

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT CONNECTION

NEWSLETTER | 2017 | FALL EDITION



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YEAR END REVIEW

Although we were officially recognized as a nonprofit at the end of 2017, we established ourselves in the community with our work and dedication in the months prior. In a short period of time, we have created and provided a variety of services to individuals that support both education and community development. In 2017, we hosted over twelve events that provided resources, tools, networking opportunities, over amazing meals and with the support of local leaders, advocates and stakeholders. We were able to do so with the support of other organizations who shared in our mission to empower individuals in the name of effective community engagement.

Our list of partnerships with businesses allowed us to create spaces for much needed "change" conversations in areas that were in desperate need of change. We hope that our efforts will continue to inspire others to use their voice to initiate the changes that are desired and needed.

Our two program platforms, College Prep & Connect Clinic and Education Advocacy Awareness have reached hundreds of people. The focus of our outreach and community engagement efforts has been based off of what the community has expressed they have an interest in.

Note from our Founder:

Community Empowerment Foundation, Inc. has proved its commitment to supporting individuals in making positive change. We are simply an organization that will continue to produce programs that are aligned with our mission to educate, advocate and empower those who are making change as well as those who desire change. In our conversations, we have met people who simply needed to be encouraged, voices needed to be heard and they just needed to know next steps towards leading the causes to advocate for "better" where they reside. We are honored to be apart of the igniting process. Now we have passed the torch to others who want to lead in this journey of positive change and they will inspire others.

Take a look at where we have been...



*"Change starts with a conversation.
Change
happens with a commitment"*

Danielle A. Stewart, Ed.D., Founder

ADVOCATE.



Community Empowerment Foundation, Inc.



COLLEGE PREP PARENT WORKSHOP AT REDAN HIGH SCHOOL

COLLEGE PREP & CONNECT CLINIC

College Prep & Connect Clinic offered a variety of workshops for parents and students primarily in DeKalb County. We are committed to finding innovative ways of giving back to parents and students who are in need of additional college prep support beyond school walls. Through our amazing team and partners, we have been able to bring college prep support workshops to families which are conveniently located, and are as frequent as desired. We serve groups big and small and have talented experts who are able to share resources and tools that will assist in connecting the dots towards future planning.

"They simply asked me what was on my college prep support wish list, and they conveniently gave me exactly what I needed." - Parent

Our program model has proven to be successful and much needed based off our pre and post assessments which reveals exactly what are the areas of interest and how can we support what the schools are already doing in order to advance families to the next level of successful future planning and future planning options.

January 16, 2017- Full workshop clinic at Redan High School

*Provided multiple workshops onsite and a panel discussion for parents and students about how to understand and prepare for the college prep process/ 50 attendees

March 4, 2017- Onsite college prep support at Kroger/ College prep support Q&A with Dr. Stewart

*Provided a station onsite for community members could engage in conversation and have their specific questions about college prep support and sign up for upcoming college prep workshops/ 20 participants

March 11, 2017- Full workshop clinic at Green Pastures Christian Ministries Church, Inc.

*Provided multiple workshops onsite and a panel discussion for parents and students about how to understand and prepare for the college prep process/ 20 attendees

September 16, 2017- Workshop series session at Kroger/Financial planning for real life

*Provided workshop for financial planning for college and real life. Taught students about creative ways to save and how to shop on a budget/ 12 attendees

September 23, 2017- Workshop series session at Kroger/Leadership and public speaking

