliver an impactful mentoring session focused on traffic safety and police protocol.

Earlier this year, E.E. Smith High School suffered a heartbreaking loss when three young aspiring football players tragically died in a speeding accident after football practice. In response, the mentor program recognized the urgent need to educate students on safe driving practices and proper procedures during traffic stops. Chief Roberto Bryan led the session, walking students through the protocols to follow when asked to pull over by law enforcement. Students were placed in the driver's seat to simulate real-life scenarios, learning what officers are

expected to do during a traffic stop and how they, as drivers, should respond calmly and safely.

This initiative reflects the program's commitment to mentorship, safety, and empowerment, ensuring that young people are equipped with knowledge that can protect their lives and strengthen trust between the community and law enforcement. ///



## South Carolina

### Bridge Builders Mentoring Program, Epsilon Nu Chapter –

**Spartanburg, SC** – On Saturday, September 27, 2025, mentees of the Bridge Builders Mentoring Program (Epsilon Nu Chapter, Spartanburg, SC) participated in a dynamic STEM initiative entitled “Bridge Builders: A Scientist for a Day.” The program introduced students to the importance of STEM and demonstrated how science, technology, engineering, and mathematics impact their daily lives.

The session was led by Dr. Rosianna Gray, a Fulbright Scholar with a Ph.D. in Biology (specializing in Bacterial Genetics) from the University of Alabama. Dr. Gray, a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., currently serves as the Dean of Teaching and Learning at Waubonsee Community College.

Adding to the day's inspiration, Bro. Dr. Leonard Starks the first African American to earn a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the Georgia Institute of Technology delivered an energetic presentation on the contributions of Black men in STEM. Dr. Starks is currently the Dean of Students at Viking Early College and serves as Co-Chair of the Assault on Illiteracy Committee for the Mighty Sixth District. Each mentee received a white lab coat emblazoned with the Bridge Builders logo, symbolizing their role as “scientists for a day.”



In addition to Dr. Starks, several Epsilon Nu brothers working in STEM fields assisted with the day's activities:

Bro. Michael Ray, Basileus – Senior Electrical Engineer

Bro. Ifekan-Shango Simon, MD – MedCare Medical Director

Bro. Javon Faison Sr. – Business Intelligence Developer

Bro. Keenen Cory – Information Systems Troubleshooter

Bro. Allen Hill – Retired Analytical Chemist

The Bridge Builders Mentoring Program continues to inspire young minds, exposing them to higher education and professional pathways while reinforcing the fraternity's commitment to scholarship, mentorship, and service. ///

Program Chairmen: Bro. Alvin Lewis, Sr. & Bro. Ralph Patin. Chairman: Bro. Curtis Martin



## **Choose To Grow “In His Steps Ministries”**

Submitted by: Bro. Derian Knox  
Mississippi - State FMC Chairman



**Canton, Mississippi** – The Omega Men of Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter officially kicked off the 2025–2026 school year with **Choose To Grow** at In His Steps Ministries. **Dr. Juanita Doty** provided an inspiring introduction to the new scholars, setting the tone for a powerful mentoring year ahead.

This year will feature approximately 26 sessions covering a variety of essential topics. In each session, mentors will lead discussions designed to strengthen

learning, personal growth, and development. The A-TEAAM Ambassadors and ESTEEM GEMS will continue to apply these lessons beyond the program, building a humanity-centered mindset and leadership skills that positively influence their peers, families, and communities.

Session One focused on the Pledge/Promise and Getting to Know Each Other, laying the foundation for a year of growth, commitment, and shared success. ///

## **S.T.E.M Youth Workshop**

Submitted by: Bro. Cameron Simmons  
Florida - State FMC Chairman

**Tampa, FL** – Pi Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Inspires Tampa Youth Through Hands-On Rocket Assembly Workshop

The Pi Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. continued its long-standing commitment to uplift and mentor young people by hosting an engaging STEM-focused mentoring session with local youth at the City of Tampa Parks and Recreation. Approximately 22 enthusiastic participants took part in the hands-on workshop, where they learned how to assemble and prepare model rockets for launch.

The initiative, led by dedicated members of the Pi Iota Chapter, aimed to spark curiosity, build confidence, and introduce youth to the exciting world of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Throughout the session, fraternity mentors guided each youth step-by-step—explaining rocket components, demonstrating assembly techniques, and emphasizing safety and teamwork.

For many participants, this was their first experience building a rocket. The workshop fostered not only

technical skills but also critical thinking, patience, and pride in completing a project from start to finish. Laughter, focus, and excitement filled the room as the rockets came together piece by piece.



This mentoring activity reflects Omega Psi Phi’s core principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift, with Pi Iota brothers working to ensure young people have access to positive role models and enriching educational experiences. The chapter continues to collaborate with community partners—such as Tampa Parks and Recreation—to create programs that broaden horizons and empower youth for future success.

The rocket assembly event was yet another meaningful example of how service, mentorship, and brotherhood can inspire the next generation to aim higher, dream bigger, and reach for the stars. ///

## Bridge Builder

Submitted by: Bro. Cameron Simmons  
Florida - State FMC Chairman

**Middleburg, FL** – The Psi Mu Nu Chapter of recently hosted an engaging and educational mentorship session designed to strengthen knowledge, expand horizons, and foster meaningful conversations between mentors and mentees. The event began with a mentee check-in, allowing mentors to connect individually with participants about their well-being, academic progress, and any challenges they were facing. To energize the group and celebrate cultural pride, mentees then took part in a Black History trivia activity where correct answers earned prizes, creating an exciting and educational atmosphere.

One of the most impactful moments of the day was a presentation by Brother Edward Smith, who delivered an insightful discussion on money-making opportunities associated with different levels of



education, ranging from a high school dropout to high school graduate, associate's degree, bachelor's degree, master's degree, professional degree, and doctorate degree.

His message emphasized how furthering one's education can open doors, increase earning potential, and

broaden career opportunities.

The learning continued with additional general-knowledge challenges that included questions about current news events, Florida history, anatomy and body-part information, and Jacksonville's local history, with more prizes awarded for correct answers. The session concluded with closing remarks and words of encouragement, reminding mentees to carry the day's lessons forward and continue striving toward excellence. ///

## Reigniting the Light.

Submitted by: Bro. Cameron Simmons  
Florida - State FMC Chairman

**Cocoa, FL** – The Gamma Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. proudly celebrated a significant milestone during its annual gala, marking the official restart of the chapter's youth program. In a moment filled with pride, purpose, and community spirit, the chapter introduced eight young men to the community as the newest participants in this revitalized initiative. The gala served as a powerful reminder of the chapter's enduring commitment to mentoring, uplifting, and guiding young men toward positive futures. Attendees, including fraternity members, families, supporters, and community leaders, welcomed the participants with enthusiasm and encouragement. The



introduction of these eight young men symbolized not only a fresh beginning for the youth program but also the continuation of Gamma Nu's legacy of service, leadership development, and dedication to the next generation. Through this renewed effort, the chapter aims to

provide mentorship, educational support, character building, and opportunities that align with the fraternity's core principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. The gala's warm atmosphere and inspirational purpose set the stage for a promising new chapter in the lives of these young men and reaffirmed Gamma Nu's ongoing commitment to shaping future leaders within the community. ///

## HBCU Black College Football Weekend.

Submitted by: Bro. Barrette Walker  
Georgia - State FMC Chairman



**Columbus, GA** – Omega Lamplighters of Columbus, Georgia traveled to attend the 2025 Celebration Bowl HBCU National Black College Championship in Atlanta, Georgia. The travel agenda was packed with activities in addition to watching the (MEAC) Champion South Carolina State University take on

(SWAC) Champion Prairie View A&M University. Along the way, Omega Lamplighters were met with a visit from Alumni Youth and former mentees for a mentoring session to discuss the topic of “What’s College Like and What were the Challenges you faced this semester.”

