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OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INCORPORATED

SUMMER/FALL 2020

SOCIAL JUSTICE EDITION



**OMEGA BROTHERS
HOLD THE FRATERNITY'S
FIRST VIRTUAL CONCLAVE**

MANHOOD, SCHOLARSHIP, PERSEVERANCE AND UPLIFT

RESPECT US LAUNCHES INITIATIVE

At HBCUs And Throughout the Community

Black Lives Matter has been extremely effective in raising awareness about institutional racism in our society, and placing a spotlight on current events that demonstrate many injustices. Now that we are all more aware as a society, what are the next steps that will drive us toward positive change?

The Race, Equality, Security, Policy, Education, Care and Technology Unifying Safety (RESPECT US) movement turns awareness into action.

The RESPECT US movement is the foundation to facilitate meaningful change. It is composed of all citizens and organizational stakeholders who want to see positive lasting change in our communities. The actions first start with empowering the community with the Eye Need A Witness technology to observe, record, and support someone who calls for a witness because they feel unsafe. Nearby users will come to the caller's aid to de-escalate volatile situations, document injustices, and support those who need help.

With this critical technology deployed, the initiative also will bring together communities through the RESPECT Unifying Safety Summits - forums where students, parents, community leaders, corporate executives, elected officials, and law enforcement professionals will have open, honest, and impactful

conversations about inherent bias, systemic racism, economic empowerment, community policing, and police brutality. The RESPECT US Summits will lay the groundwork for new policies and reforms that are necessary to facilitate positive lasting change.

In partnership with the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), the RESPECT US Summits will be held at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) around the country.

Understanding that economic empowerment is another essential element needed to dismantle the systems of oppression, inequality, and denied economic access that still exists in our country, these Summits will provide training and resources to connect HBCU students with top employers and opportunities from a wide range of industries.

The Eye Need a Witness technology and the productive communication and relationship building derived from the RESPECT US Summits will help our nation heal by strengthening the trust, respect, and connectedness between our leaders, law enforcement, and communities of color.

The recent tragedy of George Floyd, which has stirred protests, social unrest and has brought expanded awareness of systemic racism in our society. It also has increased the relevance and need for the Eye Need a Witness

technology. Brother Darryl Beasley, a Psi Chapter brother and Morehouse College graduate, is Vice President of Sales for for the Greenline Business Group, the company that developed the Eye Need a Witness technology.

Brother Beasley said the company is committed to working with historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs). He noted that HBCUs have consistently educated disproportionately large percentages of competitive and diverse graduates. These graduates give rise to, and help sustain, a robust Black middle class in America. They also account almost exclusively for the diversity in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and growth in other high-need disciplines.

HBCUs are at the creative forefront of American education, offering the tools and skills necessary for students to succeed in today's diverse, globally interdependent, and technologically advanced world.

For more information about the Respect US initiative contact: Brother Darryl K. Beasley, Sr., Esq., Vice President of Sales, Eye Need A Witness Greenline Business Group dbeasley@greenlinebusinessgroup.com

Funding from Social Justice Initiative

Citrix Provides Chapter Grants

Citrix Systems, Inc. is an American multinational software company that provides server, application, desktop virtualization, networking, and cloud computing technologies. As part of its social justice initiatives, and through the leadership of its Black Professionals Network (BPN), Citrix has awarded two grants for \$25,000 to two Omega Psi Phi Fraternity chapters. The two recipients of the grants include Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter located in Chicago and Zeta Chi Chapter based in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Both chapters will focus on uplifting Black male youth during these challenging time in history. Consistent with the four Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift, both chapter programs also seek to utilize the positive presence and guidance of Omega Men to help young Black males be more responsible.

Rho Gamma Gamma's Omega Y.E.S. program is a male youth mentorship program designed to support 40-50 young African American males in the Chicago metropolitan area who are faced with many adversities and challenges. It offers a comprehensive values-based rites of passage program through a 10-week mentorship process. The program provides instruction and guidance in conflict resolution, life skills, and goal setting. It also encourages the development of strong study habits and critical thinking skills.



Brother Brian C. Johnson of Zeta Chi Chapter (right) instructing one of the chapter's Lamplighters mentees the art of properly washing laundry.

The program promotes the Seven Principles of NGUZO-SABA which are Unity, Self Determination, Collective Worth and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith. The goal for "The Omega Y.E.S." program is for participants to make positive life choices and accept responsibility for their education. Participants leave the program with the desire to seek out higher educational opportunities, increased self-worth, and a stronger sense of community.

Zeta Chi's Lamp Lighters Mentoring Club of Ft. Lauderdale targets up to 25 young Black males ages 10-17. Although the preferred minimum age is 11 years old, they allow students as young as ten this year to reach 5th grade males who will prepare for the turbulent transition to middle school. The primary goal is to instill in them a belief system and a pattern of

positive behavioral habits that help them understand and pursue their value as positive and productive young men in the Ft. Lauderdale community. To reinforce the session topics, they will participate in several community services, community events, field trips, and other activities that allow them to practice the positive behaviors and meet positive people. Since January of 2008, the Zeta Chi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. has partnered with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward County to facilitate the "Lamp Lighters" Mentoring Club.

For more information about chapter grant funding contact Brother Efreem Z. Stringfellow, Vice President, Citrix-efrem.stringfellow@citrix.com