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As we enter a new year, we find we have much to be thankful for. We have navigated through 2021 with much thoughtfulness, mindfulness, and audacity as we have never wavered in our mission to serve the youth who needed us most. When academic abandonment was apparent, we embraced our youth with hope and opportunity for a better future with our in-person support. The most important aspect of 2021 is that we remained connected to those who needed us most. A sense of belonging, competence, usefulness, and influence was evident through our community outreach and program service delivery models.

A special thanks to our staff and volunteers who we were able to rise to the occasion and continue to support our youth through the nations emotional and turbulent times.

It is through nurturing communication, full transparency, and support that we have been able to strengthen this organization and provide impactful signature programs. With our strategic plan, we have been able to increase our revenue, youth served, as well as provide families with additional resources and support.

We are grateful for each and every one of our Board Members, donors, friends, family, and partners for believing in our vision and celebrating in the success of our youth. Let's keep the momentum going strong and embrace 2022 with much courage for the present and faith for a brighter future for our youth and families.

Sincerely, Latisha Owens Founder/President

CEO MESSAGE







OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide youth with guidance, support, and encouragement to make positive decisions that lead to a successful life.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to provide the opportunity for youth to achieve their full potential to live a successful and rewarding life.

OUR HISTORY

Guiding Light Mentoring was founded in 2014 by CEO Latisha Owens. Ms. Owens felt a calling from God to provide youth with guidance, support, and encouragement in making positive decisions that would lead to a successful life. In her obedience to God, Ms. Owens started the business with just 5 mentors and 5 mentees and no budget. Ms. Owens believed so strongly in her calling, she used her own money to initially fund the organization. Relationships built through Guiding Light Mentoring have proven that mentoring is a key factor in the healthy development of youth.





OUR SERVICES

1. Youth Education Program

Our Education Program is focused on increasing the number of under-served youth through community-based education. We create mentee-mentor relationships with a focus on employment readiness and improving family environments. Participants are assigned an advocate to support coaching and tutoring. In order to drive high success rates, we support youth in developing an individualized service plan as a blueprint to establish both short- and long-term goals. The advocate aids in creating an environment that enables critical thinking, information literacy, and communication skills. Our program ensures participants are equipped with the tools to establish a safe and challenging atmosphere.

3. Youth Leadership Program

Our I AM ME Summer Leadership Program is committed to creating future leaders. The five-week leadership summer program supports youth by establishing 3 key principles: Growing Talent/Developing Oneself, Collaboration, and Making A Difference. During the summer program, youth acquire self-esteem and leadership and relationship building skills. Additionally, youth in the program will identify a need in their community and take on the role of a philanthropist by making a donation to a non-profit of their choice.

2. Youth Wellness Program

Our Youth Wellness Program is dedicated to improving the health of youth with a priority on social, cultural, and emotional intelligence of youth. This program is all about "Getting Up and Getting Out." Youth are exposed to a variety of activities and culture. This includes, but is not limited to, arts/crafts, group outings, dance, and sports. Integrated into this program are elements of self-preservation and self-worth. "Getting Up and Getting Out" helps to improve the minds and bodies of our participants and volunteers.

4. Tutoring Program

Our Youth Tutoring Program provides youth weekly assistance with their educational needs. Youth get help with test preparation, homework/class assignments, and are taught positive study habits.

5



Tasha Jones Porter Scholarship Fund

The Tasha Jones Porter Scholarship was created to honor Tasha's legacy of mentoring and growing others in support of the Guiding Light Mentoring's mission. She was a passionate board member who truly believed in the potential of everyone and that support, advocacy, and mentoring can go a long way to unleashing the best out of everyone. This is a mantra she carried through life impacting and changing lives one person at a time. It is therefore fitting that through this scholarship her great work can continue in support of the students of Guiding Light Mentoring to have a chance to better their lives with a scholarship to help them reach their dreams and life goals.



TASHA JONES PORTER

To read the news article:



To apply or donate to the fund: www.