## Omega Lamplighter and Sparks Turkey-Day Classic Experience

Submitted by Renardo Gadie

**Montgomery, AL** – On Thursday, Nov. 27, 2025, Dexter Avenue in Montgomery, came alive for the annual Turkey Day Classic Parade. Among the color and pageantry, two groups stood out for their warmth and energy: **the Omega Sparks and the Omega Lamplighters**, youth mentoring programs that marched side by side, sharing smiles and handing out candy to an excited crowd.



Sponsored by the Sigma Phi and Omega Iota Iota chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the presence of these youth on the parade route underscored a simple, enduring purpose: to invest in young people, model

community service, and connect generations through positive examples. Parents, mentors, and children moved together along Dexter Avenue, turning a holiday tradition into a living classroom about civic pride and mutual care.

The sight of boys greeting onlookers, waving, and distributing treats, was a small but vivid reminder that mentorship happens in ordinary moments.

For Montgomery residents, the Omega Sparks and Omega Lamplighters offered a hopeful image of continuity that will shape the leaders of tomorrow.

As the parade wound down, the laughter and applause lingered. The Sigma Phi and Omega Iota Iota chapters’ support of these youth programs continues to knit community and tradition together, ensuring that holidays like Turkey Day remain occasions not only for celebration, but for connection and care. ///



## Montgomery Bus Boycott: 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

Submitted by: Bro. Dee Pogue  
Alabama - State FMC Chairman

**Montgomery, AL** – Omega Sparks joined students from across the Southeast at Troy University’s Rosa Parks Museum as Montgomery celebrated the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott and launched a 381-day movement to activate its legacy. Hosted by the Southern Youth Leadership Development Institute, founded by Doris Crenshaw (pictured) and Speaker included Dr. Bernice King, daughter of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. ///



### Omega Sparks Participate in Rosa Parks Day Youth Leadership Forum & Brunch

**Montgomery, AL** –

On November 29, 2025, Omega Sparks proudly participated in the **Rosa Parks Day Youth Leadership Forum and Brunch**, held under the inspiring theme: “Voting is Essential: From the Pews to the Polls – Training



Grounds for Tomorrow’s Leaders.” The event featured impactful breakout sessions led by distinguished community leaders: “The State of Youth: Conflict Resolution” The Honorable Judge Pamela Higgins: “Educating for Success: Reaching Our Goals Through



Soft Skills” Dr. Anthony Brock; “The Impact of Voting: How the Vote Controls Our Lives,” by Councilor Franetta Riley.

In addition, the Omega Sparks had the meaningful opportunity to tour the replica of the bus where Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat—an act of courage that ignited the Montgomery Bus Boycott and forever changed the course of American history. ///

### One Omega Man – a History Maker (Percy Lavon Julian, PhD) Born, Montgomery, Alabama, 1899

- Ω Completed undergraduate education DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, in 1920 and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa the same year. Phi Beta Kappa was founded in 1776 and accepted its first black applicant and scholar in 1877.
- Ω A Chemist; honored by many – even to this day; building named for him at Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.
- Ω Brother Julian’s scholarly heights set the standard expected of Omega men.
- Ω Inspired by his achievements, the **September 1922 issue of Oracle** stated: *Education is the nation’s greatest asset, and the annual augmentation of the number engaged in academic pursuits furnishes an unfailing sign of progress.*



*Of students, there are many, but scholars remain few.*

## 8<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Michael Graham, Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring

Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota

### Students, Together, After School, Reading (S.T.A.R.)

Spaght Science and Communications Magnet School

Submitted by Michael Graham

**Wichita, KS** – Gamma Upsilon Graduate Chapter's, S.T.A.R. program is an after-school literacy tutoring initiative designed to help 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students with their reading skills. The program offers one-on-one reading support focusing on comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary.

The final quarter of the 2025 fraternal year finished with a BANG in the 8<sup>th</sup> District. Here are a few highlights from the Home of The Heavy Weights – Mighty 8<sup>th</sup> District!!

1. Beta Omega- Omicron Xi collaborated for a dynamic and instructional STEM event (Egg-Stronauts) \*this is one of a series of STEM events.
2. The Brothers of Omicron Xi provide the "Welcome Gauntlet" at Hickman Mills School in KC \*Welcome students with breakfast throughout the week\*
3. Nu Rho: Partnership In Education (Highland High School) \*Mentoring Programming – k – 12\*
5. Gamma Upsilon: These Brothers partner with the SPAGHT Magnet School to close the reading gap via their After School Reading Program.
6. Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> The brothers of the 8<sup>th</sup> convened in Kansas City for the Winter Leadership Meeting. Friday: Undergrad Forum- this was dynamic and showcased why the future of the 8<sup>th</sup> is very promising to deliver life leaders across our nation!!

Saturday: The meeting was highlighted by our 8<sup>th</sup> District FMC committee giving leadership to a new endeavor that is designed to partner brothers with another brother to create weekly dialogue highlighting these topics: Mental, Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual well-being plus Goal Setting.

\*Brothers will dialogue weekly, and will report the effectiveness at our 8<sup>th</sup> District Meeting in Omaha, Neb, April 2026.



Back Row Far Right: Bro. Phillip Rivers. Front Row 3rd From Far Left, Bro Rivers' son.





## **Historic Visit to Grambling University by 42<sup>nd</sup> Grand Basileus**

**Grambling, LA** – October 9, 2025 Brothers of Gamma Gamma Chapter welcomed Grand Basileus Ricky L. Lewis to the **Grambling University** campus. Upon arrival at the Monroe, LA airport, Grand Basileus Lewis was met by brothers of Gamma Gamma Chapter. This was *the first time* this area of the 9<sup>th</sup> District has been honored by a visit from a Grand Basileus of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



The brothers were excited with the Grand Basileus' presence. That fact was made clear to Grand Basileus Lewis by David Washington, 9<sup>th</sup> District FVDR who reminded GB – 42 of the significance of his visit. "Let me give you the reason why," said 9<sup>th</sup> District FVDR, "You will be the 1<sup>st</sup> ever sitting Grand Basileus to come on the campus of Grambling State University. That is huge and historical."

The message to the Grand Basileus and first Lady Vicky Lewis was two-fold: first, the brothers let it be known that they were "praying for traveling grace for you and the 1<sup>st</sup> Lady. And, second, the brothers of Gamma Gamma Chapter appreciate your visit to Grambling."

