

# FROM RESEARCH TO PRACTICE: BRIDGING THE GAPS THROUGH COLLABORATION

SUMMER 2014

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**COLLABORATORS' GREETINGS!**



**Planting Seeds 4-Life**

**Dr. Deanna Wilkinson's Message**

My summer was fantastic! I had the opportunity to work with over 100 amazing youth while at the Reaching Higher Heights 4-Life summer camp. We laughed, learned how to build a raised-bed garden, got our hands dirty, planted seeds (flowers, fruits and vegetables), painted the picket fence, made garden stepping stones, pulled weeds in the garden, tended to the

plants making sure that the roots were getting plenty of water, harvested radishes, and waited for the fruits of our labor grow strong and healthy. Several adult neighbors pitched in to enhance the efforts with their talents and interests. [cont. on page 2]

**Nature's Saving Grace and Mercy**

**Bro. Cecil Ahad's Message**



Nature promotes and supports community life. Our human lives depend on it. The trees, sun, water, all of the earth's minerals and elements are realities that never change. Human beings can evolve as we learn, grow, create, share, re-think, and re-evaluate ourselves. We need to constantly check our own selves —our integrity, purging ourselves of toxins/stress/people and other added ingredients —they may kill us. Like bacteria that

feeds diseases that grow inside our bodies, and eat away at what nature was created to nourish and support. We have to begin understanding and listening to our inherent life and how nature supports our life. From God speaking to us through nature—guiding us to benefit from his creation. We need to understand that even seeds and plants communicate with each other and have a life that's parallel to human life.

We should never underestimate the value of things God created —knowing that human beings are not the only creation. We need nature to take care of us, it does not necessarily need us. We need us to lead us. We are the gift to the earth that's been given [cont. on page 2]

**Pastor Frederick LaMarr's Message**



July's theme was "Park the Hearse and Reverse the Curse." Harriet Beecher Stowe, along with her husband, supported the Underground Railroad that supplied temporary housing to fugitive slaves. In 1852 Stove published a book called *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. This book sold an unprecedented 300,000 copies. Abraham Lincoln was quoted, saying that the words written on those printed pages sparked the Civil War in which hundreds of thousands of lives were lost —a number that far exceeded the number of slaves imported at that time.



The start of any war can be traced back to the evil things we have desired and allowed to enter into our hearts. The problems seen within our Country, City, Community, and our Church stem from two things; first, choosing the horse of pride that leads us down a road of destruction (*pride vs humility*); second, lack of understanding about the first engagement in warfare (*the inside battle against our fleshly tendencies*). The ability to conquer our inner battles comes when we remember us we must win the battle inward, to *first look upward before we can venture forward*. [continued on page 2.]

## Planting Seeds for Growth

I began focusing my energy on planning and organizing for the summer camp as I prepared for teaching the May-mester Service Learning course that was described in the previous issue of this eNewsletter. This was my second year being actively engaged with the summer youth camp. We had talked about a garden in 2013 and everyone seemed excited about the idea. In February, Minister Aaron K. Hopkins and I attended a gardening workshop at Franklin Park Conservatory. Min. Hopkins took the initial step of clearing out the weeds and overgrowth along the fence line in the spot dedicated to the garden. As the youth learned about the importance of being connected to their roots, the garden was a great way to illustrate how amazing nature is. Planting tiny seeds that would put down roots first before sending up leaves, stems, and flowers that would evidently grow to be fruits or veggies. To keep costs low and start out with a feasible project we built three 42" square raised beds—creating a 20 foot by 8 foot fenced in garden. Mel Bartholomew's book, *Square Foot Garden*, as well as advice from neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Allen, were helpful in getting started. The children planted radishes, carrots, cucumber, green beans, red, yellow and green peppers, melon, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, sunflowers, morning glories, and black-eyed Susans. Only the radishes were ready for harvest by the time camp ended on July 29th but the garden has continued to grow and produce vegetables and fruits for the church feeding program. Several children picked carrots, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers on occasions when they came to the church in August. The success of the garden is truly a blessing from God. We look forward to harvesting the sunflower seeds in late September and early October.