A Legacy of Mentoring

6





Scholarship Recipient

Mariauna Samples-Boyd

Reluctant to failure, I have spent a tender 18 years fighting for a peace of mind, in stride of finding my true self. Even though I cannot remember my birth, it was said upon being born that I had a slight chance in comprehending the world we know. Those words alone became a burden on my brain before I could ever understand the process of development. In introduction, I am Mariauna Samples-Boyd, the first of five children. Growing up in a single parent household, I watched and observed true strength to apply it into my everyday thinking and living. As I aged in physical presence I also grew mentally, learning responsibility and accountability as a young child, taking on so much hardship without knowledge to build up my person. However, the thoughts of self-empowerment always lingered inside. So, my mind's eye was set on constant improvement. Even at 18 years of age, (leading to the point of living to 18) I have always struggled with fitting in with any and everything. Aside from having a loving family, outside of that structure was a constant battle when dealing with others. I had less friends and communicating skills. Therefore, I directed my time and dedication towards art. Music was also an outlet as well as video games. I also took a strong interest in my own imagination, creating and designing my own characters,





Scholarship Recipient

Mariauna Samples-Boyd

scripts, and plots in designing my own video game in inspiration of "My Little Pony." Considered a loner in search of life, I needed an outlet to express myself and broaden my communication and interaction with others. At the age of 14 years old, I enrolled in the Guiding Light Mentor Program with hopes of bettering my person in every aspect. I was set on closing my insecurities to open my mind to new heights and I gratefully state "Guiding Light" was the start of my development. Being involved in the program was an addition to my positive structure. The more I grew with the program, the more I grew as a person. I went from being anti-social to being able to speak openly. My confidence in myself grew in abundance in learning to love myself enough to trust in myself. Fast forward to the present time and date, no longer will I allow my insecurities to disable me. Starting Spring 2022, I will be attending AAC for animation design. I intend on making the most out of my experience, living out my dreams and evolving more in life. Before you look for acceptance from others, first you must accept yourself to love yourself. I also would like to give a special thanks to Ms. Sue for being an impressive, loving person, and a great mentor.





Mentor Program

Volunteers

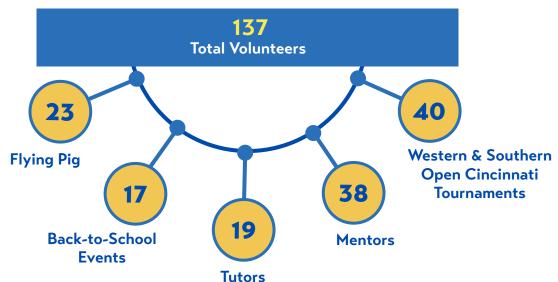
1,920+
Total Volunteer Hours

1,305.50 Mentoring



543.5 Community Events



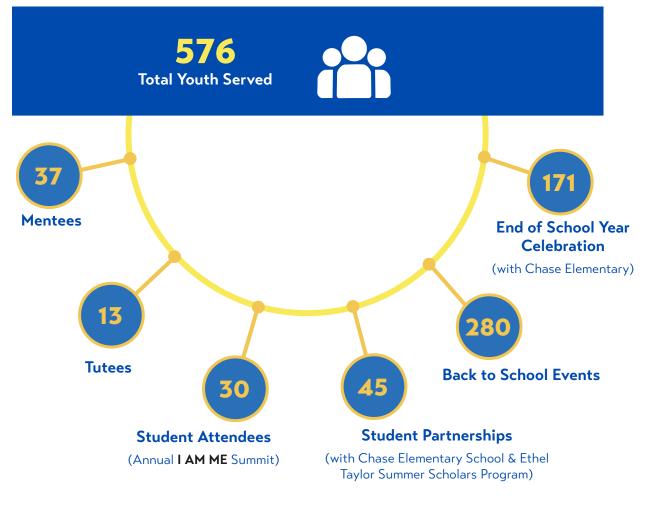








Youth Served









MENTEE OF THE YEAR

"Hello, my name is Kaleb Anderson, but I like to call myself Belak. I have been through a lot to only be 18 years of age that has helped mold and shape the person I am today. I had a troubled childhood that resulted in me having a hard time connecting with others as I got older.