Brother Asriel McLain, messaged the Grand: *"Greetings Brother Grand: Welcome to my neck of the woods Lincoln Parish. My parents were GSU graduates. I was born in nearby Ruston and was one of the first blacks to attend Ruston High where our good brother Coach Crow is assistant principal."*

**Grambling is really a child of Tuskegee** in that a few miles west of the campus is the Liberty Hill Baptist Association ... where Baptist ministers who were farmers contacted Booker Washington to send someone to start a school. He sent Charles Adams and the rest is history. My father and my brother were association moderators. Thank you for making history as the first GB to visit to visit GSU and Lincoln Parish.

Be blessed, Brother Asriel McLain, 2-Summer-1979, "Sinner", Epsilon Chapter, New York. ///

## **Houston Omegas & Troop 242 Unite for Thanksgiving Service**



Thanksgiving H.O.M.E. Project. Together, Omega men and Scouts prepared and delivered over 500 meals to seniors in the Sunnyside and Third Ward communities.

**Houston, TX** – The Houston Area Coalition of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., partnered once again with the historic WABC Troop 242 to support the YWCA Annual

This annual project reflects the Fraternity's International Fatherhood & Mentoring mission—bringing Omega role models and youth together in meaningful service. Working side by side, the partnership reinforces leadership, discipline, and the importance of giving back.

"Our young men see Omega leadership in action," said Scoutmaster Sedric Myers. "Service isn't an event—it's a lifestyle."

The collaboration between the Houston Omegas and Troop 242 continues to strengthen families, uplift the community, and serve as a model for impactful mentoring. ///



**Houston, TX** – Nu Phi Chapter was honored to serve at the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Breakfast with Santa, hosted by the National Pan-Hellenic Council of Houston at the historic Blue Triangle Multicultural Community Center. This beloved holiday tradition brought together families and children ages 18 months to 13 years old for a morning filled with joy, fellowship, and community connection.

The event featured magical moments as children met Santa—portrayed by a Nu Phi Brother—sharing their holiday wishes and receiving beautifully wrapped gifts. Through the generosity of donors and volunteers,

children received brand-new toys, bicycles, educational books, and essential items, creating smiles and memories that will last well beyond the holiday season.

The celebration was enhanced by a warm and festive atmosphere, complete with a delicious breakfast, uplifting music, and the spirit of togetherness shared by families and community partners. Beyond the gifts, the event reinforced the importance of service, unity, and compassion during the holiday season.

Nu Phi was proud to be part of this meaningful tradition, continuing a legacy of uplifting families and spreading holiday cheer throughout the Houston community. ///

## Xi Rho Chapter: Finding Pathways for Youth to Worship

### **West Memphis, AK – Living Our Creed:**

Through the Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative, the young men of Omega Uplift Academy discover a sacred pathway to God and worship within the church—a journey rooted

in purpose and anchored in faith. This initiative begins by affirming manhood as a divine calling, teaching these boys that true strength is found in humility, responsibility, and service. Guided by Omega men who model integrity, these youth learn that being a man is not about dominance but about stewardship—leading families, communities, and congregations with love and accountability.

**Spiritual Toolkits:** The program emphasizes scholarship as a spiritual discipline. Education becomes more than academic achievement; it is an act of worship, a pursuit of wisdom that honors God. Through tutoring, goal setting, and exposure to higher learning, young men are equipped to excel in school and life, understanding that knowledge is a tool for liberation and leadership.

**God is in All That We Do:** In every challenge, the Fatherhood Initiative instills perseverance. Life's trials are reframed as opportunities to grow closer to God. Through mentorship and group fellowship, boys learn resilience—how to rise after setbacks, how to trust. This perseverance shapes character, preparing them to withstand adversity and remain steadfast in their spiritual walk.



**Everything Translates into Love:** Finally, the heart of the initiative is uplifting others as we climb. Youth are taught that worship extends beyond Sunday service; it is lived through acts of kindness, community service, and advocacy. By serving their neighborhoods and supporting peers, these young men embody Christ's love becoming beacons of hope and transformation. Through manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift, the Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative through the Omega Uplift Academy does more than mentor—it ministers. It creates a generation of young men who not only come to God but lead others to Him, worshiping in spirit and truth, and living lives that glorify the Father.

**Conclusion:** The Xi Rho chapter was established in 1964 in Forrest City, Arkansas, by eight founding members. It has since relocated to and continues to serve the northeastern Arkansas community. The chapter plays a vital role in fostering leadership and community service in its region. Members actively participate in mentoring programs and community outreach initiatives, aiming to improve the quality of life in their service areas, which include several counties in Arkansas. For more information about their programs and initiatives, you can visit their official website. ///

# Omega Stars Mentorship Program Expands Community Impact

Submitted By: Bro. Walter Taylor III (3-24-EA)

**Fort Worth, TX** – The Omega Stars Mentorship Program, supported by the Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., has continued its mission of uplifting and empowering youth through a series of community centered initiatives. From mental health education to hands on service projects, the program has demonstrated its commitment to developing responsible, informed, and community minded young leaders.

A youth mental health awareness training led by a mental health specialist from **Children on the Mend, Inc.**, marked the formal beginning of the 2025 session on Saturday, August 16. The training, which took place at the start of the new program year, gave mentees vital resources to start the 2025–2026 academic year. The expert provided advice on how to spot stress indicators, get support, and take care of oneself and subjects that are becoming more crucial for today's kids.

In addition, the session promoted candid discussions, and enabled mentees to speak up for their peers' and their own mental health. The program was



commended by mentors and parents for giving the younger generation the tools they need to confidently handle social and academic challenges.

**Habitat for Humanity:** Epsilon Alpha Brothers and several Omega Stars collaborated on a *Habitat for Humanity* project on Saturday, October 11, demonstrating the program's continued commitment to character and community development. Volunteers painted two houses during the day as part of the chapter's Community Enrichment Initiative, which highlighted their interest in cooperating to improve nearby communities.

The project gave mentees practical experience in civic participation, teamwork, and responsibility – values that



Omega Psi Phi upholds. After the service activity was finished, members continued their day of community service by ushering at the NAACP Freedom Fund event. Their participation provided mentees with an up-close view of community leadership in action while also supporting the organization's continuing civil rights initiatives.

November was the last month of the service season. The Epsilon Alpha Mentorship Committee and Omega Stars mentees worked together again on Saturday, November 22, to help families in need over the Christmas season.

The group put together and gave more than 100 turkey baskets to locals in an act of kindness and teamwork.



In addition to addressing acute food hardship, the program gave mentees a significant chance to give back during a period that is typically focused on thankfulness and community. Members of the chapter stressed the significance of instilling in young people the value of service at a young age, emphasizing that leadership is based on both accomplishment and compassion.