Next year, the youth would like to expand the garden and get our seeds planted earlier. Any youth who is interested in the garden should let Dr. D. know (my cell is 614 940-5435, no texts please). As we approach the end of summer and the beginning of fall, we will need to prepare the beds for winter with a thick layer of shredded leaves and compost to replenish the soil with nutrients that will help our plants grow next spring. The **garden has helped to connect us with each other**. Over the winter, the youth and I will be studying up on urban gardening so that any decisions we make about the garden and our teamwork will help us grow stronger and more healthy just like the many fruits and vegetables we hope to harvest next year.

## Park the Hearse and Reverse the Curse continued from page 1

Our battles will continue to be lost until we get to the place and point where we learn to reverse what seems like a curse. The curse is valuing those things that are sensual over those things that are spiritual. Every day and every way we must be devoted to a continuous effort of teaching timeliness, truthfulness and temperateness in regulating our growth, replicating our gifts, resonating our guard, and rededicating our goal.

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We have been given FREE WILL to choose and be the leaders of everything on earth, in creation, everything else just follows—obeys.

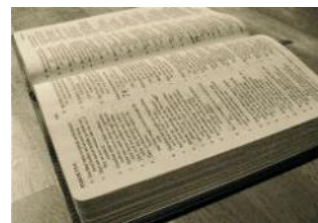
Life/living means community. Community life begins from the natural life and upon that life, and concludes from that life. Community comes from the rib of the man. The rib is the beginning of the circle—it responds to breath, inspiration, will and spirit. Behaviors and lifestyles, and the culture of death that robs community life, bring about moral, spiritual, cultural and material death that keeps us from development and progress that our great leaders before us fought for and wanted for us—knowing they would never live to see the apparent freedoms that we have. We've lost that progress but the HOPE is that we got their spirit! We were poor first and did much better when we were not allowed to, when sordid racism was at it's highest and there were no laws to protect us. Truthfulness, good judgment, decency, kindness, charity and the like belongs to human nature, and that obedience to God is our nature, it does not come to us after we are created—it is human nature—our DNA. You will never find happiness complete and satisfying for the soul until you realize and understand how to use what God created of all the good things for us to enjoy that supports our lives. The community garden our youth built reminds us.

Join our movement in changing, building and improving the conditions and quality of life in our community! MFM/M4M

by Deanna Wilkinson



by Pastor LaMarr



by Bro Cecil Ahad

## The Vision for Reconnecting the Roots 4-Life

by Pastor LaMarr

The story of **Hansel and Gretel** paved the way for this year’s camp theme: Reconnecting the Fruit to its Roots.” Poverty forced Hansel and Gretel’s parents to make some tough choices. Those choices left Hansel and Gretel with abandonment issues. Yet despite their trials, Hansel and Gretel’s young spirit of togetherness enabled them to overcome their obstacles and reconnect with their father.

It is our sincere desire, and prayer to God, that this years 8-week session helped the parents reassess their values on staying connected to their children, as well as understand the adverse affects that drugs and alcohol have on that relationship. Camp was able to reinforce that faith, in addition to elected and community leaders work together to promote a combined community commitment “to help make the tree good because a good tree cannot bear corrupt fruit (Matthew 23:6).” Each youth was taught the concept that **inward durability** paired with **outward sustainability** helps perfect upward mobility. In much the same way, the famous giant redwood trees have large and interconnected root systems hidden underground that connect them to one another, and has kept them standing tall for over 500 years. We’re hoping this year’s camp has made our youth more visionary in unlocking their purposeful potential, more sustainable with their standard against any and all substance abuse and addictions, and more able to convert obstacles into opportunities.



### 2014 Goals

1. Youth and Parents are engaged and their bonds are strengthen through summer
2. Teach youth to be supportive of other youth
3. To become familiar with 7 habits and discover their talent
4. To educate the youth about harmful effects of drugs and alcohol.

