# SAVING LIVES and impacting the community EVERY DAY











# THIS IS HOW YOU DO IT



### ALLIANCE OF CONCERNED MEN MEDIA KIT&BROCHURE



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#### **ACM Academic Partners**









GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

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"Alliance of Concerned Men has been a model around the country for gang mediation. They lead with their character."

> Bob Woodson President & Founder Woodson Center



# **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Alliance of Concerned Men (ACM) is an all-encompassing village approach to the **ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE** for all communities, focusing on reduction, violence mitigation, and violence prevention.

We follow a robust quality-of-life model, eradicating violence through successful conflict resolution, prevention, intervention and wrap-around services, with a culturally competent approach to public safety. We utilize the innate natural resources in communities by engaging returning citizens that have passed our vigorous ACM training, along with faith leaders, grassroots groups, and community-based encompassing services to better serve neighborhoods and improve the lives of families.



#### WATCH VIDEO

If reading this report digitally, click on this graphic to watch a dynamic 3-minute video providing an overview of our organization, or go to the Alliance of Concerned Men 2.0 YouTube channel to watch. https://youtu.be/ yDkejgfNySA

# BACKGROUND

STOP

ACM has a successful 30-year track record working with vulnerable communities in the Nation's Capital that have been plagued by high levels of crime and violence.

The Alliance of Concerned Men started with a small but determined group of men whose love for their community inspired them to help improve the lives of their neighborhood youth.

Even in the early days, when our organization ran on a shoe-string budget, Alliance members were so determined to make a difference, they worked without pay.

#### Their focus, then and now, has always been about our mission, coupled with a genuine love for their people.

Thirty years later, ACM thrives only because of the grace and generous support of our community. ACM successfully brokered more than 80 peace agreements/truces between rival gangs in areas identified as "hot spots" in DC.

STOP

One of the most inspiring and well-known truces negotiated occurred in Benning Terrace Public Housing in 1997, following the brutal neighborhood gang abduction and execution of 12-year-old Darryl Hall. <u>https://wapo.</u> <u>st/30yvLlk</u>

The mediation efforts of the ACM convinced the gang members to establish a truce in 1995. This truce began during the height of gun violence in the District of Columbia, which was the murder capital of the United States with 486 deaths annually. ACM staff and volunteers' mentor atrisk youth and their families, providing a comprehensive network of services to **more than 7,000 youth and their families monthly**, positively impacted by the trusted leadership, counseling, mentoring, youth violence and gang intervention, and social uplift programs of the Alliance.

Embracing our belief that the most effective solutions to community problems usually come from people from and/or living in those communities, ACM believes that a critical part of the solution to the gun violence problem can be found in the District's substantial population of formerly incarcerated men and women who have experienced a spiritual transformation while in prison and have returned to their communities ready and willing to do what they can make a positive difference in the lives of DC's economically, educationally, and socially underprivileged youth and young adults—the population that is statistically most at risk of becoming perpetrators and/or victims of gun violence.

These influential returning citizens can look at these youth in Wards 7 and 8 and easily see themselves, knowing what could happen to them without proper guidance and direction.

# See our website:



If reading this report digitally, you can click on the above donate button to be taken to the <u>ACM</u> <u>Donation page</u>.

# WINNING STRATEGY

Those most impacted by this issue need to be part of the solution to addressing gun violence in our communities. We must include the community in our planning. These voices must be heard and given a seat at the table.





# Terrance Staley

Terrance Staley served his country through three tours in Iraq and is a recipient of the Army's Combat Action Badge. He now serves his community through Alliance of Concerned Men (ACM) conflict resolution initiatives and transformational programs and has received certification from Harvard University. He is a TA (Technical Assistant) to IIR, LISC, the White House Intervention Collaborative Task Force, and CBPS Collective.

As ACM Executive Director, he manages a seven million and a staff of 53. He creates and coordinates all internal programming including:

- Develops strategies and consulting services for national and international partners
- Creates organic approaches to public safety
- Oversees two Cure Violence Programs in the District of Columbia
- Oversees Community Health Initiative
- Directs the OG Initiative for DOJ
- Directed the ACM Summer Program
- Directs the DCPS Conflict Resolution and Implementation Program

Previously Terrance held the position of Director of Operations of the Alliance of Concerned Men where he oversaw the coordination of all ACM programs and fundraised for government and foundation grants. He directed program development and execution protocols, managed a budget of \$1.5 million, and supervised a staff of 10.

