

Aspiring Youth Enrichment Services



General Information

**Nonprofit
Address
Phone
Web Site
Facebook
Twitter
Email**

Aspiring Youth Enrichment Services
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615-525-0190
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Mission & Impact

Statements

Mission

Our mission is to provide educational programs which teach underserved youth how to obtain the skills necessary for becoming financially self-sufficient, by using a holistic and comprehensive approach in helping the youth and their family.

Background

AYES, established in 2014, operated for 4 years under the name "LaDonna's Childcare". "LaDonna's Childcare" was a registered home daycare which provided care of seven children ages 6 weeks to 12 years old. The daycare served as a resource center which assisted parents in creating resumes, going back to school, and getting better paying jobs. In March of 2014 Aspiring Youth Enrichment Services became a non-profit charitable organization which provides services for youth in grades K - 12. There was an urgent need to help the children after they turned 13 years old. All the children from LaDonna's Childcare have graduated from high school and gone to college. Some of them received academic scholarships. They currently contribute to AYES by volunteering and giving back to the community. Most parents of the children pursued higher education, have better jobs, and are no longer receiving government assistance.

Impact

There is a tremendous need, especially for high-risk youth in low-income neighborhoods, for programs that provide activities and support for children during the after-school hours and throughout the summer. In 2003, the Children's Defense Fund reported that violent crime by young people ages 10-17 peaks between 3 and 7 PM; children and teens in poor neighborhoods are struggling for direction and positive opportunities are needed to keep them safe and on-track; a great majority of all American fourth graders cannot read or do math at grade level. In addition, a study published in Pediatrics magazine found that eighth graders who were left alone after school reported greater use of cigarettes, marijuana, and alcohol than those in adult-supervised settings. Current research indicates that supervised after-school and summer programs not only keep children safe and out of trouble, they also significantly improve their academic achievement. Nashville, Tennessee, with significantly higher than average incidences of crime, truancy, teen pregnancy, obesity, and drug use, suffers from a lack of constructive activities for its youth. Visionaries saw the potential benefits of a quality after-school and summer program. The goal is

to provide a haven for the inner-city youth of Nashville, TN. AYES has gained a positive reputation for providing constructive academic activities that contribute to reducing crime and illegal activity, increasing academic performance, and providing life skills to ensure success in school, in the community, and in life.

Needs

AYES needs monetary and in-kind support. 1) There is a need for a minimum of \$160,000 to purchase 2 buses to transport students to the AYES programs and home from the programs. We need a total of 4 buses the cost for all 4 buses is \$320,000. 2) There is a need to purchase a building with a gym to facilitate all services provided by AYES. AYES needs a gym for our basketball teams to practice and host games and space for the students to learn Physical Education. The cost of the building is \$5,000,000. 3) AYES needs more monetary funds to pay the bus drivers and monitors. The cost is \$128,000. 4) There is a need to add security cameras for each of the buses. The cost is \$5,000.

Statement from CEO/Executive Director

Aspiring Youth Enrichment Services is committed to bridge the gap between school and the real world. We strive to: Provide a safe and secure environment; encourage and promote self-esteem; enhance learning abilities of children so they may advance with high achievements; help children to reach and exceed Metropolitan Nashville School's academic standards; promote inquiring minds; nurture child development; promote and enhance family involvement in their children's lives; promote and enrich economic knowledge for families.

Statement from Board Chair

Service Categories

Primary Category
Secondary Category
Tertiary Category

Education - Remedial Reading & Encouragement
Youth Development - Youth Development Programs
Human Services - Family Services

Areas Served

Nashville
TN - Davidson

Programs

AYES Summer Enrichment Program

Description

Aspiring Youth Enrichment Services (AYES) offers a Positive Youth Development summer program for Nashville's low to moderate income children. The primary focus of the program is to provide intensive job skills development and programs that promote healthy lifestyles. Instruction offered includes science, technology, engineering, art, and math also referred to as (STEAM), reading comprehension, and life skills. Positive Youth Development Principles are incorporated into the schedule throughout each day of programming as well as the field trips. Daily activities promote a sense of physical, social-emotional safety, encourage relationship building, engage youth in hands on learning experiences that build valuable skills, and provide opportunities for building purpose.

Budget \$390,800.00

Population Served Economically disadvantaged people
At-Risk Populations
Minorities

AYES Afterschool Programs

Description

AYES addresses the academic and social-emotional needs of the at-risk children and families residing in the Nashville area. Services are provided afterschool for middle school children. We assist the children in obtaining a higher level of self-esteem by using a holistic approach to education. The program uses project-based learning when teaching science, technology, engineering, math, performing/visual arts, and life skills. AYES provides several opportunities for the students build a sense of purpose. The Life Skills Curriculum includes critical-thinking, decision-making, and goal setting. Community members and career professionals come to the program and interact with the youth often. The professionals teach financial literacy, career exploration, and workforce readiness. These interactions illustrate possible career paths for when they graduate from high school or college.