Across all three events, the Omega Stars Mentorship Program demonstrated its holistic approach to youth development while balancing educational enrichment with community involvement and personal growth. Through partnerships with organizations such as Children on the Mend, Habitat for Humanity, and the NAACP, the program continues to make a measurable impact on youth and the broader community. ///



## **O.M.E.G.A. Academy Providing Lessons of the Past, Present and Future**

by: Brother Jay B. Marks, Ph.D., Program Coordinator and Arlanda Walker, M.S., Vice Basileus, Tau Kappa Kappa Chapter

**Southfield, MI** – Young Black males often receive mixed messages about manhood, identity, and success. The O.M.E.G.A. Academy (One Man Eager to Get Ahead), a male mentoring initiative of the Tau Kappa Kappa Chapter, offers guidance and support in Southfield, Michigan. The program empowers middle and high school students to navigate a society that often devalues, stereotypes, and dehumanizes them.

Founded in 2013 by Bro. Dr. Jay B. Marks, Bro. Dr. Jamie Brooks, Bro. Keith Bullock, and Bro. Cyrill Weems, the O.M.E.G.A. Academy, has a clear mission: *to uplift African American male youth through scholarly excellence and leadership development*. Rooted in the Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift, the Academy supports young men in their transition to adulthood.

Through an intensive eight-month program, mentors and mentees explore what it means to become responsible, socially aware, and culturally conscious men. Participants are guided to pursue and build success through weekly sessions on topics such as: “*What Is a Man?*”, financial literacy, mental health, STEM education, academic achievement, college planning, and career exploration.

Each month, the Academy offers field trips that combine learning, engagement, and brotherhood. These outings expose participants to new environments and opportunities, reinforcing camaraderie, accountability, and shared purpose.

A core pillar of the O.M.E.G.A. Academy is *uplift through service*. Our young men are already making a meaningful impact within their community by participating in service projects such as packing Thanksgiving food boxes for families in need and spreading holiday cheer through Christmas caroling at a senior living facility. These acts of service reinforce a powerful lesson: *manhood and leadership are not measured solely by personal achievement, but by one’s willingness to uplift others as they climb toward success*.

The impact of the O.M.E.G.A. Academy is clear in our participants’ outcomes. The program boasts a 100% high school graduation rate among those who stay through their senior year. Many go on to pursue higher education, carrying forward the values of discipline, scholarship, and leadership. Notably, several alumni of the O.M.E.G.A. Academy have continued their journey of brotherhood and

service by being initiated into our fraternity as undergraduates at their respective institutions, including the Psi Chapter at Morehouse College, the Alpha Chapter at Howard University, and the Sigma Chapter at Michigan State University. Others have chosen careers rooted in service and responsibility, becoming productive members of society in professions such as law enforcement, where they serve and protect their communities with integrity and purpose.

Together, these outcomes affirm the O.M.E.G.A. Academy’s commitment to developing not only successful students but principled men who are prepared to lead, serve, and uplift wherever life takes them.

To expose our young men to the growing fields of STEM and Artificial Intelligence (AI), we took them to **Inner City Robotics** in Detroit, MI. Inner City Robotics, owned and operated by Art Cartwright – a member of Omega Psi Phi, gave our mentees the opportunity to experience the development, innovation, capabilities, and operation of robots that walk, talk, dance, run, hop, sit, stand and many other actions that were exciting and surprising to see.

Our young men had the amazing opportunity to participate in our 2025 **Kwanzaa Celebration** specifically organized for them and their parents/guardians. The celebration consisted of great food, a drum/dance troop, and an interactive review of Kwanzaa’s significance.

More about the O.M.E.G.A. Academy can be found at: <https://www.taukappakappa.com/omega-academy>. ///





## Mentoring with Intentionality

By Lynn Sanders, Tau Mu Nu



**Macomb, MI** – The Tau Mu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., continues to exemplify its Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift through its impactful Boys Mentoring Program hosted at **Warren Lincoln High School** in Warren, Michigan. This program stands as a testament to the chapter's unwavering commitment to developing strong, confident, and socially responsible young men.

Currently serving 56 mentees supported by 37 dedicated mentors, the program reaches young men from 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, providing guidance and support during some of the most formative years of their lives. Meeting every Tuesday throughout the school calendar year, mentoring sessions offer consistent structure, accountability, and positive role modeling.

Through intentional programming and meaningful dialogue, mentors address critical life topics including health and wellness, conflict resolution, decision-making, peer pressure, teamwork, and strategies to avoid juvenile crime. By fostering open communication, leadership development, and personal growth, the Tau Mu Nu Chapter's Boys Mentoring Program continues to make a measurable and lasting impact on the young men it serves and the broader Macomb County community.

In addition to weekly mentoring sessions, the program emphasizes cultural enrichment and experiential learning. The young men recently participated in a visit to the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit, MI, where they were immersed in a night of cultural exposure. During this experience, they explored the lives and contributions of influential African American artists and inventors and were inspired by the powerful works of African American poets. ///



### *... from the Epilogue, To my children ...*

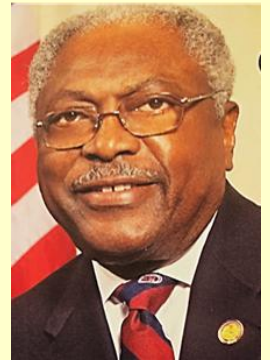
"It is my fervent hope that you will rise to the occasion and meet those challenges. I hope our colleges and universities will once again become places where students are taught to confront challenges and overcome obstacles. Whatever may be your chosen endeavors – public serve, professional pursuits, or business leadership – please reject the notion that government is nothing more than a necessary evil.

"Government is not an evil thing. It is fervor that keeps us focused and the glue that keeps the many as one as we pursue "a more perfect union." I hope you will learn that serving the public is not to be disparaged and that caring for your fellow man is not some sort of "socialist" or "leftist" endeavor.

"As many of my generation did, you should become a cadre of idealists who believe there is something noble about the democracy that serves the American people. As Americans and South Carolinians, I hope you are as proudly black and genuinely southern as your parents and grandparents were."

\*\*\*\*\*

From the book, **Blessed Experiences: Genuinely Southern, Proudly Black**, by James E. Clyburn, 2014, first a school teacher, then a United States Congressman from South Carolina. A proud member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.



## **Job Market Demands and Rankings: Factors to Consider**

By Brother Michael Haynes  
Phi Beta Beta

This tier list ranks STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) degrees based on career prospects, job market demand, salary potential, and industry growth as of 2026. Job market demand factors considered include: starting salaries, employment growth projections, degree versatility, and impact on emerging technologies.

### ***S-Tier (Top-Tier, Excellent Careers & Earnings)***

#### **Computer Science Software Development**

Roles: Software Developer, AI Specialist,

Cybersecurity Analyst, Data Scientist

Median Starting Salary: \$70,000–\$80,000;

Job Growth: 22% (much faster than average)

Highlights: Highly versatile, strong demand in almost all industries, AI and cybersecurity boom, remote work opportunities.

#### **Data Science/Analytics**

Roles: Data Scientist, Machine Learning Engineer,

Business Intelligence Analyst

Median Salary: \$90,000+;

Job Growth: 30–35% (*rapid growth*)

Highlights: Combines mathematics, statistics, and tech; highly in-demand across finance, healthcare, tech, and government.

#### **Engineering (Electrical, Mechanical, Civil, Robotics)**

Median Salary: \$80,000–\$100,000;

Job Growth: 9–14%

Highlights: Strong hands-on and problem-solving foundation, versatile across infrastructure, energy, and technology sectors.

