



Young Man with a Plan (YMWAP) is a **THRIVING BIPOC-led** organization that delivers holistic mentoring and success planning to 290 young Black and Latino men aged 14 – 24 in Boston.



Launching in 2025: The Young Man Institute

Amplifying our Impact

We're often asked about our plans to serve more students or schools. Educators and parents frequently reach out for guidance and advice. YMWAP leaders are often asked to present on the needs of young men in corporate settings and at workshops and conferences.

For greater impact we're creating the Young Man Institute (YMI). We envision using our vibrant and welcoming Hyde Park space for convening educators, families, and the community; for sharing learning and curriculum; and for podcasting and publishing.

Staff-led professional development and convenings could address topics that include: Holistic Mentoring; Engaging the Rewired Brain, Creating Spaces of Belonging; Building Agency, Growth Mindset, and Tenacity; Coaching Skills; The Love Language of Accountability; Black Male College Access & Persistence; Success Planning; Career Exploration Strategies.

We envision learning shared by our students too. Right now, for example, young men in 11th grade are engaged in a two-year research project on Social Media and Mental Wellness, funded by Boston Children's Hospital. They are also researching climate resiliency and justice. Our new Institute can provide a great platform for young men to share their work.

Led by Dr. Jay Simpson, Young Man Institute learning formats can include:

- **Professional Development:** Research, presentations, readings/book clubs, films; train the trainer; sharing YMWAP's framework and curriculum with educators
- **Fireside Discussion:** Gathering educators, families, and partners on key topics—our first Fireside Chat featured Youth Mental Health with Boston's Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Dr. Kevin Simon
- **Cohort Learning Model:** Educators, mentors, and coaches learn in small groups over time to gain knowledge, insight, understanding and achieve better outcomes