Budget \$347,860.00

Population Served Black/African American
At-Risk Populations
Minorities

The Answer

Description

AYES provides a community outreach and wraparound program. Wraparound is a philosophy of care with defined planning processes used to build constructive relationships and support networks among youth with emotional or behavioral disabilities (EBD) and their families. It is community based, culturally relevant, individualized, strength based, and family centered.

AYES facilitates the Answer. The Answer is a community outreach and wraparound program which is dedicated to self-esteem building, financial literacy, accountability education, teen-pregnancy prevention, suicide prevention, drug-abuse prevention, gang prevention, and violence prevention.

The program consists of connecting families to needed resources, A.Y.E.S. literacy workshops, family-support groups, and the A.Y.E.S. Midnight Basketball League. A.Y.E.S. will evaluate and monitor success of 150 members ages 10-17 over a time-period of 5 years.

Budget \$298,000.00

Population Served Black/African American
Economically disadvantaged people
At-Risk Populations

CEO/Executive Director/Board Comments

Classes Offered: Reading STEM- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
Performing Arts Visual Arts Life Skills Leadership Training Field Experiences-
Three times each week

Governance

Board Chair

Company Affiliation

Term

Email

April McCray

AYES

September 2021 to December 2025

acmccray@icloud.com

Board of Directors

Name

Kristen Dunlap

Affiliation

Neighborhood Health

Status

Voting

Janette Gates
Derrick Leonard
LaDella White

President
MNPS
Community Volunteer

Voting
Voting
Voting

Board Demographics - Ethnicity

African American/Black	3
Asian American/Pacific Islander	0
Caucasian	1
Hispanic/Latino	0
Native American/American Indian	0
Other	0

Board Demographics - Gender

Male	1
Female	3
Unspecified	0

Governance

Board Term Lengths	2.00
Board Term Limits	2
Board Meeting Attendance	100%
Does the Organization have written Board Selection Criteria?	Under Development
Does the Organization have a Written Conflict of Interest Policy?	Under Development
Percentage Making Monetary Contributions	100%
Percentage Of Board Members Making In Kind Contributions	100%
Does the Board include Client Representation?	Yes
Number of Full Board Meetings Annually	8

Management

Executive Director

Email

Term Start

LaDonna's Experience:

Ms. LaDonna Harris

ayestn@gmail.com

March 2014

Staff

Number of Full Time Staff	1
Number of Part Time Staff	1
Volunteers	2
Contractors	4
Staff Retention Rate	100%

Plans & Policies

Fundraising Plan?	Under Development
Strategic Plan?	Under Development
Years Strategic Plan Considers When Strategic Plan Adopted?	N/A
Management Succession Plan?	Under Development

Policy and Procedures Plan?	Yes
Nondiscrimination Policy?	Yes
Whistle Blower Policy?	Yes
Document Destruction Policy?	Yes

Formal Evaluations

Is there a formal evaluation for...		Frequency
CEO/Executive Director	Yes	Bi-Annually
Senior Management	Yes	Bi-Annually
Non-Management	No	Semi-Annually

Affiliations

Affiliation	Year
Center for Nonprofit Management (Nashville)	2018
Nashville Public Library	2019
Nashville Public Library	2019
Nashville Public Library	2019
Nashville Public Library	2019
YMCA of Middle Tennessee	2019
NAZA	2022
Center for Nonprofit Management	2022

Financials

Financials

Fiscal Year Start

04/01/2023

Fiscal Year End

03/31/2024

Projected Revenue

\$390,800.00

Projected Expenses

\$390,800.00

Detailed Financials

Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Total Revenue	\$169,950.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$165,616.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Revenue Less Expense	\$4,334.00	(\$-0.00)	(\$-0.00)

Revenue Sources

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Foundation and Corporation Contributions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - Federal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Government - State	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - Local	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - Unspecified	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Individual Contributions	\$169,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Indirect Public Support	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Earned Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Investment Income, Net of Losses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership Dues	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Events	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Revenue In-Kind	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Expense Allocation

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Program Expense	\$165,616.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Administrative Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fundraising Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Revenue/Total Expenses	103%		
Program Expense/Total Expenses	100%		
Fundraising Expense/Contributed Revenue	0%		

Top Funding Sources

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Top Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Contributions, Gifts, and Grants - \$169,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Second Highest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Funding Source & Dollar Amount			
Third Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Assets and Liabilities

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Total Assets	\$4,334.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Current Assets	\$4,334.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Long-Term Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Current Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Net Assets	\$4,334.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Endowment Info

Do you have an endowment?

No

Capital Campaign Info

Currently in a Capital Campaign?

No

Solicitation Permit Info

State Charitable Solicitations

Permit

Yes