Moreover, Terrance supervised over three studies and assessments of the American University Conflict Resolution Train the Trainer jointly created with ACM, which has been a pivotal tool in reducing violence and conflicts in the local community. In August of 2020, Terrance was appointed as the Director of the Conflict Resolution Manual Train-the-Trainer, which he successfully replicated in educational institutions both nationally and internationally, including Chester community charter schools in Chester, PA, and in Denmark.

In November of 2019, Terrance became Program Coordinator of the Credible Messenger Initiative, Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, where he supervised a staff of 8 who managed a caseload of 34 youth.

Terrance managed, supervised, trained, and counseled ten government contractors and managed programmatic budgets annually. He also developed social media campaigns to connect virtually with clients and ensured compliance with all COVID-19 safety protocols.

Additionally, Terrance partnered with 96.3FM VJ EZ Street to create programming for at-risk youth, which facilitated weekly youth virtual engagement utilizing the Conflict Resolution Manual. He developed city-wide alliance partners that are strong allies today.

Terrance served in the political arena as a campaign manager and political consultant, notably for Karl Racine and Evette Alexander Ward.

In April 2016 he was Project Director of a hospital-based first responder initiative at the United Medical Center. He became a first responder at United Medical Center's Emergency room, responding to 171 alerts outside of law enforcement. He oversaw the daily operations of the DC Collaborative First Responder Initiative and managed the budget of \$79,000 and a staff of seven.

Terrance resides in Ward 8 in Washington, DC. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Bowie State University, and is currently working on his Master's degree at Bowie State in Psychology and Mental Health Counseling.



Executive Director Terrance Staley speaks at the 30 year anniversary celebration of the founding of Alliance of Concerned Men.



#### "ACM had the trust and confidence of the young people, and they witnessed to them and helped change their lives."

—Вов Woodson, President Founder Woodson Center "Because of the Alliance of Concerned Men, I was able to get a college degree, pursue a career in television, and now I'm an official Real Estate Developer in Washington DC. As a troubled youth in a gang, the Alliance of Concerned Men's doors were always opened to help me."
—IVAN CLOYD, WASHINGTON,

DC REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER

"Congrats, Alliance of Concerned Men, for the work that you have done!"

-WASHINGTON, DC DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PUBLIC SAFETY





# **Out of School Time Grants**

In the summer of 2023, the Alliance of Concerned Men (ACM) utilized funding provided by the Office of Out-of-School Time (OST) Summer Strong grants to implement a comprehensive youth development program aimed at reducing violence and promoting positive life skills among at-risk youth in Washington, DC.

The primary goal of the Summer Strong programming was to empower youth to become peacebuilders in their communities, ultimately contributing to a reduction in violence and the promotion of a positive lifestyle.

ACM served more than 60 youth ages ranging from 5 to 14 years old, primarily focusing on those residing in Wards 5, 6, 7, and 8, by providing a range of services including conflict resolution training, mentorship, community engagement activities, and mental health support.

ACM 5-week summer program for 30 youth ages 5-13 from Kimball Elementary School and Sousa Middle School in Greenway (Ward 7). The program included:

The Conflict Resolution Youth Training program provides at-risk youth with the skills to be peacebuilders in their communities by teaching conflict resolution, covering a variety of topics, such as

- Looking Inward, which deals with Trigger and Soothers and Self;
- Looking Outward, which focuses on Empathy and Perspectives;



- Transforming Conflict, which deals with the Cycle of Violence and Communication; and
- Restorative Justice, which teaches Peace Circles and Compassion.

The program is proactive in that we are training youth on how to handle conflict in a way that does not lead to violence.

Our hope is that youth will be equipped and empowered to make positive choices for their lives and learn how to handle conflict without resorting to violence.



We also want youth to have access to resources to help address some of their financial needs and opportunities so that criminal activity does not become a means for obtaining income.

We hope that youth know that their lives have value and that they can make a difference in their communities. Training will be delivered in-person 5 days a week for two hours per session, covering 18 topics over 5 weeks.

We took youth to several parks across our region, including the following: Anacostia Ship Playground, Anacostia RiverWalk Playground, Pocket Park and Playground, Anacostia Park, Parkside Playground, Virginia Avenue Park Playground, Oxon Run Playground Woodland Wonderland Playground, Wizard of Oz Playground Watkins Regional Park, Medieval Dragon Playground, and the Launch Trampoline Park in Prince George's County.