Fast forward today, with a lot of support from others, I have learned a lot about myself and my mental health. I have made friends, learned new things, and am more self- aware of myself and the life I'm living. I love to play my guitar and make music, ride bikes, go hiking, eat, and try new things as I am very adventurous. After high school, college could be an option for me as I have an interest in obtaining a degree in a music program. Although I am only 18, I have years of different experiences that have helped me to learn about myself. I know there will be mistakes along the way, but those mistakes will just be lessons learned to make me better. Overall, I hope to get more out of the Guiding Light Mentoring program with my mentor Mitch."





MENTOR OF THE YEAR

Mitch Tidman is originally from England, although he spent most of his childhood being raised in France, so he sometimes likes to claim that he's French. To describe him you have to mention that he is first and foremost a father to three young women who he raised in the United States. Now that they're grown, he has eagerly stepped into a mentorship role with Guiding Light Mentoring. He is a natural leader, not shying away from providing direction, guidance, and advice. He has embraced his mentorship role, and with Kaleb he sees a young man with limitless potential. Mitch enjoys introducing Kaleb to new experiences, new activities, and most importantly, new foods (in jest, but seriously they love to eat!). As Kaleb continues the transition from adolescent to a young adult, Mitch is hopeful that their mentorship continues to provide him with encouragement, compassion, and self-confidence.



End of School Year

Celebration at Chase Elementary School

171 students were in attendance. Partners for this event included K.N.E.W. Youth, Urban Valley, and Forever Kings. The purpose was to honor students for their resilience during the school as it was challenging because of the pandemic. We provided the students and faculty with breakfast, swag bags, and books. Additionally, faculty were given gift cards and we awarded one student for being on honor roll. Lastly, we had Christian Wise, author and speaker, share his story from his book.















End of School Year

Celebration at Chase Elementary School









I AM ME Summer Leadership Program

Guiding Light Mentoring partnered with Cincinnati Public Schools of Chase Elementary and Ethel M. Taylor Academy for their Summer Scholars Enrichment Program. During this program, Guiding Light Mentoring exposed 45 youth to STEM careers and activities. Students at Chase Elementary School had the opportunity to meet Cincinnati native actress Kiki Layne. In Layne's message to the students, she outlined her childhood interest, the importance she placed on high academic achievement, along with the process she took in perfecting her craft. Additionally, Layne told students to dream, and dream big. Along with her dream, she took the students through a step-by-step process of the classes, jobs and rigorous academic programs she had to achieve in order to receive the acclaimed movie, stage and television roles she has acquired today.









I AM ME Summer Leadership Program





















I AM ME Youth Summit Program

(7th-12th grade)

2020 going into 2021 was a rough year for most of us, especially our youth. Youth experienced social injustice, social and emotional challenges, peer isolation, and financial hardship just to name a few. On Saturday, February 13th, we held our 4th annual vitural youth summit. 2021's theme, Freedom to Choose, was about having the **FREEDOM** to be healthy physically, mentally, socially, and financially. The Youth Summit aimed to cultivate and empower the next generation of leaders by providing them with the tools they needed to leverage their lived experience to reach their full potential in life. Participants learned the basics of financial literacy, physical and mental health, and workplace readiness.

30 Students

Hosts

Adria Whitlow, Founder of Evolving Lives, LLC Latisha Owens, Founder & President of Guiding Light Mentoring

Event highlights include:

Breakout Sessions

Financial Freedom Physical Health Freedom Mental Health Freedom Workplace Freedom

Parent Workshop

This workshop focused on the definition and vision of family. Topics included learning about the foundation of effective parenting and looking at parenting through a different lens.





Back to School

The event provided students with school supplies, uniforms, free haircuts and hairstyles, music, food, carnival games, and free prizes.







