

-YMWAP NEWS-

October 28, 2019

October groups are going great. Recruitment and registration is being finalized. We had the second of three Financial Literacy workshops, and had a Harvard Admissions Counselor (who happens to be Des' cousin) come in and talk about what matters in college essays—he stressed making sure your essay expresses <u>who you are</u>, not just what you do or just focused on what you have overcome. We have been visiting all the schools at lunchtime to check in with boys and mentors.

Mentor training was held on October 23 and 24th. Mentors appreciated the opportunity to connect, review expectations, and discuss issues facing our young men through case studies. We also discussed Mindfulness, biases, and effective communications.

Jaykyri was invited by the Lewis Family Foundation to attend an October 26 presentation by Bryan Stevenson, author of "Just Mercy." Before Bryan spoke, a Boston historian shared the racial history of Boston, the roots of which are still impacting all of us.

We recognize that we are an era of heightened racial awareness, division, and sometimes heated discussion. We don't have answers but we are invested in helping our young men (mentors, and ourselves) to keep moving forward with highest expectations of ourselves and others and a commitment to making those expectations reality.



.... Jaykyri and Des