We also took the youth to the following museums in Washington DC: National Museum of African American History & Culture, International Spy Museum, United States Botanic Garden, and the National Air and Space Museum.





# Cure the Streets

In partnership with the DC Office of the Attorney General (OAG), ACM manages the Cure the Streets program in Wards 7 Marshall Heights and Ward 8 Washington Highlands, which employs credible and influential individuals who have key relationships with high-risk individuals in target neighborhoods.

The program uses a public-health-focused, evidence-based approach to cure violence in the District of Columbia.

Cure the Streets team members work to help individuals move from being high risk to low risk, which subsequently helps to reduce gun violence.

Violence Interrupters on the team have credibility, relationships, and influence in their communities and are trained to resolve conflicts. Violence Interrupters on the team have credibility, relationships and influence in their communities and are trained to resolve conflicts.

When gun violence does occur, Violence Interrupters work with the victim and other parties involved to prevent retaliatory violence. They also negotiate peace agreements or truces among gangs.

Our work for Cure the Streets was highlighted in an August 3, 2021, Medium article by DC Attorney General Karl Racine, where he discussed the positive impact of ACM's violence interruption program.

Data from the OAG's office shows that in the Washington Highlands area, where the ACM team serves, assaults with a deadly weapon decreased 11% in FY2021 compared to FY2020.





This is the same community where AMC negotiated a truce in May 2020 that resulted in 145 days without a shootingin an area that was averaging 2-3 shootings each week just two years ago.

Further, the article shared a story of how ACM violence interrupters were able to help one of our youth participants surrender his firearm and find full-time work.

As challenging as our work is, these moments of success and progress for the youth we serve are what keep us going each day.

https://oag.dc.gov/blog/cure-streets-spotlight-jovan-davis



Data from the Office of the Attorney General of the District of Columbia shows that in the Washington Highlands area, where our team serves, assaults with a deadly weapon decreased 11% in FY2021 compared to FY2020.

#### The Washington Dost PUBLIC SAFETY WITH A TRUCE BROKERED OVER ZOOM, ONE D.C. NEIGHBORHOOD GOES NEARLY 100 DAYS WITHOUT A SHOOTING WITHOUT A SHOOTING WITHOUT A SHOOTING

Alliance of Concerned Men's Cure the Streets, a program under the DC Attorney General's office in 2020, brokered a truce for 100 days!

MPACT



#### ACM PROGRAM

## Violence-Free Zone OG Initiative Funded by DOJ

Alliance of Concerned Men Violence Free Zone Initiative began as a 3-month public safety pilot project in the Greenway community Southeast Ward 7 aimed at reducing the alarming rise in incidents of gun violence in the District of Columbia over the past year has grown to a three year Federally Funded Initiative.

The project model relies on societal components working together to: (1) intervene with and influence those most likely to be perpetrators or victims of gun violence, (2) change norms around gun violence and other crime that will have long-lasting impacts, and (3) address root causes of crime and violence in target communities.

Partners include current inmates and returning citizens, law enforcement, other government agencies, businesses, churches political leaders, other non-profits and community-based organizations. The project provides a comprehensive, holistic approach to addressing the needs of the youth in the community, starting with the transformation of an individual's values, and providing critical resources, supports, and services that help to reduce the overall inequities within communities that often lead to conflict.





## ΙΜΡΑCΤ

We are promoting and cultivating educational and vocational achievement, and economic advancement among both youth and adult community members. As a result, there has been a 70% decrease in violence in in the Greenway community. (MPD website)

#### ACM PROGRAM

## **CONFLICT RESOLUTION** Youth Training Program/ ICONS Partnership

The Conflict Resolution Training Program provides at-risk youth with the skills to be peacebuilders in their communities, to youth in the Greenway and Marshall Heights (Ward 7) and 4th & 6th Streets in the Washington Highlands (Ward 8) communities at risk of being involved in gun violence.

In partnership with the Institute of World Affairs (IWA) and Project ICONS (International Communication and Negotiations Simulations) of the University of Maryland, ACM has enhanced the program to offer a web-based simulation that capitalizes on gaming platforms to **offer young people opportunities to learn skills in violence prevention and conflict management/resolution**. Youth participate in the Conflict Resolution Youth training program and then take part in an online simulation that walks them through real-world scenarios that enable them to test what they've learned.

