

Mentoring Male Teens in the Hood



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Message from Mr. Miles

Hello to each and every one of you. I hope you are happy and thankful to be alive. School has started and I encourage you to go every day and do your best. Make sure you stay out of trouble. If you are in this program, you should be doing better, not getting worse. Remember, after you have been in the program for 3 months, every "A" you receive on your report card gets you twenty dollars.

To all of our parents, guardians, caseworkers, and group homes, I hope you are well. I am acutely aware that sometimes our Kings can get on our nerves or say and do things that rub us the wrong way. Keep in mind that they are children with immature minds. We as responsible adults must lead by example. Our yes must mean yes and our no must mean no. We are not here to be friends with our children, but to give guidance, nurture, understanding, wisdom, and at times needed punishment when they make the wrong choices.

I want for all our Kings to look at what you can improve for yourselves. All of us, even Mr. Miles have things that we could do better with. For some it will be attitude, for others it may be school, keeping your room clean, stop talking back to your elders, stop missing school, stop getting high, stop hanging with the

wrong friends, stop thinking that you can live in someone else's house, not pay any bills and tell them what to do. Life does not work like that. All of you in the program (by law) are considered children and while you are living under someone else's roof, you must obey them and listen to them even when they as adults get on your nerves or say things that bother you or hurt your feelings.

Adults have breaking points just like young people. Never do or say anything out of anger. Learn to walk away and just cool off. After a period of time, come back to the situation and offer your side of the story in a respectful way. No matter what, right or wrong, your parents/guardians have the last say! When you turn 18 and graduate, you can go get a job, move out and get your own place, and see how hard it is to survive in this world. **Please remember these things.**

In August, we had a great meeting. Our guests included Senator Catherine Pugh (State Senator who represents the District where Coppin sits), Mr. Marc Clarke (formerly with 92Q, now with his own cable show), and Coach Butch McAdams who is a talk show host on 1010AM. Thank you to JL Funn Enterprises for the crab cake lunch. I hope everyone enjoyed it. Congratulations to the winners of the push-up contest. Everyone who participated is a winner. I need for all of you to continue

Don't
just see
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glory,
know
my

*The level
of attack is
the best
indicator
as to the
level of
blessing
that waits
for you
beyond the
attack.*

attending the meetings. I need for you to get your proper rest the night before and when you get up, take time to eat something before you come. Lunch will not be served until 1:15pm.

Events

On September 16th, we had a fabulous fundraiser at the Reginald Lewis Museum in downtown Baltimore. I want to thank everyone who attended and everyone who made a contribution. We cannot do what we do unless we have donations coming in to pay for the activities. I want to thank my staff for all the help they gave to make the night a successful one. I must publicly thank Ms. Shabina Bahl who has worked tirelessly to raise money, sold many tickets, and helped the program to get all kinds of exposure that we had not gotten in the past. Thank you again.

Our next meeting is September 26th at 8:30am. Be on time! Bring a positive attitude! Be prepared to learn.

FYI

The mailing for September will be the 15th from 6-8 p.m. Anyone that is interested can meet at our meeting place in the Tawes Building (2nd Flr) at 6:00 p.m. If any parent/guardian needs to meet with Mr. Miles with their young man, call him directly at (410) 547-9200 X3002 to set up an appointment.

Dues – Pay your dues if you have not. It helps us do what we want to do when everyone pays their dues. If you cannot pay it all at once, pay a little at a time but pay something. If there is anyone in the program who has a concern or a problem, please call me and let's talk about it. I do not

want anyone walking around with problems or something that is bugging them and they just keep it inside. Never hold things in, let them go so that you can move on with your life. If you do not want to talk to me, talk to someone. You must get things off your chest. Never do or say anything out of Anger. Please remember that.

In conclusion, this is a great program. Things are being put in place to bless and empower. If you are not here, you cannot be blessed or empowered. We want every King to come out each month, no excuses. If we are taking a trip and you want to go but do not have the money, let me know and I will get a donation so that you can go. We all must do a better job at communicating. If you are not sure about something, ask someone. Call me or Ms. Powell. Call somebody! Learn to speak up for yourself. See you in September!

If you are receiving this newsletter and **you wish to be removed from the mailing list** or there have been any changes to your address or telephone number, please contact Ms. Powell at (410) 485-7656.

Thank you to all the Kings who continue to come. There would be no program without you. Thank you to the parents, guardians, caseworkers, and group homes who believe in this work. I and my staff could not do this work without your support.

“We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.” — Albert Einstein