Thanks to ADAMH for providing a grant of \$60,000 to partially support this summer camp. Thanks to our partners— Community for New Direction, OSU’s violence prevention outreach team, Men for the Movement, artist Eliza Ho, and the NCUS.



## Maintaining Good Relationships with Law Enforcement

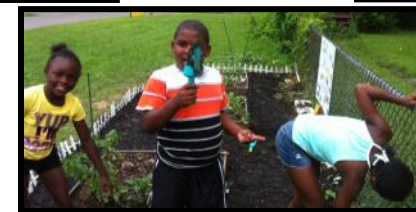
Deputy Chief, Ken Kuebler and Franklin County Sheriff, Zach Scott visited camp to share with the children the importance of staying away from trouble situations. They also spoke about what it means to cooperate with police who may be present in the neighborhood. They shared many tactics that officers use to promote healthy friendly relationships with children they encounter —explaining that the primary job of law enforcement is really to protect and serve. community safety.



## Building a Garden from the Ground up

by Pastor Frederick LaMarr

Re-enforcing the theme “Reconnecting the Roots,” Dr. D and her OSU student volunteers engaged the children in building a garden. Getting children to appreciate a love for nature, and understand how plants, provided hands-on learning opportunities. Most African American children learn more by actively doing than passively reading or hearing about something. Each youth painted a peg on the picket fence with his/her name. This gesture represents their differences, yet also unites them as together as protectors of what they have planted. The growth of the garden throughout summer brought with it much excitement and interest from the children. The youth were excited to show their parents and talked about wanting to garden at home. Mrs. Allen, a long-time neighbor (50 years), came by and taught the students some gardening techniques—a priceless lesson. She explained how gardening helps to keep her strong and healthy at age 75. The children could see her beautiful garden and the huge cucumber, carrots, and onions she picked to show them. She also taught them about canning and preparing foods to eat throughout the winter.



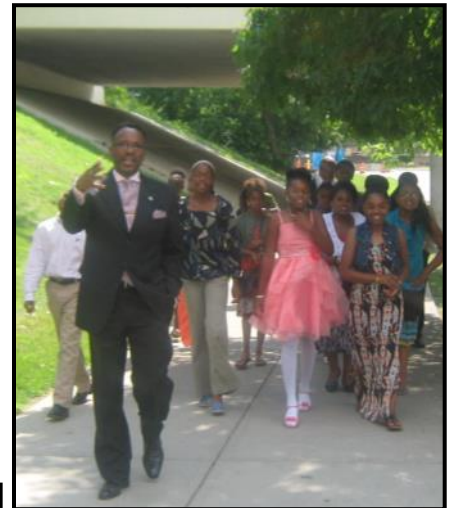
### Kings Arts Complex Visit Provokes Discussion

A field trip to the King Arts Complex educated the youth about the struggles that African Americans had right here in Columbus and the rich heritage that came as a result of those burdens. The children wrote a report on what they saw. During an oratorical contest, they presented their writings. The field trip had a profound impact.



### Rites in Passage Tour

Pastor LaMarr took the oldest group of youth on a Rites In Passage Tour, which took place at the Grand Ball Room of the Hyatt Regency Hotel for the 25th Community For New Directions fund-raising luncheon. During this tour, the youth were taught about their purpose, and allowed to experience the business and formal atmosphere of such an event. The arrived dress to impress. The young men in attendance were expected to open the van door and help the young ladies in and out of the van. Youth were also exposed to etiquette on a ballroom scale. It is a proven fact that when children change their appearance and atmosphere—they will systematically change their attitude.

