



## Young Man with a Plan Newsletter

August 31, 2022

"YMWAP is my second family"

### A Scene from YMWAP's Summer 2022



This summer YMWAP students and alums stayed connected and participated in activities at our space. YMWAP also served as a Boston Private Industry Council (PIC) worksite. As a culminating project, our 8 youth researchers presented to PIC staff on "Issues of Concern to Black Males," including the topics *Educating Males of Color*; *Mental Health in Black Communities*; *Black Men and the Bag*; and *Men of Color and Violence*. For these projects students conducted interviews and research, then worked collaboratively to develop final presentations, which were very well received. Students also did a SWOT analysis of our website, learned from guest educators about entrepreneurship in the arts, financial literacy, and effective writing. Past YMWAP director Austin James returned to show the Oscar-nominated film, "My Nephew Emmett," in which he acted, and discussed Emmett Till, Jim Crow South, and his college and career journey. The LoopLab of Cambridge filmed a promotional video we look forward to seeing when it's complete. We are now checking in with our college-bound alums and giving them good wishes, advice, personal care products, and even rides as they head to UMass Amherst, Dartmouth, Lowell, and Boston, and to Bridgewater, Salem and Framingham State colleges, BHCC and RCC, Temple U, Northeastern and BU.

Fall programming starts up September. We have hired two new excellent program staff who we will feature in next month's newsletter. They will help us serve more youth (240 in 2023) and develop the college and career partnerships and pipelines that will help our young men "in the middle" access sustainable futures and close racial wealth gaps.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions. Respectfully, Jaykyri Simpson, Ed.D