To watch the news story:









Back to School









Back to School

Partners

Guiding Light Mentoring and Chase Elementary School would like to thank all of our sponsors and partners that contributed to this event.







































KUTIN UP SALON STEPHANIE'S **HAIR OPTIONS**

FEAST OF LOVE

SUPREME STYLES MINISTRIES BARBERSHOP

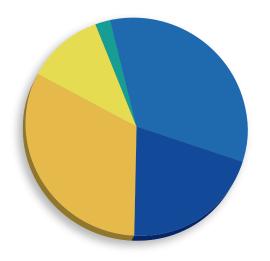


CHASE BEAUTIFUL ELEMENTARY PTO.



FINANCIALS

2021 Income



Grants (\$81,738.44)

Fee for Services (\$48,799.30)

Contributions/Direct Public Support (\$77,343.98)

Fundraising Income (\$27,059.62)

Miscellaneous Income (\$4,940.16)

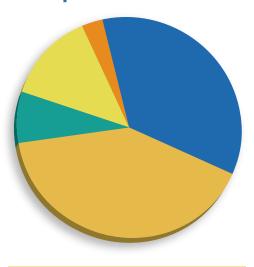
TOTAL \$239,881.50*

*\$70,519.51 Donor Restricted Income *\$96,515.25 Donor Unrestricted Income

2021 Expenses

TOTAL ASSETS

NET INCOME



\$167,034.76

\$102,873.77

Programming (\$48,415.83)

Operations (\$56,093.29)

Fee for Services (\$10,371.00)

Fundraising \$18,176.40

Other Types of Expenses (\$3,951.21)

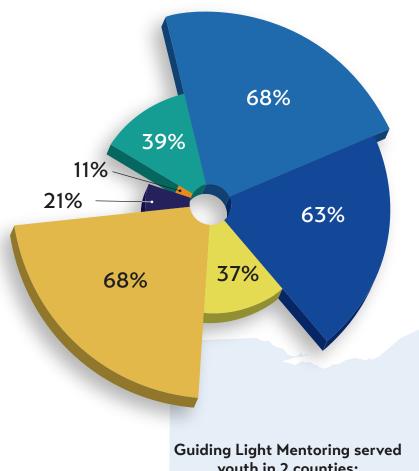
TOTAL \$137,007.73







DEMOGRAPHICS



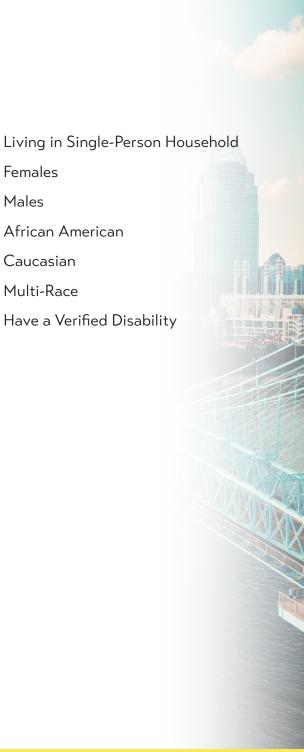
youth in 2 counties:

1. Butler

2. Hamilton



zip codes served: 45205, 45237, 45224, 45232, 45225, 45231, 45014, 45240, 45223, 45239, 45238, 45202, 45229, 45215, 45219, 45211, 45247, 45214, 45220, & 45251



Females

Caucasian

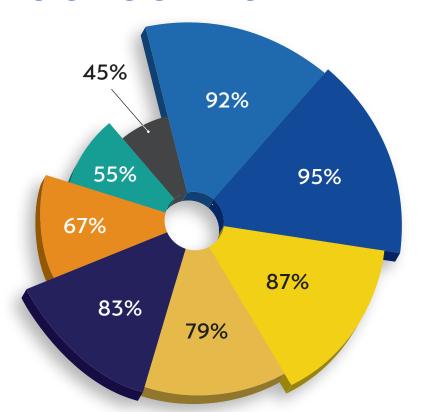
Multi-Race

Males





OUTCOMES



- Remained in School
- Substance Abuse Free
- Not involved in Hamilton County Juvenile Court
- No Psychiatric Hospital or Residential Admissions
- Enhanced Relationships with Others
- Improved School Grades
- Mentee Retention
- New Mentees in Program

Your Involvement in Action





LIGHT OF HONOR

GLM is very grateful for the financial support provided by our generous community.