### ***A-Tier (Strong Opportunities & High Salaries)***

#### **Biomedical / Biomedical Engineering**

Roles: Biomedical Engineer, Clinical Research

Associate, Biotechnology Specialist

Median Salary: \$70,000–\$90,000;

Job Growth: 11–20%

Highlights: Growing healthcare and biotech investment, opportunity to work on cutting-edge innovations and life-saving technologies.

#### **Petroleum & Energy Engineering**

Median Salary: \$90,000–\$120,000;

Job Growth: Stable, slightly declining in traditional oil, growing in renewable and energy tech

Highlights: Complex technical work, high salaries, energy transition openings in sustainable tech.

#### **Environmental Science / Sustainability**

Roles: Sustainability Analyst, Environmental Scientist, Climate Consultant;

Median Salary: \$65,000–\$85,000;

Job Growth: 8–12%, increasing due to renewable energy and government regulation focus

Highlights: Combats climate change, interdisciplinary, growing field with societal impact.

### ***B-Tier (Moderate Opportunity, Niche Impact)***

#### **Mathematics / Statistics**

Roles: Mathematician, Statistician, Quantitative Analyst

Median Salary: \$65,000–\$90,000;

Job Growth: 5–10%

Highlights: Analytical skills are highly transferable, foundational for data-driven roles, though fewer direct industries rely solely on mathematicians.

#### **Chemical / Materials Engineering**

Median Salary: \$70,000–\$95,000;

Job Growth: 6–8%

Highlights: Applied science for manufacturing and materials R&D, niche industries with specialized technical skills.

#### **Aerospace & Nuclear Engineering**

Median Salary: \$80,000–\$110,000;

Job Growth: 4–6%

Highlights: Specialized technical fields; slow growth but high pay for experience.

### ***C-Tier (Specialized or Slower Growth)***

#### **Geological / Marine Engineering**

Roles: Mining Engineer, Marine Engineer, Naval Architect

Median Salary: \$65,000–\$85,000;

Job Growth: 2–5% for traditional roles

Highlights: Location-dependent, careers tied to natural resources or maritime sectors.

#### **Actuarial Science**

Roles: Actuary, Risk Analyst

Median Salary: \$70,000–\$100,000+

Job Growth: 6–10%

Highlights: High-paying, requires certification; Limited career mobility.



## Key Observations

**Highest-growth sectors:** Data science, AI, cybersecurity, renewable energy, biomedical tech.

**Highest starting salaries:** Petroleum engineering, software development, certain specialized engineering fields.

**Most versatile majors:** Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Data Science.

**Fields impacted by societal trends:** Environmental Science, Biomedical Engineering (driven by climate change and healthcare innovation).

## Practical Recommendations

*Passion alignment:* Choose fields that match personal interests; engagement predicts long-term success. *Future-proofing:* Consider majors in AI, data science, sustainable technologies, and biomedical innovations. *Flexibility:* Engineering and computer science allow mobility across industries and leadership

roles. *Global Opportunities:* STEM fields, particularly data, software, engineering, and biomedical, provide international career prospects.

## Conclusion

The Tier List for STEM Majors in 2025 reflects a dynamic labor market where tech-driven and innovation-focused degrees such as Computer Science, Data Science, and Engineering occupy the top tiers due to their high demand, lucrative salaries, and versatile career paths. Majors like Biomedical, Environmental, and Mathematical sciences still offer strong opportunities, particularly for individuals who seek impactful, interdisciplinary work. Specialized engineering fields and actuarial careers remain valuable but more niche and competitive.

**References for Career Data:** [BLS.gov](https://www.bls.gov/), [NCES.gov](https://nces.gov/), [Payscale.com](https://www.payscale.com/), Rostrum Education, [GetEducated.com](https://www.geteducated.com/).

## Zeta Tau Bringing Uplift to Pasadena

Submitted by Bro Lindsey Bates



Zeta Tau Chapter Brothers, “Making Spirits Bright” by making their biannual trip to the Thrift Center donating several clothing items. This is one community uplift initiative of the Chapter. Of course, Santa is always around! Afterwards, the chapter fellowshiped over lunch at a local eatery.

**Pasadena, CA** – Zeta Tau Chapter continues to work in the Pasadena community in many capacities. Dr. Brian Banks is mentoring and finding mentoring professionals to help our youth through the “**Hope Now**” organization. Feedback from Mom’s is that they are already seeing positive behaviors in the home and anticipate the positive attitude to carry over to school.

December 2025, Zeta Tau men participated in the community giving Christmas trees away. Zeta Tau provided Santa to distribute toys and Santa decorations to kids and families impacted by the Eaton fire. We have observed that strong fatherhood and mentoring programs working together—especially in families or

communities—can yield positive behaviors and actions in individuals. Such positive interaction by fathers, father figures, mentors, and others community leaders who are willing to work with youth can be a tremendous help in reducing risky behaviors of youth, such as breaking school and home rules that could lead to suspension or expulsion or lock up.



How can we measure positive effects? One method is to improve academic and social outcomes from negative to positive. To accomplish positive outcomes, one must build in youth self-esteem and a sense of purpose. And yes, easier said than done.

Most individuals want to be heard; they also desire to have someone to listen to them by breaking cycles of neglect or absence. Thus, strengthening families and communities with strong fatherhood and mentoring programs to provide stability, direction, and hope, helps young people grow into healthy, capable adults. Zeta Tau is committed to this concept and work. ///

# Project Uplift: Bringing A Culture of Intentionality to Community

Submitted by Brother John Ervin III

**Modesto, CA** – Project UPLIFT (Utilizing Positive Leaders to Inspire Future Talent) is a community/afterschool-based mentoring and education program for youth with multiple risk factors. The program uses a one-to-one peer and group mentoring strategy. Mentors meet with youth in community and/or on their school campus during lunch or after school to accomplish the goals and objectives of the project.

Our Purpose:

- To identify, recruit, and train Mentors/Tutors from all sectors of the community.
- To develop and utilize youth leadership and life/social and resiliency skills.
- To improve academic achievement and instill a dedication to a culture of “Higher Education.”
- To develop a deep sense of positive self-image through education culture, history, and community service.
- To provide a development and training ground and social opportunities for Mentors.

About the program’s focus, its Founder and Executive Director, **brother John Ervin III**, affirms that: “Mentoring is food for my soul. It fills me with purpose and joy to know that I’ve played a role—big or small—in helping shape the lives of the young people I’ve had the privilege to mentor. Every smile I inspire, every breakthrough I witness, and every life I help guide toward a brighter path reaffirms why I do this work. It’s more than service—it’s a calling, and I’m deeply honored to walk this journey with them.”

For additional information, CONTACT US:(209) 222-8849 Email: [info@projectupliftmentor.com](mailto:info@projectupliftmentor.com)

## Is There Anything Too Hard for God?

### Eaton Fire (Altadena) Testimony Update: Status of Jennifer's and my displacement

Brother Steven Tolbert (2-TI-90), Chaplain **Omicron Mu** and Jennifer Tolbert

**Altadena, CA** – As some of my brothers know, on February 1, 2025, Jennifer and I leased a temporary home in San Marino shortly after the January 7 Altadena Fire that destroyed our home and 8 of 9 school buildings on the campus where she serves as Head of School (i.e., CEO).