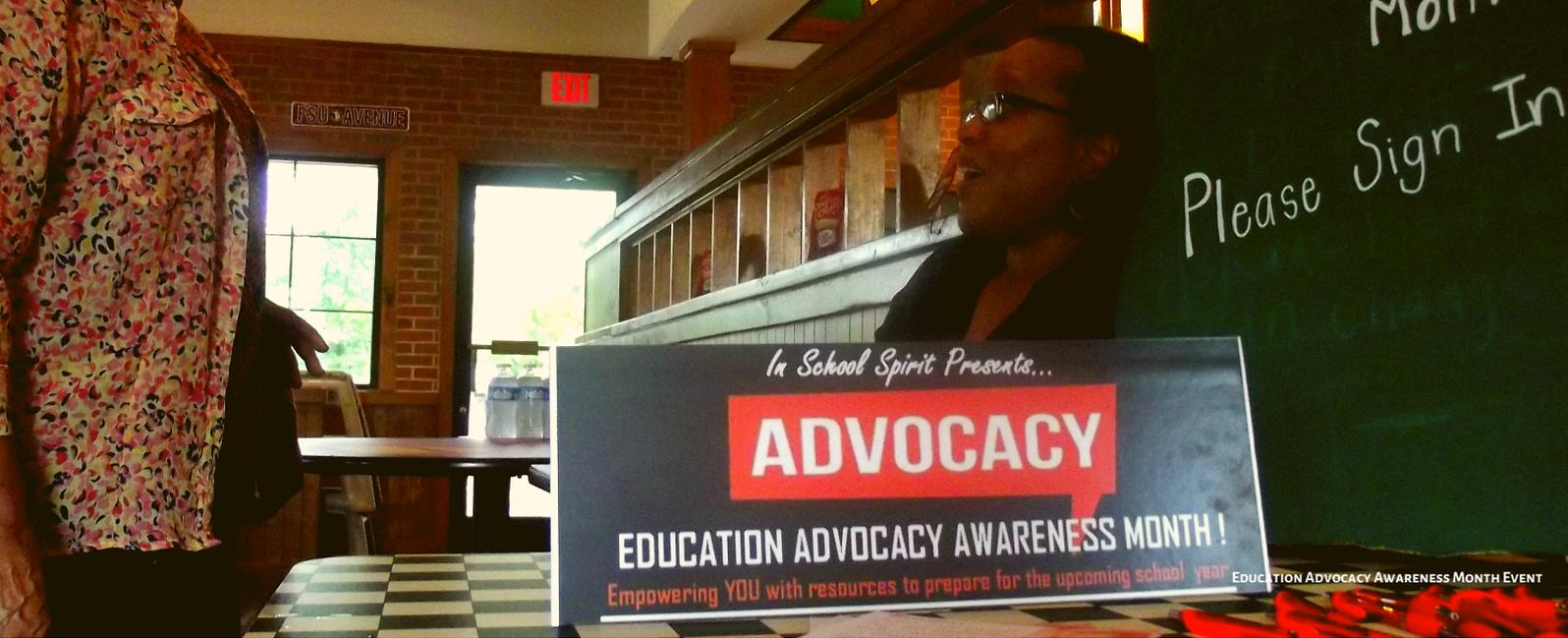
*Provided workshop to introduce students to competent communication skills and how programs like Toastmasters prepare you for college and the future/ 5 attendees

September 30, 2017- Workshop series session at Kroger/General college prep support

*Provided general college prep support. An overview of the process/5 attendees

To learn more, visit our website at www.communityempowermentfoundation.com





EDUCATION ADVOCACY AWARENESS MONTH

This year we launched Education Advocacy Awareness month in July. For the entire month in South DeKalb, we committed to creating a platform for families in the entire month of July to join us every week for dinner and dialogue about education. We turned the local popular Pizza Hut dining area into a space for people to feel right at home to discuss the community they were passionate about. Our sessions were designed to cover a series of topics and to empower parents and students to share what they would like to see in their schools. Simultaneously, we ran a college prep workshop for students as well.

"I didn't know that anyone cared until I was invited to the conversation at my job." - Student employee

We partnered with organizations, educators, leaders and other advocates in the state of Georgia in order to expose and to increase the amount of resources that were accessible to everyone who was in need. Our goal was to address the issues that parents and students were concerned about and to build a plan of action for how to advocate and create change by the end of the month. We were able to interact with over 100 participants throughout the month, including creating a weekly series with the local gavel club to teach young leaders about the power of advocacy.

July 11, 2017- Advocacy Series/Gavel Club

*The power of the Voice- teaching students about why their voice is important in the change process

July 13, 2017- Dinner and Dialogue/ Pizza Hut

*The power of the Voice- /teaching parents and students about why their voice is important in the change process/understanding school data

July 18, 2017- Advocacy Series/Gavel Club at Pizza Hut

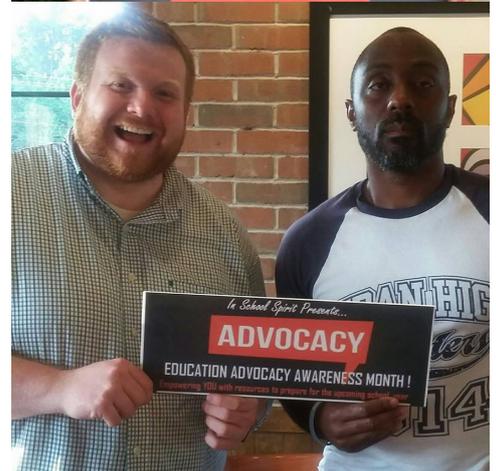
* The Power of the Voice/How to advocate- Introduction to different ways to advocate in your communities

July 20, 2017- Dinner and Dialogue/ Pizza Hut

*Plan of action for change-next steps and how to continue the work

July 25, 2017- Advocacy Series/ Gavel Club/ Speech-a-thon

*Student showcase of speeches delivered to an audience of community members that displayed what they learned about advocacy and the changes that students want to make in education in their communities.



To learn more, visit our website at www.educationadvocacyawareness.com