



-YMWAP NEWS-

May 1, 2020

How is everyone doing in this difficult time? Thinking of you all—stay well.

Connection with our young men

We are in pretty constant contact with the boys in the program through texts, FaceTime and Zoom. We meet by school, by grade, by weekly group. Our young men miss meaningful connection with their schools and their friends. 10th graders are coping, 12th graders are sad about the losses of senior year. In addition to the disruption in their schedules many are dealing with almost daily neighborhood violence. Some of their families have been affected by Covid-19.

College news

We have college acceptances ranging from Olin School of Engineering, U Mass Amherst Isenberg School of Business, BU, Northeastern, Bentley and Wentworth. Other students are going to BFIT for auto technology, and one to the military with the goal to become a police officer (we connected him to BPD Officer Mike who attends Hyde Park meetings).



Food Drop-off to YMWAP Families

The Lewis Family Foundation is donating a week's worth of food to 50 YMWAP families, twice (May 1 and 8), with Des and Jaykyri delivering the food curbside. Families are incredibly grateful.

Success Plans

Des led the redesign of the 12th and 10th grade Success Plans. We have sent them out and tasked mentors with making sure we get them all back. Success Plans include questions about daily routines, reading, what helps them be the best student, what they wish for their community, summer plans, career interests, and college choices.

YMWAP Team

In addition to ongoing YMWAP meetings, Marcia, Des and Jaykyri Zoom connect as a team a few times weekly. Jaykyri continues to meet with the Strong Leaders program. Jaykyri was named a finalist in the Mass Nonprofit Network Young Professionals category—the virtual award ceremony is in June.

Coming Up

Year-end evaluations for young men and mentors, plus request for senior statements Graduation – we will be buying graduation stoles with the YMWAP logo and planning some kind of celebration.

Thank you; please reach out with any questions or concerns—Jaykyri & Des