Up to now, this home has served us well and for which we are extremely grateful. However, the lease expires on January 15, 2026 which does not line up with Jennifer's School and our home rebuilding efforts (Fall, 2028). When we leased the home, our landlords informed us of their intent to sell the house next year.

On October 14<sup>th</sup>, we met with them to request an extension to June 2028.

They did not say no but did tell us the extension was longer than they expected. As you can imagine, the uncertainty of having to find a place to sleep at night for the second time in 11 months triggered some PTSD in both of us.

After prayer (i.e., inviting God into our situation), we decided to take a proactive approach and begin looking for something similar or better than what we have in the same vicinity. One week later, Jennifer found a larger, completely updated home with a pool and jacuzzi, and a landlord willing to entertain a long-term lease (6/30/2028).

With the support of Saint Mark's School, its Board Chair, CFO and others, we were able to negotiate and

secure the long-term lease in exactly 2 weeks (October 28)! This provides us with the stability of a place to stay while we pursue rebuilding and other recovery efforts.

Moreover, the new rent is 25% lower than budgeted!

Today, it got even better. After sharing our update with our current landlords, they agreed to waive our last month's rent!

Our God is an awesome God! He gets all the glory and all of our praise! There is nothing too hard for Him. He truly is a miracle worker. Hallelujah!

Be encouraged Brothers. God is no respecter of person. If God did it for us, He will do it for you! ///



## 13<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Michael Robinson, Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring

Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, China, Dominican Republic, Germany, Ghana, Hawai'i, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, South Korea, St. Croix, St. Maarten, St. Thomas, United Arabs Emirates, United Kingdom

### Beyond the Silence: A Global Call to Protect Womanhood

Submitted by Brother Michael Robinson

**13<sup>th</sup> International District** - In a powerful Zoom gathering held during Nonviolence Prevention Month, more than 50 participants from across the globe, including South Korea, Japan, Florida, Washington D.C., St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, Texas, and other locations, came together for a transformative discussion titled: **"The Protection of Womanhood."** Sponsored by Black Women for Positive Change and co-hosted by the 13<sup>th</sup> International District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and A Bridge 2 Light (a non-profit organization).

The event featured a compelling keynote by Dr. Lawrence Henry, a retired U.S. Army Colonel, Founder and Executive Director of A Bridge 2 Light.

Dr. Henry, a survivor of Stage 4 combat-related colon cancer and a decorated veteran, brought not only his academic expertise but also deep personal conviction to the conversation.

With multiple advanced degrees and a PhD in Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Dr. Henry has dedicated his life to disrupting cycles of violence, particularly those affecting Black women. His message was clear: "We will fail miserably to protect our communities if we

cannot protect the women in those communities."

**DR. HENRY CHALLENGED** attendees to move beyond passive awareness and toward critical thinking and action planning, emphasizing that violence is not only physical but also structural and cultural. Using Johan Galtung's Triangle of Violence, Dr. Henry illustrated how systemic deprivation and harmful narratives perpetuate abuse and marginalization.

The presentation highlighted sobering statistics. In 2023, an estimated 51,000 women were killed by intimate partner violence, with countless others suffering in silence due to fear, economic dependence, and distrust of institutions. Dr. Henry shared harrowing cases, including the brutal murder of Robin Simpson in front of her daughter, underscoring the urgency of the issue.

Participants engaged in heartfelt dialogue, sharing personal experiences and obstacles to intervention. One attendee noted, "People just want to stay out of other people's business."

Another added, "We grew up in homes where children were seen and not heard. Abuse was swept under the rug." Others spoke to the role of mental health, military hierarchy,



and the need for community-based support systems.

**A RECURRING THEME** was the need for healing among Black men to truly protect Black women. As one speaker passionately stated, "You cannot love something if you don't love yourself. If you really want to protect Black women, heal our Black men."

The session concluded with a call to action. Build networks, educate communities, and listen with intention and care to the voices of women. Dr. Henry urged, "If you leave this conversation here, it was entertainment. But if you take it forward, it becomes training, implementation, and transformation."

As the world grapples with the pervasive issue of gender-based violence, this gathering served as a beacon of hope and a rallying cry for change. The message was clear. Protecting womanhood is not optional. It is essential to the survival and dignity of our communities. ///

## A Life of Service: Bro Brandon Wilkins

Named United Kingdom Boy Scouts Program Lead Director

By Brother Rob Taylor

**London, England** - Brother Brandon Wilkins of Chi Mu Mu Chapter in London was recently appointed as the United Kingdom Program Lead Director for the Boy Scouts. In this role, he oversees all Cub Scout packs across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, a network encompassing approximately 7,700 packs.

Brother Wilkins' connection to Scouting spans more than three decades. Even during his military service, he made it his mission to remain active in the Scouting community wherever he was stationed whether in South Korea, Germany, the United States, or now in England. His lifelong dedication to mentorship and youth development reflects the true spirit of Omega's cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

When asked what inspired him to pursue the Program Lead position, Brother Wilkins humbly replied, "Service, it's all I know. I have a lot of free time, so when I'm not with the brothers, working out, or at work, I prefer to give my time to the tiny humans. Even if I can't reach all of them, if I can make a difference in one or two kids' lives, then that's an accomplishment."

Brother Wilkins continues to embody the essence of service before self, proving that leadership and love for community transcend both borders and uniforms. ///



Brother Brandon Wilkins with Boy Scouts from Pack 404 which represents the Tri-base area (RAF Lakenheath, RAF Mildenhall, RAF Feltwell)

## Eta Iota Iota Chapter Promotes Bullying Prevention in St. Croix

By Brother Alaric Gardine



Brother Tyrone Sackey Jr. talking with the students about types of bullying.

**St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands** – Five Brothers from the Eta Iota Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., in collaboration with Greater Changes LLC, conducted a bullying prevention presentation for third-grade students at Lew Muckle Elementary School on October 29, 2025.

The interactive session aimed to educate students on the importance of kindness, respect, and inclusion, while helping them recognize the signs of bullying and how to safely respond. Through engaging discussions, role-playing activities, and real-life examples, the presenters

emphasized the value of standing up for others and seeking help from trusted adults.

The initiative reflects Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's ongoing commitment to community uplift and youth development. By partnering with Greater Changes LLC, the chapter reinforced its mission to empower young people with the tools and confidence needed to create positive and supportive environments both inside and outside the classroom.

School officials and teachers at Lew Muckle Elementary expressed appreciation for the program, noting that it provided students with practical strategies for addressing conflicts and promoting empathy. The Eta Iota Iota Chapter remains dedicated to continuing similar outreach efforts throughout the Virgin Islands, striving to make a lasting impact on the next generation of leaders and community members. ///



# Lambda Xi Continues Longstanding Support for Dongducheon Children's Center

By Brother Michael Robinson



Bro. Craig Battle, Bro. Michael Robinson, Bro. Tyrone Powers, Bro. Andrew Wesley, Bro. Eugene Gibbs, Bro. Rodney Brown, Bro. Delanta Yancey, Bro. Randy Artis, Bro. Clint Carmichael, Bro. Curtis Pugh, and Bro. Antoino Coffee.

