

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2023

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

THE BLACK, BROWN, & BEYOND MALE SUMMIT AGENDA



“RESTORATIVE JUSTICE IN THE MIDST OF CHAOTIC TIMES”

REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Jean Hower Taber Student Union, third floor, Atrium

PLENARY

9:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: REPAIRING HARM SO THAT OUR BOYS CAN THRIVE AND LEAD

Jean Hower Taber Student Union, second floor, Gardner Theatre

- **SPEAKER INTRODUCTION:** Donray Bennett, M.Ed., Associate Director of Recruitment & Retention, The University of Akron
- **PRESENTER:** Victor Ruiz, M.Ed., Executive Director, Esperanza, Inc.
- *In order for our young men to thrive we must understand the “chaos” that they are dealing with, especially post-pandemic. We will discuss the challenges they face and learn what they need to heal. Our charge after we leave the summit will be to “right the wrongs” and create an environment where our young men can thrive and lead us into a better world.*

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION SESSION FOR STUDENTS

9:45 a.m. – 10:55 a.m. – Jean Hower Taber Student Union, second floor, Gardner Theatre

- **PRESENTER:** Chris Stimler, M.Ed., Senior Assistant Director of Admissions, The University of Akron
- *Join to learn the top reasons why students decide to join the Zips family including campus involvement, support services, and scholarship opportunities.*

EXHIBITORS AND PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING

9:45 a.m. – 10:55 a.m. – Jean Hower Taber Student Union, third floor, Atrium

CONCURRENT 1

11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

LOST CHILDHOOD: GROWING UP IN THE MIDST OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Jean Hower Taber Student Union, room 308

- **PRESENTER:** Rodney Long Jr., MSSA, LISW-S, Mental Health Therapist
- *The child of parents who were addicted to crack cocaine, Long shares his personal story of how he overcame adversity to achieve success. In this session, Long offers specific strategies and techniques to help students overcome obstacles by setting clear priorities, building a supportive network, and finding motivation in unexpected places. Overall, this session will convey a message of hope and encouragement and ways to maintain the right mindset and determination by offering the necessary tools and inspiration students will need to take the first steps toward achieving personal and professional growth.*

ANGER MANAGEMENT 101 - Jean Hower Taber Student Union, room 310

- **PRESENTER:** Emeka Obinnakwelu, Jr., LPC, Licensed Professional Counselor, Greenleaf Family Center
- *Anger is a completely healthy, normal human feeling. Anger becomes a problem when it is expressed inappropriately. During this interactive presentation, Emeka Obinnakwelu Jr, Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, will discuss a variety of topics related to anger such as anger vs. aggression, healthy vs. unhealthy anger, triggers, coping strategies, types of anger, and more. The goal of this session is to help individuals experience and express anger in healthy, non-destructive ways. Effective anger management skills can help reduce the emotional intensity and physiological arousal anger causes.*

LOVE IS NOT BLIND - Jean Hower Taber Student Union, room 312

- **PRESENTER:** Julius Payne, Program Coordinator, Center for Sexual & Relationship Violence Support Services, Kent State University
- **PRESENTER:** Tia Payne, Senior Shelter Manager, Hope and Healing Survivor Resource Center (Serving Summit and Medina Counties)

• *The phrase "Love is Blind," is a piece of relationship advice that has long kept many suffering in silence. "Love Is NOT Blind" is designed to have an open and candid conversation with youth about the realities of healthy and unhealthy relationships. Let's explore what this is supposed to mean, what it really means and how it impacts relationships.*

COMMUNITY POLICING PANEL - Jean Hower Taber Student Union, room 314

- **MODERATOR:** Stanley Smith, Prof Pract, School of Disaster Science and Emergency Services, The University of Akron
- **PANELIST:** Darrell Claytor, J.D., Lieutenant, The University of Akron Police Department
- **PANELIST:** Kerry Jackson, Director of Off-Campus Safety, The University of Akron
- **PANELIST:** Jeff D. Ludle, Police Officer, Akron Police Department

• *Join us as we discuss Community Policing and the collaboration between the police and the community. This session will explore possible solutions to community problems. In many communities, police officers network to establish partnerships between residents and law enforcement agencies. Although police have the role as guardians of law and order, community policing enlists members of the community to become active allies in the effort to enhance the safety and quality of neighborhoods*

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT...IN THE MIDST OF CHAOTIC TIMES

Jean Hower Taber Student Union, room 316

- **PRESENTER:** Henry Johnson Jr., Program Facilitator, Leadership Akron
- **PRESENTER:** Thomas (Tom) L. Peeples, Jr., PMP, Sr., Manager of Lean Operations, Americas at the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company

• *In this session, the presenters will lead a guided discussion outlining the differences between civic involvement and civic engagement. Specifically, they will offer examples to illustrate the similarities and differences of each and why each is important. They will also share their opinions on why some people choose to get involved or engaged. They will demonstrate how some young people have been civically involved and engaged in recent years and solicit a call to action by participants*

RACIAL IDENTITY AT PREDOMINANTLY WHITE INSTITUTIONS - Jean Hower Taber Student Union, room 335

- **PRESENTER:** Dr. Curtis Kwodwo Williams II, Community Programs Coordinator and Psychotherapist, Minority Behavioral Health Group (MBHG)

