

ANNUAL REPORT

20

A YEAR OF
GROWTH & RESILIENCE

23



COMMUNITY
EDUCATION
ALLIANCE

LITERACY • MENTORSHIP • CULTURE

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Building a Legacy, Embracing the Future



COMMUNITY
EDUCATION
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LITERACY • MENTORSHIP • CULTURE

Leading with Vision, Inspiring Success

Dear Community Partners,

I am delighted to present our Annual Report, showcasing our remarkable journey and accomplishments throughout the year. It is with immense pride that I reflect on the dedication and resilience of our team, the unwavering support of our valued community partners, and the positive impact we have made in our schools and community.

In the face of unprecedented challenges, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to excellence, innovation, and transformation. Our emphasis on mobilizing schools and community members around educational initiatives has played a pivotal role in our sustained growth and achievements.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dynamic board members who have consistently gone above and beyond to exceed expectations and help drive our organization forward. Their unwavering passion, expertise, and commitment have been the bedrock of our organizational growth over the past year.

Additionally, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated volunteers for their unwavering support in our literacy, mentorship, and cultural programs that directly benefit students and families in our community. Your contributions, whether through mentoring, reading, or participating in community events, have significantly impacted the lives of those we serve.

Thank you for being an essential part of our mission to promote literacy, mentorship and culture while improving the educational and life experiences of at-risk children on our minority communities.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to our core values, fostering a culture of transformation, and delivering sustainable value to our students and community. We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and confident in our ability to navigate the evolving landscape.

On behalf of the entire leadership team, I assure you that we will continue to prioritize transparency, integrity, and responsible growth in everything we do. Together, let us embrace the future with optimism and determination, knowing that our collective efforts will shape a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and I invite you to delve into the following pages of this report to discover the milestones, achievements, and exciting prospects that define our organization.

Sincerely,



Brithney Johnson

Chief Executive Officer

Uniting Talents, Fueling Transformation

Meet our dedicated Board of Directors who have contributed their expertise, passion, and collaboration to drive our success!

Pamela Booker-Pettis
Chair



Dr. Donnie Hale, Jr
Vice Chair



Luwando Wright
Secretary



Dr. Leontine Butler
Member



Dr. Marcus D. Davidson
Co-Founder/Member



Marilynn Walls
Member



Empowering Students, Driving Success



Literacy Initiatives



The CEA partnered with Banyan Elementary School to provide 3rd through 5th grade students an innovative literacy activity throughout the school year. Principal Neunie’s **Book Club** is a weekly club for students to read the book of the month, discuss weekly vocabulary, and participate in reading comprehension games. At the end of the school year, participants participated in a book bowl and vocabulary bowl competition showcasing their literacy aptitude and overall love for literature.



The CEA joined the Sunland Park Academy **iReady Proficiency** initiative to host monthly “PPP” enrichment activities honoring students in grades K-3 who showcase achievement in ELA standards each month. Each participating student read books each month and passed their iReady reading assessments with 80% or better. Students are assessed monthly on books read, and based on their scores, are invited to attend an exciting proficiency-themed activity at the end of the month.



This Christmas, the CEA partnered with BCPS Title 1 to support its annual “**12 Books of Christmas**” book giveaway. This year, nearly 100 Sunland Park Academy students received two books from our “CEA 12 Books of Christmas” program, fostering the development of a home library, and promoting reading beyond the classroom. It served as a delightful treat for students as they concluded the year in anticipation of the Christmas break.

Mentorship Matters



The CEA collaborated with First Priority to provide **Game Day**, an after-school club that helps to reach kids with faith-based character values in elementary schools. The weekly Game Day club features fun games, character values, and faith based curriculum. During the weekly sessions, students are engaged in activities with messages of who they are and what they should become. Game Day brings a message of character, supplying monthly lessons on integrity, honesty, and compassion.



During the month of May, distinguished leaders from right here in our community shared inspiring stories of success during our end of the year **“Leadership Luncheon.”** The CEA is sincerely grateful for our sponsors’ demonstration of mentorship, leadership and most importantly, black excellence! Our scholars left empowered and ready to explore the endless possibilities set before them.



CEA extends **community service opportunities** to middle and high school students, involving them in diverse activities such as social media read-alouds, backpack and toy drive distributions, and events in collaboration with New Mount Olive Baptist Church. Outstanding students have earned more than 50 service hours in a school year, contributing towards meeting graduation requirements and participating in other school honor-related activities.

Championing a Culture of Excellence & Service

Each grading period, the **CEA honors** its Dillard High School Honor Roll scholars. Through partnerships with state and local partners such as Florida Blue and Panther 100, the CEA provides a sit-down breakfast, ceremony, Honor roll medals and giveaways for top performing students in 9th – 12th grade. While students were excited to celebrate academic success, they’re also charged to encourage their fellow peers to strive for excellence in the upcoming quarters.



The CEA’s partnership with the 2023 **MOUNTMentum Back to School Drive** was an exemplary collaboration among MOUNTMentum churches and community partners! This year’s drive served over 2,000 children and their families in our community. Students received filled backpacks, immunizations, haircuts, lunch, and plenty of giveaways from a multitude of local vendors. CEA youth volunteers were provided another opportunity to garner community service hours packing bags, sorting supplies, and serving families during the event.



The CEA, collaborating with New Mount Olive Baptist Church (NMOBC) and Mount Olive Development Corporation (MODCO), offered an incredible chance to make a positive impact on our community this Holiday Season! Our neighbors at Old Dillard Museum offered their facility to allow community members to not only benefit from the drive but also explore the rich history of Dillard High School and the Black Excellence of Broward County. The annual **Christmas for the Community** toy drive resulted in over 800 toys distributed to families within our community.

Celebrating Breakthroughs, Inspiring Progress

Celebrate our significant milestones, projects, and other achievements that have propelled our organization forward.



345

Students Served
Through In-School CEA Initiatives



675

Books Distributed



2,000

Backpacks Distributed



800

Toys Distributed



130

NMOBC Youth
Participating in CEA Sponsored Events



25

Community Partners



\$8.6K

Sponsorships



\$20.5K

Grant Funding

United in Service, Dedication & Accountability

The CEA recognizes its top volunteers in 2023 for their contributions to our most impactful programs and initiatives.

Marilyn Brown

*Most Volunteer Hours (300)
Sunland Park Academy*



Belinda Sears

*Best in Class
Game Day
Read for the Record
Literacy Buddy*



Rosene Farris

*Best All Around
Book Club
Read for the Record
Christmas for the Community
Toy Drive*



Rolane Brown

*Best Newcomer
Game Day*



We express our sincere appreciation to all stakeholders, including school staff and students, community partners, volunteers, and sponsors, for their unwavering support and dedication.

Gratitude, Collaboration, and Continued Success





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