**Dongducheon, South Korea** —Lambda Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., continues its commitment to service and community uplift through its ongoing partnership with the Dongducheon Children's Center, located just outside Camp Casey Army Base. Since 2015, the chapter has provided consistent support to the center, embodying the fraternity's principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift.

Established in 2014, the Dongducheon Children's Center serves as a safe and nurturing home for 50 residents, including children and young adults ranging in age from 6 to 21. Under the leadership of Manager Ms. Eun Suk Kim, the center operates under the guiding motto, "Our doors are open." This simple yet powerful statement reflects the organization's mission to provide care, stability, and hope to youth who need it most.

Lambda Xi Chapter visits the center on a quarterly basis, bringing not only essential supplies but also mentorship, encouragement, and fellowship. These visits often include recreational activities, educational support, and shared meals, allowing the brothers to build meaningful relationships with the residents. Each visit serves as a reminder of the fraternity's dedication to service

beyond borders and its ongoing efforts to strengthen community ties throughout South Korea.

"The Dongducheon Children's Center has become part of our extended family," said a Lambda Xi representative Brother Rodney Brown. "We're honored to stand with Ms. Kim and her staff, who do incredible work providing a safe and loving environment for these young people."

Over the past decade, the fraternity's consistent involvement has helped foster trust and continuity for the residents. Whether through providing supplies, clothing, or simply spending time engaging with the children, the brothers' presence has made a lasting impact.

Manager Eun Suk Kim expressed deep appreciation for the continued partnership, noting that the visits bring joy and encouragement to both the staff and residents. "The Brothers of Lambda Xi have been with us for many years," she said. "Their kindness and consistency remind our children that they are not forgotten and there are people who care deeply about their growth and happiness."

As Lambda Xi Chapter looks toward the future, its members remain unwavering in their commitment to uplift communities and inspire positive change wherever they serve. The enduring partnership between the Brothers of Lambda Xi and the Dongducheon Children's Center stands as a lasting testament to the strength of compassion, consistency, and community.

For the Brothers of Lambda Xi, service is not just an act, it is a calling. Through their continued support of the Dongducheon Children's Center, they reaffirm their belief that every child deserves opportunity, love, and hope for a brighter tomorrow. ///

## Lambda Xi Promotes Unity Day 2025

By Michael Robinson

### Camp Humphreys, South Korea –

Twenty members of the Republic of Korea Divine Nine joined the Brothers of the Lambda Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in celebrating Unity Day 2025 on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, at Camp Humphreys. Participants proudly wore orange to demonstrate solidarity in support of the 14th Annual Month of Non-Violence, sponsored by Black Women for Positive Change, and Bullying Prevention Month, sponsored by PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center.



Bro. Michael Robinson describing the history and purpose of Unity Day to members of the Republic of Korea Divine Nine.

Event organizer Michael Robinson opened the event by sharing the history and purpose of Unity Day, emphasizing the importance of continuing to promote peace and community awareness each year. He also highlighted ongoing challenges within local communities, urging participants to utilize available support resources, including Ms. Candice Johnson, Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate at USAG Humphreys, and Mr. Ron Kinsey, Clinical Director of Substance Use Disorder Clinic Care at Brian D. Allgood Army Community Hospital.

“Our goal is to place peace over violence,” Robinson stated, underscoring the spirit of the event. Unity Day serves as a national call to action to wear and share orange, a visible message that no child should ever experience bullying. Observed annually on the third Wednesday of October, Unity Day encourages kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. The Brothers of the Lambda Xi Chapter proudly joined the movement, reaffirming their commitment to promoting peace and unity within the community.

First launched fourteen years ago by PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center, Unity Day became a signature event of National Bullying Prevention Month. Its powerful message, “Make it Orange and Make it End. Unite Against Bullying!” continues to resonate across schools, organizations, and communities worldwide. Each year, Unity Day grows stronger as people come together to stand against violence and bullying, spreading the message that unity, compassion, and understanding are the foundations of lasting change. ///

## Fatherhood and Mentorship in Action: Coaching the Undefeated Raptors

By Brother Eugene Gibbs

**South Korea** - In alignment with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative, Brother Eugene Gibbs proudly served as a volunteer football coach for Child and Youth Services (CYS) on Camp Humphreys. Coaching the Raptors, a spirited group of 10–11-year-olds, Brother Gibbs guided the team to an undefeated 6–0 record, demonstrating the power of teamwork, discipline, and positive mentorship.

Throughout the eight-week season, Brother Gibbs, a certified CPR instructor, placed a strong emphasis on player safety, personal growth, and character development both on and off the field. The season concluded with a bowling celebration honoring the team's outstanding effort and sportsmanship.

This experience was especially meaningful as both of Brother Gibbs' sons (Carson, 10 & Cassius, 8) played on the team, further strengthening the bonds of fatherhood and mentorship.

Through his service, Brother Gibbs continues to exemplify Omega's enduring commitment to uplifting youth, empowering families, and mentoring the next generation of leaders. ///





# Youth Leadership Conference: Empowering the Next Generation at Camp Humphreys

By Brother Clint Carmichael



**South Korea** - The 2025 Youth Leadership Conference brought energy, inspiration, and empowerment to the Camp Humphrey's community the weekend of October 18<sup>th</sup> marking the second year the event has been hosted on the installation. With 60 enthusiastic youth participants, the conference once again proved to be a powerful platform for leadership development, education, and community connection.

The event featured eight dynamic speakers who shared invaluable insight across a wide range of topics, from college preparation and financial literacy to mental health, resilience, and social impact. Each session challenged attendees to think critically about their futures and provided them with practical tools for success both inside and outside the classroom.

"This conference is all about investing in the leaders of tomorrow," said one of the event organizers. "Our goal is to give these young people the confidence, resources, and community support they need to thrive."

Beyond the learning opportunities, the atmosphere was fun, engaging, and filled with laughter, dialogue, and

prizes. Attendees participated in interactive sessions, Q&A discussions, and team-building activities that fostered camaraderie and excitement throughout the day.

A highlight of the event was the continued collaboration between Lambda Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and The Republic of Korea Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., whose partnership and dedication have been instrumental in making the Youth Leadership Conference a success. Their combined efforts underscore the strength of unity, mentorship, and community service within the Humphreys community.

As the conference ended, the message was clear, leadership starts with service, preparation, and the willingness to make a difference. With momentum from this year's event, organizers are already looking forward to building an even bigger and more impactful conference in 2026. ///

Photos L-R: – Youth listening to motivational speaker Ms. Charece Newsome describing unshakeable: Building your future from the inside out. – Highlights of facilitators and participants at Lambda Xi Chapter's 2nd Annual Youth Leadership Conference held at Humphreys Middle School on Saturday, October 16, 2025.