Each youth creates a superhero avatar to represent them in the simulation. The youth work in groups to think through the responses that the superhero should have when confronting a particular situation.

The beauty of using a simulation is that it allows participants to replay the situation through successive rounds, trying different responses in a safe environment



#### ACM PROGRAM

## **Community** Health Initiative

A weekly outreach to 500 persons per week in the community helping those that are struggling with drug abuse and homelessness

ACM has an outreach team that provides food (hamburgers and hot dogs), clothing and information about in patient care. We also teach the population about HIV prevention.





# **MPACT**

ACM distributed over 1000 Naloxone kits, provided overdose prevention education to 144 opioid users, distributed 48 fentanyl test strips, gave out over 2000 "Safe Sex packets" revered 1500 individuals to HIV testing and STI screening, and engaged with over 5000 District residents providing them quality of life educational counseling, food boxes and cooked meals.

## асм реобрам Credible Messenger

The Credible Messenger program is one of the major initiatives managed by the Alliance of Concerned Men (ACM) under the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS).

The mission of the initiative is to connect all young people in the care and custody of DYRS to healthy homes and supportive communities, and to provide preventive supports to all youth in Washington, DC.

This program is a transformative, mentoring, intervention program for youth committed to the agency with a restorative justice philosophy for young people in the community at large.

Credible Messengers mentor the youth who have been charged with felonies. All youth are a priority, and each Credible Messenger is assigned youth to mentor.

The program model involves mentors working closely with the youth—faceto-face or by telephone—on a consistent basis to encourage their progress and

## ΙΜΡΑCΤ

ACM has served approximately 40 youth each year, for a total of 120 youth since we started working on the program in 2019. In our quarterly contract monitoring reports, we have consistently exceeded the benchmark with scores ranging from 80-85%. (Progressive Life Center & DYRS).



daily productivity while in school and participating in any group or special activity.

In addition, Credible Messengers attend parentteacher meetings in schools, strategizing and assisting with students' extracurricular activities as well as personal life coaching and developmental ACM Credible Messengers host group meetings once a week for the youth.

The meetings' primary goals are focused on creating healing circles for the group and a healthy fresh meal is provided.

During the COVID – 19 Pandemic, Credible Messengers were stationed at designed DC Public Schools – Coolidge and Ballou High Schools to hand out lunches for the youth.

According to the School Nutrition Association (SNA), 29.8 million students were provided school lunches in the United States in 2018, which is over 50%.

In the District of Columbia alone, 1 in 7 households experience food hardship or insecurity, according to the Food Research and Action Center.

The efforts of our Credible Messenger team are much needed by the community and relieve the uncertainty of food sources during this time.



#### ACM CREDIBLE MESSENGER

#### **CONFLICT RESOLUTION** Train the Trainer Curriculum Implementation – Chester Community, Pennsylvania Charter School

The Conflict Resolution Manual curriculum copywritten in partnership with American University's Department of International Conflict Resolution and Peace is delivered to 100 scholars per week, it includes a train-thetrainer component to enable youth scholars to become instructors at the completion of their instruction and simulation.

The first five months of the program are focused on ACM Credible Messengers delivering the training to the youth once a week.

After the scholars receive all the required instruction in the Train the Trainer model it will be their turn to give the entire curriculum back to ACM and the Chester Community Charter school Credible Messengers.

During this portion they will demonstrate what they learned, build their confidence around presenting, and gain their own training certificate. By the end of the school year, the youth who have achieved their training certificates will then graduate from the program to become trainers for future cohorts.

As everyone learns at their own pace, we will try our best to give each youth adequate time to obtain the skill.

The goal is to have all youth receive their certificates at the completion of the first year.

For this to happen participation must be of the upmost of importance, and assistance from the Chester Community Charter Credible Messengers is an essential component to ensure the scholars success.

Our desire is for all youth participants to complete the program and become trainers to other youth and future cohorts. This helps to build a real community of peace led by the scholars. The following year the scholars will give the training back to the Chester Community Charter school Credible Messengers and a cohort of youth.

The CMs will be there to facilitate the structure of the training and provide the support only experience provides.

ACM supervises each session to ensure adherence to the format delivery and also quality of service.

The youth will present for their cohort of peers, walk their peers through providing the content back to them and facilitate the implementation of the simulation.