Comminity Liona	
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Roberta Boyd

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Ann Burns

Cynthia Bush

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Kathy Callahan-Howell

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Wanda Clark

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Shawnda Corder-Partin

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Jacqueline Cramer

Racquel Daisley

Carole Daniels

Constance Daniels

Mariana De Castro

Jennifer Doerger

Andrew Dorset

Enjolami Dosunmu

Chaunte Doukoure

Michael Egan

Christina Ellis

Andrea Fnoch

Brian Frankey

Dominic Frankey

Matt Frankey

Ruth Frankey

Courtis Fuller

Timothy Gillespie

Tony Giuffre

Amy Glubzinski

Lewaylan Goodley







LIGHT OF HONOR

Kyndra Goodman

Adriene Hairston

Charla Hale

James Harris

Nicole Harris

Kevin Harrison

Bryan Hatcher

Erin Hedges

Jim Herbert

Tracie Hill

William Hollenkamp

Jeffrey Holley

Michael Inman

Robyn Jeter

Ebone John

Ashle Jones

Danielle Jones

Therasas Kahr

Allie Kamphaus

Alison Kaufman

Mike Kelley

Dara Kendall

Kerri Kienzle

Thomas Kirk

Kathleen Kool

Betsy Kramer

Jackie Kremer

Don Kunkel

Jackie Kunkel

Timothy Lane

Chester Lewis

Susan Lyon

Tanya Mack-Peterson

Stephanie Mahan

John Maher

Carineh Martin

Erik & Audrey Matheson

Freddie McClendon

Demetrice McClurkin

Nancy McCormick

Danielle Mcintosh

Virginia Mencher

Lori Merz

Anthony Miller

Tracey Miller

Angel Minor

Monica Mitchell

Dwylett Montgomery

Deborah Moore

Flora Morgan

Laura Murschel

Amy Nutt

Lori O'Connor

Calvin Owens

Charee Owens

Larry Owens

Latisha Owens

Venise Owens

Daniel Patt

Amy Pedoto

Guy Peri

Robert Pettibone

Jemma Pooley

Terrence Porter

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Huiging Stanley

Rhonda Starghill

Robert Starghill

Ruth Steele

Kai Stoudemire

Tammie Strayhorn-Mango

Stephanie Swain

Stephany Taylor

Barbara Thomas

Flizabeth Thorton

Mitch Tidman

Thomas Tilmes

Mary A. Todd

Monica Turner

Elizabeth Tye

Bomani Tyehimba

Carrie Tyler

Josh Ua

Rae Vuic

NaTasha Ward

James Wareck

Kenneth Webb

Rich Webber

Gary & Marjean Wedig

Arnetta Whitehead

Adria Whitlow

Dionne Williams

Gordon Wright

25





MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Donate and/or sponsor a child enrolled in Guiding Light Mentoring's program. Your donations are critical to our work with young people. See what your donation can provide.

\$500

Starting Gala sponsorship levels

\$75

Onboarding for new mentors

\$250

Healthy snacks for all our youth

\$250

25 new books for summer reading

\$500

Tutoring for 5 students

What your dollars can do PER STUDENT

\$1,000

A mentor relationship for one year

\$250

Participation at annual retreat

\$50

One month of mentor-mentee activities

\$50

Back-to-school supplies

\$10,000 Scholarship fundraising goal



\$\$\$ Choose your own donation amount

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Providing our youth with guidance, support, and encouragement to become successful people and lead impactful lives is the mission of Guiding Light Mentoring.

To make a donation please visit guidinglightmentoring.org/donate







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OFFI BURN THE



Mike Kelley Board Member



Tanya Mack-Peterson Board Member



Tasha Porter Board Member (deceased)



Jade Robinson Board Member

Contact: info@guidinglightmentoring.org | 513.541.9777







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