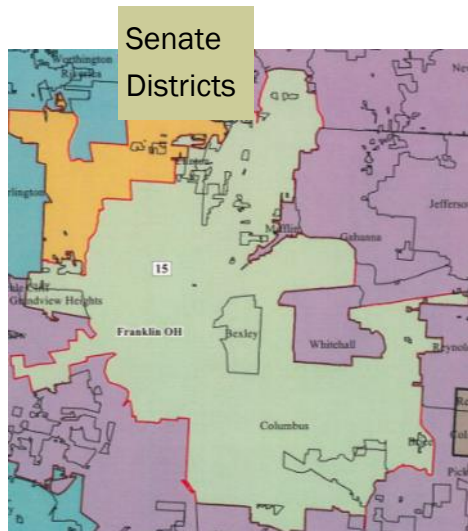
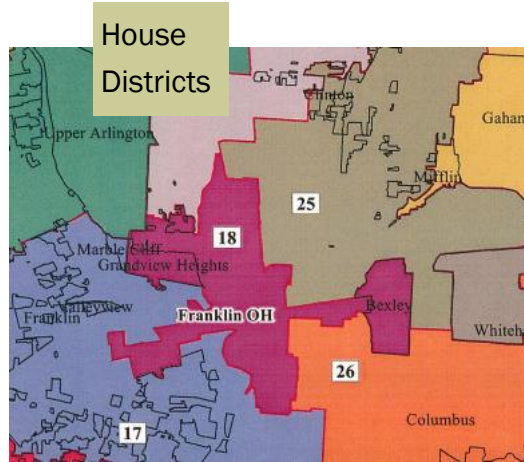


## The Importance of Voting

by Pastor Frederick LaMarr

Thanks to Ohio Secretary of State, John Husted's office, and Director of Franklin County Board of Elections, Bill Anthony, for teaching our youth about how the current voting machines used in Ohio work. As shown in the pictures below, the children learned about the importance of voting. They used the machine to vote on a series of pertinent questions to gauge their knowledge about the harmful effects of drugs and violence. The children enjoyed casting their ballots and seeing the results reinforcing the lesson that among their camp peers they know the harmful effects of using tobacco, drugs and violence.

M4M strongly encourages everyone to educate themselves on voting and participate in the process. During the summer months, numerous political candidates joined the M4M march to get know the community. We heard from community activists and neighbors about several issues that will affect all of us including the proposed new COTA bus routes, for example. Get registered to vote! Do your homework on the issues and candidates! Get to the polls and **cast your ballot!** Take a neighbor or family member to the polls! **Let your voice be heard!**



**Vote**

**N O R D R A G I S O H E I C E**

Ballot Style #1

How much do you like this summer boot camp?  
Vote for 1

A Whole Lot  
 A Lot  
 Only a Little  
 Not at All

What are the three harmful effects (bad things) that can come from using violence?  
Vote for not more than 3

Bad Grades  
 A Bad Reputation  
 Really Hurt Someone  
 Not Getting into College  
 Trouble Finding a Job

You have to smoke a lot to become addicted to tobacco?  
Vote for 1

Agree  
 Disagree

As long as you do not hit someone you are not being violent?  
Vote for 1

Agree  
 Disagree

Which of these is a harmful effect (or bad thing) that can come from using tobacco?  
Vote for 1

Cancer of the Lungs  
 Cancer of the Eyes  
 Cancer of the Nose

01 / 01 ? Review

### Career Exploration: Community Leaders Share their Experience

Each week during the camp, career professionals visited to connect with our youth and teach them about career paths and what it takes to become a successful professional. Among this year's career professional speakers, we had Judge Patrick Sheeran, Judge James Green, Judge Julie Dorrian, Monica Hawkins, City Prosecutor Bill Hendrick, Jennifer French, Councilman Zack Cline, Deputy Chief Ken Kuebler, State Representative Michael Stinziano, County Recorder Terry Brown, Clerk Lori Tyack, Franklin County Sheriff Zach Scott, Director of Franklin County Board of Elections Bill Anthony, Mike Schadek, community volunteer Tiffany Johnson, and LPN Taneisha Forrest, among others.