The goal is to have two cohorts of youth trained as facilitators and for them to be the principal trainer going forward.

For quality assurance, ACM will provide supervision for all sessions until quality of delivery can be sustained by Chester Community Charter school Credible Messengers and/or staff.

The simulation is a five-week capstone experience that will allow the participants to put into practice the skills they learned.

The simulation will be on-line using an established platform called ICONS (International Communication and Negotiations Simulations), developed at the University of Maryland.

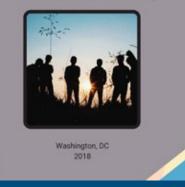
All interactions are done on-line in a way that will allow the participants to work in groups behind the scenes to arrive at a determination of how to respond to a particular situation or scenario. The group then formulates a response which is entered into the on-line community, and another group can then respond to the initiative taken.

Is the response the desired one, that is, did it avoid or deflect conflict, or did it result in an escalation of conflict and if so, why? That action-reaction response will then be analyzed by the project team and discussed with the participants to provide feedback.

continued

# CONFLICT RESOLUTION Youth Training Resource

Alliance of Concerned Men In Collaboration with American University



IMPA

The Alliance of Concerned Men provided Conflict Resolution train-the-trainer workshops nationally and internationally as a stand-alone curriculum for violence prevention specialists. ACM currently facilitates Conflict Resolution workshops for over 70 youth weekly in the Greenway Southeast community.

🚳 🔼



If the responses were not the one, they wanted, what could they do differently next time?

The ICONS platform is especially effective to use for this type of work.

It allows the participants to hash things out behind the scenes, working with a facilitator who serves as a guide through the discussion. It is important to note that the facilitators will also be trained on various conflict resolution skills so they can provide the type of guidance needed.

Their job is to help the group navigate through the situation to arrive at an agreed-upon response that will be presented on behalf of the group.

One of the other important roles of the facilitator is to help lead the debriefing after each round of the simulation to focus the discussion on what did or did not work, and what might be done more effectively in the future.

All efforts will be evaluated by American University and Maryland Universities International Communication and Negotiation Simulations (ICONS), and a report will be provided upon completion.

# **Cyber Transformational Mentoring Program**

Launched at the height of the pandemic Cyber Transformational Mentoring Program served justice involved youth and used social media as an incentivizing means for social accountability to lower youth recidivism in the District of Columbia.

> Alliance of Concerned Men has given out 50 computer tablets to students across the city, which helped them with summer school classes and helped them prepare for the fall.







"A relative was out of control, going in the wrong way, skipping school and wanting to fight, but because of ACM and Rico Rush (one of the original founders), their life was turned around. Going back to school, their entire world was changed. Now, they work for an international corporation. These men work hard. Much time and effort are spent on our youth; we need to help support them."



"I'm in South Carolina now, and years of mentoring with Alliance of Concerned Men when I was a troubled youth everything I learned from them, I have transplanted it here."

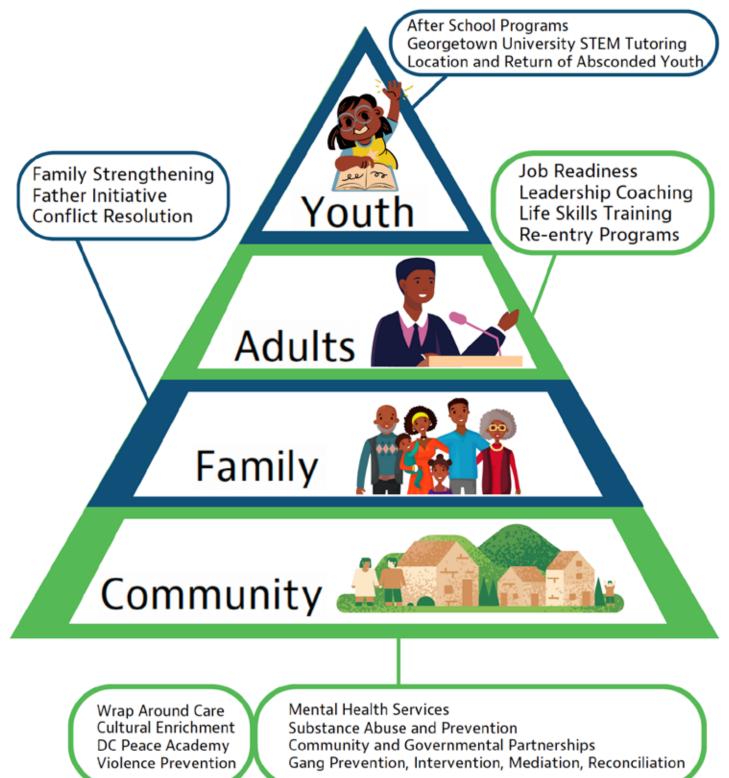
> -DARIUS ROBINSON COMMUNITY LEADER







# **Services Provided By ACM**





Terrance Staley EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Clayton Rosenberg



