

Ready By 21 Newsletter

The Family League of Baltimore City (FLBC)

June 2011

End of Year Event Goes Out With A Blast

Issue 2



On Saturday, May 21st, just under 50 youth, staff and stakeholders attended the Ready By Twenty One Jobs Initiatives' end of year Daily Rap session which was facilitated by Dr. Lauren Abramson of The Community Conferencing Center. Youth and staff shared their "glows & woes" relative to their experience with the RB21 Jobs Initiative. All nine of the RB21 grantees, youth as well as representation from Baltimore City Department of Social Services, The Safe and Sound Campaign and The Family League of Baltimore City attended. Overall the youths feedback was positive and included encouraging statements such as: their participation taught them the importance of being on time, having good communication skills, getting along in the workplace and making good choices while simultaneously earning money and building better trust with their parents. Some of the voiced challenges this past year were a need for transportation assistance, a need for financial literacy/teen parenting workshops, the program currently is not being marketed on a larger scale so that other youth can take advantage of the opportunity. It was suggested that RB21 develop a website and/or participate in one of the social media offerings. Youth also wanted the number of work hours to increase. Everyone seemed to walk away with the overall impression that it was a good first year for the program and are excited about the growth potential in the years to come.

From Conception to Reality



Designated guests participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony/Community Restitution Apprenticeship Focused Training (CRAFT) graduation which took place on June 9, 2011 at the state-of-the-art conference training center housed at FLBC. The conference center was constructed with the assistance of the CRAFT participants. The catered event was attended by over one-hundred dignitaries, stakeholders, youth and families/support system of the seven Project CRAFT graduates that have successfully completed the requirements to earn their Pre-Apprenticeship Certificate from the National Association of Home Builders in the craft of Carpentry.

(pictured from left) Kevin Keegan, President & CEO — FLBC; John Hattery, Senior Director — Home Builders Institute; CRAFT graduate: The Honorable Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake; CRAFT graduate: Sam Abed, Secretary — Department of Juvenile Services and The Honorable Robert Kershaw, Head Judge — Baltimore City Juvenile Courts

INTERNS TO EMPLOYEES

Through the RB21 jobs initiative, The Chesapeake Center for Youth Development (CCYD) partnered with local employers to serve as worksite hosts for young people participating in the program. The youth performed so well following their involvement with the job readiness component of RB21 @CCYD, the young people actually secured unsubsidized employment. This proves evidence that young people can and will be successful, given an opportunity. KUDOS to Maryland Environmental Services, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Crema Coffee and Red Springs Café for hiring the RB21 youth and providing an opportunity for them to grow within their company.

WORK CONTINUES!!

The partnership with The Mayors Office of Employment Development's YouthWorks Summer Jobs program got off to a great start on June 27, 2011. As a result of the partnership, approximately two-hundred of the RB21 youth are experiencing all year-round employment.

ReadyBy21
JOBS INITIATIVE

“Drowning Flower”

By: Dontrel



The above is an original piece from the mind of a Ready By 21 participant from the Child First Authority inspired by the crisis which occurred in Japan.

Ready By 21 Jobs Initiative (RB21) is a youth development program initiative in partnership with The Family League of Baltimore City, Baltimore City Department of Social Services, Open Society Institute, Department of Juvenile Services and Safe & Sound Campaign which started in July 2010. The initiative has engaged 250+ young people with job readiness and on-the-job work experience opportunities since the Fall of 2010, and the youth will continue employment through the summer as a result of a valuable partnership with The Mayor's Office of Employment Development's YouthWorks Summer Program as well as local employers. These young people will be able to create economic stability for themselves, their families and the community. The initiative is off to a good start and certainly the potential for growth is inevitable.

2010 – 2011 Participating Ready By 21 Jobs Initiative Vendors

Baltimore Urban Debate League
Chesapeake Center for Youth Development
Child First Authority
Community Law In Action
Historic East Baltimore Community in Action Coalition
Learning Inc.
Mayor's Office of Employment Development
Parks & People Foundation
Urban Alliance

****Home Builders Institute (compact model)**

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