### Reconnecting the Roots 4-Life Graduation Highlights



Graduations are joyous occasions filled with anticipation and pride. On July 29th, approximately 75 students graduated from the Reaching Higher Heights 4-Life/FMBC summer youth program. Through oration, rap, and song to the amazing movement in dance and stepping, the graduates showcased their talents, growth, and RE-connection with their families and friends— all in attendance were given a gift that day. The Reaching Higher Heights 4-Life team, along with their partners, reached new heights in providing opportunities for youth to grow this summer. We thank all of the parents and caring adults who showed up to support these great young people.





## The Academy of Urban Scholars Celebrates More than 120 High School Graduates in 2014

Education works when individual learning styles are the main approach to achieving results. At the Academy of Urban Scholars, students are motivated to “get that paper” and they are graduating in record numbers.



AUS graduation May 25, 2014



AUS 2014 prom



## 10th Annual African American Male Wellness Walk



On August 9, 2014, hundreds of people came out for the African American male wellness walk in Columbus. The city streets were closed off through the heart of the Black community for a 5-mile stretch. More importantly, hundreds of African American men got free health screenings and exams. Those in need of care received health care. Everyone was reminded about the importance of health and wellness. Vendors shared information, and the community gathered to celebrate wellness and unity. The AAMWW also happened in Youngstown, Toledo, Akron, and Dayton this summer. Governor John Kasich recognized the AAMWW by formally declaring August **African American Male Wellness month** in the State of Ohio.



56- June Theme: To Help with their Lust you Got to Build up their Trust



57 - July Theme: Park the Hearse and Reverse the Curse



59 - September The Way to Complain is 2 Effect Change



# Ministries4Movement



Family Missionary Baptist Church  
Spiritual leadership, serve as a safe haven, lead the community healing process, and provide support to youth and families.



Men For the Movement  
Street outreach, mentoring, justice advocacy, and community mobilization



The OSU Research Team  
Capacity building and crime and asset data analysis, evaluation, and strategic planning.



N.C.U.S.  
Workforce development, employment and empowerment  
A.U.S. Alternative high school for 16-22 year olds



N.A.B.C.J. Ohio Chapter  
is a multi-ethnic, nonpartisan, nonprofit association of criminal justice professionals and community leaders dedicated to improving the administration of justice.

Event	Date	Info	Contact
Parenting Classes	each Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00am -12:30pm	Meal provided	Pastor LaMarr
1ST SUNDAY HEALING MARCH & SERVICES (Focus on Education)	October 5, 2014 3PM-4:30PM (PROMPTLY AT 3)	FAMILY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 966 OAKWOOD	Pastor Fred LaMarr (614) 252-7488
Neighborhood Best Practices Conference M4M presenting	Oct. 11, 2014, 8:00AM -2:30PM	Downtown High School, 364 S. 4th.	Min. Aaron K. Hopkins
Trunk N Treat	Oct. 30, beggars night in Columbus, 6 pm	FAMILY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 966 OAKWOOD	1st Lady Michelle LaMarr (614) 252-7488
1ST SUNDAY HEALING MARCH & SERVICES, anniversary celebration	Nov 2, 2014 3PM-4:30PM (PROMPTLY AT 3)	FAMILY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 966 OAKWOOD	Pastor Fred LaMarr (614) 252-7488
1ST SUNDAY HEALING MARCH & SERVICES (Focus on Education)	Dec. 7, 2014 3PM-4:30PM (PROMPTLY AT 3)	FAMILY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 966 OAKWOOD	Pastor Fred LaMarr (614) 252-7488

### Connect with us Online!

Ministries4Movement online community:  
<http://ministries4movement.ning.com/>

Ministries4Movement on Facebook

Men For the Movement on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Men4Movement>



Community Safety Institute Knowledge Center:  
<http://csiknowledgecenter.osu.edu/>

Ohio Chapter of National Association of Blacks in  
Criminal Justice <http://www.ohionabcj.org/>

N.C.U.S. <http://ncusolutions.org/>



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To donate to the CVPC CeaseFire Columbus Fund, please contact Andrea Bowlin in the EHE Development Office. The **Fund Number** is 313352. **Phone:** (614) 247-7825 **Email:** [bowlin.6@osu.edu](mailto:bowlin.6@osu.edu)