ACM STAFF

Beverly Smith Administrative/operations Director



Maria Brazda DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS



Nakeda Gilbert



Camille Perry GRANTS MANAGER



Darrell Ashton BUILDING MAINTENANCE

# OG INITIATIVE



Joseph Johnson PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Curtis Brothers IV/SAFE PASSAGE



Nneka Lynn Grimes PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Arkita Hammond SAFE PASSAGE



Jaylen Lee



Jaden Murray Admin Assistant



Curtis Monroe PROGRAM MANAGER



Jamal Caesar OUTREACH WORKER



WARD 7

Natasha Coebert OUTREACH WORKER



Kenneth Garner OUTREACH WORKER



Milton Howard VIOLENCE INTERRUPTER



Jefferson Joseph OUTREACH WORKER



Kevin Johnson VIOLENCE INTERRUPTER



Derek Phillips VIOLENCE INTERRUPTER

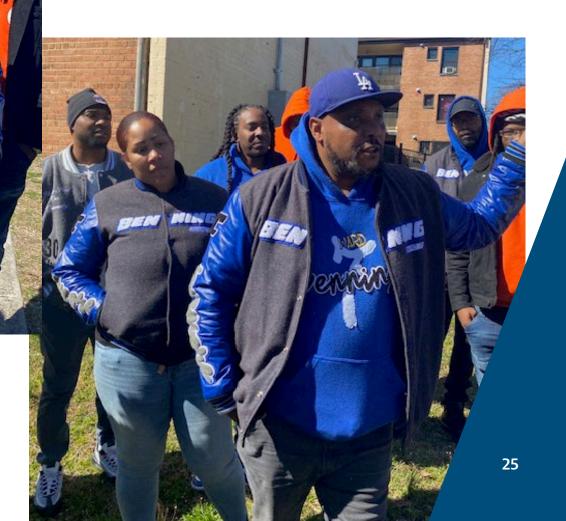


Lorenzo Sanders SITE SUPERVISOR

11



Ward 7 out in the community







Jovan Davis PROGRAM MANAGER



Kevin Chase



Brittany Graham OUTREACH WORKER



Jamaal Grantham



John Hardy VIOLENCE INTERRUPTER



Duane Wright





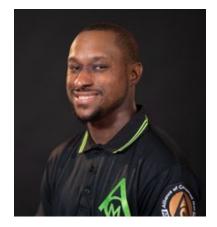


Ward 8 out in the community





## CREDIBLE MESSENGER



Stanley Jones PROGRAM COORDINATOR



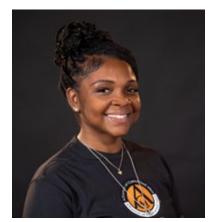
Stephanie Advincula PEER SUPPORT



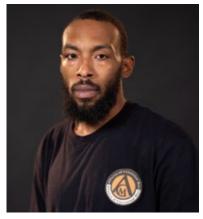
Veeta Clayton



Esther Harper



Ladera Johnson



**Richard Marcellus** 



**Akito McMillian** 

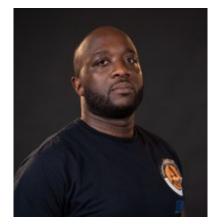


Briana Robertson ADMIN ASSISTANT

## COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE



Delores Clayton PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Walter Hillard



Herman Speight



# **ACM EVENTS**









The Alliance of Concerned Men held a 30-year anniversary celebration of the organization in April 2022.





# **ACM ACTIVITIES**



A paintball outing.



Cure the Streets basketball game.





At the Autobahn Speed indoor go-kart race track.

Trip to the museums



# ACM ACTIVITIES

Washington Wizards Basketball Clinic at Kimball Elementary School







BA



# ACM INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

MENT OF





State Department visitors from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Venezuela, Uruguay and Columbia learn about ACM successful programs.

