



Young Man with a Plan 2020 Report

Despite a most challenging year, Young Man with a Plan continues to grow and deepen our program impact. YMWAP boasts incredible program demand, attendance, and pride of belonging. In 2019-20 YMWAP helped 128 Black and Latino males build brotherhood, progress academically and socially-emotionally, and develop Success Plans, which we continuously monitor with our young men.



Senior Outcomes

We attended the graduations of all our seniors. They received college acceptances to Olin School of Engineering; U Mass Amherst, Boston, Lowell and Dartmouth; BU; Bates; Northeastern; Bryant; Bentley; Wentworth; Framingham and Salem State, and Bunker Hill. Two students are going to BFIT and one to the military with the goal to become a police officer, with advice from BPD Officer Mike.

Covid

Through the duration of this pandemic we have been in constant contact with young men in the program through texts, FaceTime and Zoom—individually, by school, by grade, by weekly group. We make sure they are safe, secure and doing their schoolwork. They ask for advice and assistance. Our young men miss meaningful connection with their YMWAP brothers, schools and their friends. In addition to the disruption in normal schooling, many are dealing with almost daily neighborhood

violence. Some of their families have been affected by Covid-19 illness. We have dropped off food, gift cards, video games, personal care and cleaning products.

Mentors

A cohort of eight school-based mentors received 16 hours of training in October 2019, with a focus on intrusive coaching skills, youth mental health, and social media issues. Mentors also attended brotherhood brunches during the year.



Boston Police Connection

BPD's Officer Michael Long has joined the YMWAP family and attended several weekly meetings to discuss criminal justice careers and community policing.

College Admissions

Troy Williams, a Black admissions counselor from Harvard spoke to our young men about college, college admissions, and the college essay.

Apprentice Mentors

Through a pilot launched in October, five apprentice mentors, 2018 graduates, assisted at weekly meetings in capacities that ranged from serving food and learning about expense budgeting to leading discussions about college and “lessons learned.”

Financial Literacy

We piloted a series of five Financial Literacy workshops with our 12th grade. Taught by certified financial advisor Isiah Benjamin, students played the “Rich Dad, Poor Dad Cash Flow” game, and discussed cost of living in Boston, the ROI of college, the slow game of building financial security, college financial aid, grants, scholarships and loans. They learned about compounded interest on savings and loans, and budgeting. As part of the financial literacy series guest educator Lenward Gattison shared his knowledge of home ownership and of real estate as a career.

Career Paths

Assistant Director Des Kennard led a project on Boston labor-market projections. Our students are ambitious and hungry for career guidance. They understand Boston's gentrification, rising costs of living, and the need to prepare for work that enables them to grow financially. With funding from EdVestors, we developed "job descriptions" for ten IT/Computer and ten Healthcare jobs with post-secondary education requirements ranging from a 2-year certificate to advanced degrees. YMWAP also formed a connection with Ben Franklin Institute of Technology.

Leadership Development

Jaykyri was selected into the 2020 cohort of Strong Leaders Program (Lewis Family Foundation) where he participated in Leadership Development sessions and received one: one executive coaching. Jaykyri was also named a finalist in the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network Excellence Awards in the "Young Professional" category.

Outcomes

100% of students agreed that as a result of participating in Young Man with a Plan: "I can make better decisions," "I have learned how to listen," and "I enjoy being part of the brotherhood." 97% agreed that "I feel like I am gaining a sense of purpose;" and 91% agreed that "I have progressed towards my goals" and "I have better relationships with teachers, friends, and family."

Delivering food donated by Lewis Family Foundation - Better Days - Zoom Check-In



"I learned that I am valued somewhere."

**Young Man with a Plan Financial Report
FY2020**

2020 Expenses	\$320,678
2020 Revenue	\$355,350
2020 Net Revenue	\$34,672
2020 Net Assets	\$82,618

Prepared by fiscal agent, The Preparatory Foundation Inc.

2020 revenue was received from the Charles Hayden Foundation (\$215,000); Cummings Foundation (\$50,000); Schrafft Charitable Trust (\$15,000); Cabot Family Charitable Trust (\$15,000); Grand Circle Foundation (\$10,000); EdVestors (\$6,500); Mary Curtis Trust (\$5,000); Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation (\$2,500); and individual donations.

Covid Relief funding, separate from the 2019-20 operating budget, was received from The Boston Foundation (\$25,000) and City of Boston (\$11,000).

Senior Statements

Participating in Young Man with a Plan has given me a place where I feel like I can communicate with men who really care about my future, I didn't really have that at home. This program has allowed me to understand what it means to be a man and what it means to get your life in order.

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What Young Man with a Plan means to me is an opportunity to grow with my fellow brothers. It's a place where we all feel connected and safe because we all have each other's backs. That type of relationship and connection is what I personally believe will help Blacks and Latinos because they teach us how to work together rather than fight among each other. This program helped me realize that I wasn't alone and that others were facing the same problems as me. I started making connections with my brothers. We help each other when someone is failing and are always supporting each other.

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The leadership and guidance from my mentors helped mold me into who I am socially and mentally. Participating in YMWAP surrounds me with people who not only look like me but share similar goals as me and for that I'm grateful of this program.

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Before coming into this program I had a whirlwind of problems. This group helped me learn how to think more on my actions and learn how to stop being so impulsive at times and really sit and concentrate. My wisdom grew a lot more although I had some of my own coming in. Thanks to this group I feel a lot more confident in my abilities and my words as a young man.

Young Man with a Plan helped me realize that in order for me to succeed I have to be willing to accept any and all challenges. Never shy away from a challenge because whether I win or lose there's always another opportunity for the taking. It also helped me realize how strong the word brotherhood really is and what it can do when it's surrounded by positive people.

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Des and Jaykyri are always willing to help but also always reassuring us that we still have to help ourselves because we are men. They know all the young men they've helped and seen prosper throughout these years will eventually become something. I respect and honor all that Des and Jaykyri have done for me. They're more than mentors to me. They are my older brothers.

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When I joined YMWAP I knew I was getting into something big. My life was going to be opened up mentally. The support I heard it offered just made me want to use that to my advantage. Not every plan will work but as long as you have plans you'll go somewhere in life.

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YMWAP made us the role models of the school and made sure we were held at high expectations for the benefit of others. Being young it's kind of hard to understand that role at first but once you take leadership it becomes easy.

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All of my mentors are the realest people I've ever met in my life. They might not have all the answers but they are experienced enough to know when something needs to change or when we need that extra push to keep from slacking. It's hard to not have the upmost love and respect for them because they keep it legit with us regardless of what the situation is. Building of trusting brotherhood with them just lets me know that they are young black men who still want to see other young black men succeed in any way shape or form.