



## **Relevant, Effective, Authentic and Integrated Columbus Urban League (CUL) FYS 2017 and 2018 Community Outcomes Update\***

Last year was a banner year for your Columbus Urban League as we opened a community hub for entrepreneurial innovation and job preparation, the Huntington Empowerment Center, hosted the record-breaking 2018 National Urban League Conference and celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Columbus' most successful family advocate.

However, none of these special accomplishments distracted us from providing authentic, integrated, relevant and effective services to the nearly 11,000 people we touch every year:

- All Head Start graduates learned academic, social and behavioral skills in three five-star rated centers and entered kindergarten reading or reading ready.
- During the 2016-2017 school year, middle-schoolers who participated in CUL's after-school initiative boosted academic skill attainment in math or reading by 60%.
- Two hundred thirty-six men relied on Father 2 Father to strengthen their parenting skills and play a more active role in their children's lives, even as non-custodial parents. Children without paternal involvement experience much higher rates of delinquency and even suicide.
- More than 130 people recently released from incarceration successfully completed the cognitive behavioral therapy and peer supports that comprise the Choose 2 Change initiative. Nine out of ten graduates did not recidivate.
- In 2018, 292 future homeowners completed Homebuyer Education courses; 79 earned down payment assistance. We've seeded 220 mortgages worth more than \$20 million since 2015.
- With more than 2,000 consultations, our rental and fair housing experts counseled 906 people and provided mediation services to more than 574 clients in FY 2018.
- CUL workforce development initiatives increased the economic mobility for 250 job seekers by providing employment opportunities with wages between \$9.50 and \$28 per hour
- My Brother's Closet successfully suited 351 men for workplace interviews.
- All 83 elementary and middle-school-aged young men who joined I am My Brother's Keeper on Columbus' South Side demonstrated academic improvement – a key measure of success.
- Empower U hosted 583 people in group sessions and assessed 700 people, offering guidance and resources to get and maintain employment and deter drug use.
- The Neighborhood Violence Intervention Program mediated and defused 111 documented incidents and made contact with more than 150 high-risk youth.

- Project Survival experts interacted with nearly 1300 middle-school students, reinforcing positive decision-making skills and working to prevent substance abuse.
- Four hundred nineteen teens and young adults gained invaluable work experience, clocked in nearly 79,000 work hours, and earned nearly \$900,000 in wages from the summer internship program.
- In FY 2018, 500 people used the 700 Credit Score initiative to boost their credit score by an average of 76 points and reduce debt by an average of \$1,200 each.

### **Continued Steps Toward Greater Sustainability and Performance:**

- Ranked as one of the top 5% of all 88 affiliates by the National Urban League.
- Achieved the gold medal for fiscal integrity, a clean audit, for the eighth year in a row.
- I was honored to be featured as a nonprofit CEO to watch in a profile by *Columbus CEO*.

Learn more at [CUL.org](http://CUL.org).

Our soon-to-be-launched Earn It. Keep It. Grow It. Campaign will be a powerhouse effort to achieve true economic mobility for all. Stay tuned and please continue your support!

Stephanie Hightower  
President & CEO  
Columbus Urban League

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