Muluuluu de la Juventud al para el Hemisferio Occidental Del 4 al 25 de marzo de 2023

FHI 360

Shi 360





U.S. Department of State again conducted its signature exchange program – the IVLP at the Alliance of Concerned Men on October 16, 2023, with the Kyrgyz Republic delegation. The IVLP group got a hands-on experience with ACM practitioners. The group observed and took part in ACM training for the trainers on Conflict Resolution and this will be used as a resource for the important work they do in their home country.







Walking through the Greenway community and seeing the Safe Passage program was a highlight for the group. We welcome more U.S. State Department visits from around the world!

ALLIANCE OF CONCERNED MEN **Strategic Partners** 



ACM is part of the White House **Task Force for Public Safety** 



100 Fathers **AMERICAN UNIVERSITY** BRADY GROUP BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS CASA FOR CHILDREN DC CHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL (CCCS) COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ASSOCIATE (CASA) **CVIC WHITE HOUSE COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION** COLLABORATIVE DC SERVE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERISM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH REHABILITATION SERVICES (DYRS), CURE VIOLENCE **EVERYTOWN FOR GUN SAFETY GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY GIFFORD GROUP** INTERCITY INSTITUTE FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL RESEARCH KIMBALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEARN 24 LIFE DEEDS LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION (LISC) MAMA'S SAFE HAVEN MAYOR'S OFFICE, OFFICE OF OAG Moms Demand Action NATIONAL GANG ASSOCIATION NATIONAL GANG CENTER INSTITUTE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL RESEARCH (IIR) NATIONALS BASEBALL TEAM COMMUNITY CENTER NEXT LEVEL VISION PARENT WATCH PEACE FOR DC SAVE OUR YOUTH Sousa Middle School Spur Local UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND WASHINGTON WIZARDS WOODSON CENTER









ACM Founders include top left to right Tyrone Parker, James Alsobrooks, Peter L. Jackson, Arthur "Rico" Rush.

Bottom left to right Eric Johnson, and Gerard Alston



Robert Woodson President and Founder of Woodson Center (strategic partner), Curtis Peedy, Monroe Program Manager Alliance of Concerned Men Ward 7, and Tyrone Parker, Founder of Alliance of Concerned Men

# The Genesis of ACM

n 1991, Tyrone Parker established the Alliance of Concerned Men (ACM) with his former high school friends. Since then, they have been putting their experiences, training, and street smarts to use, counseling children, teenagers, and adults in Washington, D.C. and in area juvenile and adult correctional institutions.

The founders include Tyrone Parker, James Alsobrooks, Rahim Jenkins, Eric Johnson, Joe Nelson, Peter L. Jackson, Gerard Alston, and Arthur "Rico" Rush.

The relationship among the core members at the Alliance developed more than forty years ago, when they were teenagers attending Eastern Senior High School in Washington, D.C.

They share a bond forged through adverse life experiences coupled with personal exposure to dangerous situations and personal transformations that turned their lives around.

Their experiences with increasing social problems in the District of Columbia, fortified their commitment to make a positive difference in the lives of the District's at-risk youth and their families.

In 1989, Tyrone Parker's son, Rodney, affectionately known as "Fat Rodney", was shot outside of a skating rink in Maryland. His son's murder in addition to the increasing change in the community inspired Tyrone to do something to counteract these occurrences.

The constant siege of drugs, violence, teenage pregnancy, illiteracy, and murder in D.C. communities outraged the founders as a whole.

The Alliance's founding members refused to passively watch as the youth murder rate grew, teens dropped out of society and "hardcore" survival on the streets became the norm.

They responded by dedicating themselves to launching a moral movement with the mission of saving the lives of today's young men and women, who, in epidemic numbers, are dying from social, political, economic and communal diseases.

This movement seeks to build positive relationships between fathers and their children and families in at-risk communities.

In 1997, the Alliance garnered national media attention after they successfully mediated a 'gang truce' in one of the most dangerous neighborhoods in Washington, D.C.

ACM initiated the mediation after the abduction and murder of 12-year-old Darryl Dayan Hall. This incident marked the seventh homicide in two years at the Benning Terrace public housing development, commonly known as "Simple City" in Southeast D.C. The truce has lasted for over 12 years.

ACM's work throughout the communities of Washington, D.C. has continued through the dedication of its employees and many partnerships.

> **DONATE** to help support our mission



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