• *Racial identity is more than your racial heritage or personal classification. Many individuals identify as a member of a racial group and assume the dominate culture's behaviors, and thoughts, towards their racial categorization. Having a negative racial identity has far reaching, harmful effects. This workshop will explore the challenges and benefits of having a positive racial identity while attending a predominantly White institution.*

LUNCHEON

11:50 a.m. – 1:55 p.m. – Jean Hower Taber Student Union, third floor, Grand Ballroom

HOST

- Dr. Sheldon B. Wrice, VP Inclusion & Equity/Chief Diversity Officer, The University of Akron

GREETINGS

- Marco Sommerville, City of Akron Deputy Mayor for Intergovernmental Affairs/Senior Advisor

INVOCATION

- Rev. George William Whitfield, M.Div., Pastor, Wesley Temple AME Zion Church

WELCOME

- Dr. Paul E. Levy, Vice President and Chief of Staff, The University of Akron

KEYNOTE SPEAKER INTRODUCTION

- Jay Ellington, President, Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB), The University of Akron

KEYNOTE

- The Honorable Justin M. Bibb, Mayor, City of Cleveland

BLACK, BROWN AND BEYOND MALE SUMMIT SCHOLARSHIP AND ALLY AWARD PRESENTATION

- Dr. Rita Klein, University of Akron Retirees
- Dr. Sheldon B. Wrice, VP Inclusion & Equity/Chief Diversity Officer, The University of Akron

CONCURRENT 2 – PROFESSIONALS

2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

WHAT IS THE CLIMATE OF YOUR SCHOOL? - Jean Hower Taber Student Union, room 310

- **PRESENTER:** Denico Buckley-Knight, Youth and Opportunity Director, City of Akron
- **PRESENTER:** Dr. Wanda Lash, Director of Student and Family Services, Akron Public School
- **PRESENTER:** Donald Zesiger, Director of Security, Akron Public Schools

• *The climate in our schools is a reflection of the challenges we face as a society. In this presentation, three different professionals will explain their individual roles and strategies that are designed to impact the many moving parts of the whole. Our discussion will surround the diverse components that contribute to the ability of an educational system to overcome obstacles and successfully nurture students to achieve their maximum potential.*

HOW A CULTURALLY COMPETENT TRAUMA INFORMED CARE MODEL CAN BE A GAME CHANGER

Jean Hower Taber Student Union, room 312

- **PRESENTER:** Albert McIntosh, MSSA, LISW-S, CEO/Owner, Hope Behavioral Health

• *Participants will be introduced to an overview of trauma theory and have an overview of the key components of Trauma Informed Care. We will review key terms and definitions to effectively engage in a healthy discussion about historical systemic racism and the present-day impact of racial trauma. This session is designed to give participants a firm grasp on the unique challenges Black Men specifically, and Men of Color in general, face that daily contribute to ongoing emotional distress. We will explore Secondary traumatic stress and self-care for those who provide direct service and intervention, be it in the classroom, on campus, or in our community in general. We will be able to identify the key barriers that have contributed to the avoidance of seeking mental health treatment as well as look at some statistical trends and review the risk of not receiving culturally competent trauma informed care. Our goal is to be able to understand and give practical steps on incorporating culturally competent strategies into trauma informed care that truly make an impact.*

CONCURRENT 2 – STUDENTS

2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Jean Hower Taber Student Union, room 335

DIVERSE MALE STUDENT EXPERIENCE PANEL

- **MODERATOR:** Brittany Ferguson-Mike, M.Ed., Director, Student Life, The University of Akron
- **PANELISTS:** Jose Garcia, Tyrone Johnson, Kenneth Lyle, Jordan Penn, and Jason Penn

• *High school summit attendees will hear first-hand advice from college upper classmen of color about real world college experiences and the do's and don'ts for succeeding as a college student. The panel will consist of representatives from student organizations and fraternities sharing effective strategies on how to successfully make the transition from high school to college.*

CAMPUS TOUR

3:05 p.m. – 4:25 p.m.

TOWN HALL

3:05 p.m. – 4:25 p.m. – Jean Hower Taber Student Union, second floor, Gardner Theatre

“THE BEST IS YET TO BE”

- **MODERATOR:** Dr. Sheldon B. Wrice, VP Inclusion & Equity/Chief Diversity Officer, The University of Akron
- **PANELIST:** Tony Grimes, Vice President of Community Development, Akron Area YMCA
- **PANELIST:** Ryan Moton, M.Ed., Assistant Program Director, Upward Bound Math & Science, The University of Akron
- **PANELIST:** Michael Irby, President, 100 Black Men of Akron, Inc.
- **PANELIST:** Victor Ruiz, M.Ed., Executive Director, Esperanza, Inc.
- **PANELIST:** Terry Vance, M.Ed., Associate Director, Diverse Male Initiatives, The University of Akron

• *Please join us during our final BBBMS session as a town hall meeting comprised of a moderated discussion among panelists who will offer a recap of the Summit highlights, words of wisdom, and showcase various institutional programs, projects, and initiatives which aim to enhance the growth and development of young male students of color.*

CONFERENCE EVALUATION / CLOSING REMARKS

4:25 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. – Jean Hower Taber Student Union, second floor, Gardner Theatre