## Phi Gamma Gamma Champions Unity Day and Advocates Against Bullying

By Brother Anthony Polk

**Kaiserslautern, Germany** – On October 22, 2025, as a celebration of Unity Day, the Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., engaged the Kaiserslautern Bulldog football team in a heartfelt discussion about the importance of unity, support, and solidarity. Emphasizing the power of coming together, brothers Anthony Polk, Toby Holland and Bruce Mackey highlighted the fraternity's ongoing commitment to fostering a safe and encouraging community through their Anti-Bullying Campaign.

During Phi Gamma Gamma's second annual Anti-Bullying and Unity Day event, the brothers emphasized the significance of standing up for those who are bullied by advocating for the Anti-Bullying Pledge. This meaningful initiative reflects Phi Gamma Gamma's dedication to uplifting youth and strengthening community bonds, a mission they plan to continue in the years to come. ///



Photos L-R: Brother Anthony Polk describing history and significance of Unity Day to Kaiserslautern Bulldog Football Team. Brothers Anthony Polk, Toby Holland and Bruce Mackey highlighting Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. ongoing commitment to fostering a safe and encouraging community through the Anti-Bullying Campaign.

## Lieutenant Colonel Retired Tyrone Powers: Advancing Youth Leadership and Excellence at Humphreys High School

By Brother Tyrone Powers



**South Korea** – Lieutenant Colonel Retired Tyrone Powers, a dedicated educator and retired U.S. Army officer, recently assumed the role of Senior Army Instructor (SAI) for the Humphreys High School JROTC Program—one of the largest and most dynamic programs in the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA).

After retiring from the U.S. Army in 2022, Brother Powers continued his commitment to mentoring young people through three years of service within the Atlanta Public School system before relocating to South Korea.

Since joining Humphreys High School, Brother Powers has placed a strong emphasis on developing disciplined, confident, and service-minded cadets. His leadership philosophy aligns with the Fraternal principles of Omega Psi Phi (Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift), which are reflected in the high expectations he sets for his students and the opportunities he creates for their growth.

On November 17, 2025, Brother Powers led an all-freshman color guard team in presenting the colors for

the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) annual meeting Thanksgiving dinner. The keynote speaker for the event was Major General Charles T. Lombardo, the current 2nd Infantry Division Commander, who also invited the cadets to participate in the ceremonial cake-cutting ceremony. The cadets executed their duties with precision and poise, showcasing both their hard work and the effectiveness of Brother Powers' early developmental efforts.

Under his leadership, the program has seen remarkable growth, expanding from 145 to 195 cadets in just a few months. His long-term vision is to build Humphreys High School into the largest and most competitive JROTC program in DoDEA, participating and excelling in national-level events across multiple disciplines.

Brother Powers' continued service, both to the military community and the young leaders he guides, embodies the core values of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. His work abroad showcases the reach of Omega's influence and its power to uplift communities wherever its members serve. ///

**Photos Clockwise: Humphreys High School all-freshman color guard team presents colors for the Association of the United States Army annual meeting Thanksgiving dinner held on November 17, 2025. - Lieutenant Colonel Retired Tyrone Powers with an all-freshman color guard team during the Association of the United States Army dinner. - Humphreys High School all-freshman color guard team participates in the cake-cutting ceremony with Major General Lombardo, the 2nd Infantry Division Commander.**



# Fostering Futures: Lambda Xi Promotes HBCU Excellence at Osan College & Career Fair

By Brother Eugene Gibbs



3 Photos Clockwise: Bro. Jamar Meadow (left), Bro. Eugene Gibbs (center), and Bro. Antonio Pitts (right) stand before an HBCU showcase featuring Norfolk State University, Benedict College, and South Carolina State University. - *Center Photo*; Bro. Jamar Meadow and Bro. Antonio Pitts engage with college fair attendees, providing information on college readiness. - *Far Right Photo*; Bro. Eugene Gibbs and Bro. Jamar Meadow interact with college fair attendees, offering guidance and support.

**South Korea** – The Men of the Lambda Xi Chapter continued their commitment to uplift and empower youth by hosting a successful display at the Osan Middle High School College & Career Fair on November 6, 2025. The event drew an impressive attendance of 200 participating students eager to explore pathways beyond high school.

The chapter's presence was particularly significant, as Lambda Xi was the only organization representing Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) at the fair. This critical representation provided students with direct exposure to the rich academic and cultural

legacies of these institutions, shining a spotlight on educational opportunities.

The Lambda Xi display table was a popular destination, offering valuable resources to students and parents. The table featured university giveaways, detailed scholarship information, and promotional materials for the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's annual Talent Hunt program.

By championing HBCUs such as Norfolk State University, Benedict College, and South Carolina State University, the chapter reinforced its dedication to inspiring the next generation of college-bound leaders.

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## Sigma Gamma Gamma Making a Difference

By Brother Cortez Pree

**Okinawa, Japan** - Brother Cortez Pree is leading a Youth Cutting Edge and Conditioning Mentoring Program in Okinawa, Japan, designed to build a strong foundation for young participants through structured physical conditioning and purposeful mentoring. The program meets on Mondays and Wednesdays and emphasizes personal development, discipline, and positive engagement.

As part of the initiative, Brother Pree administered the peace pledge on October 20, 2025, encouraging the youth to treat others with empathy, respect, and understanding. Participants were also provided an opportunity to share their perspectives on the current challenges facing their peers and the broader community, fostering open dialogue and self-expression. Through consistent mentorship and positive reinforcement, the program continues to make a meaningful impact by empowering youth and promoting values that support personal growth and community well-being. ///



## Lambda Xi Chapter Promotes Violence Prevention Month 2025

By Brother Michael Robinson



Brother Michael Robinson discussing bullying prevention 101 with youth and youth signing anti-bullying pledge.

**South Korea** – Throughout the month of October, the Brothers of the Lambda Xi Chapter lead a series of initiatives in support of Violence Prevention Month-2025. With a commitment to fostering safer communities, the chapter partnered with students, families, educators, and local organizations to promote peace and encourage positive decision-making.

From October 1–31, the chapter collaborated with the 13<sup>th</sup> International District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the Republic of Korea Divine Nine, Humphreys Middle School, Pacers National Bullying Prevention Center, and Black Women for Positive Change. These partnerships strengthen the chapter's mission of spreading awareness and standing firmly against all forms of violence.

Beginning October 1, the chapter joined Black Women for Positive Change in supporting the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Month of Nonviolence. On October 3, members hosted “The Protection of Womanhood,” a virtual presentation designed to highlight respect, safety, and advocacy.

The chapter also held two major anti-bullying events: October 13 at Osan Air Base and October 25 at Camp Humphreys Army Base. During both events, Brothers set up display tables where youth could sign anti-bullying pledges, receive free bookmarks from the Pacers National Bullying Prevention Center, and collect orange wristbands symbolizing unity and support.

On October 18, the chapter conducted a violence prevention briefing for high school students at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Youth Leadership Conference at Humphreys Middle School. The conference was co-sponsored with the Republic of Korea Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., reinforcing a shared commitment to youth empowerment.

Unity Day, observed on October 22, brought together the Republic of Korea Divine Nine for a group photo in orange attire. During the event, Brother Michael Robinson emphasized the message of “Peace Over Violence.” ///

**Friendship is Essential to the Soul!**