



Youth - Turning Our Lives Around

Uth Turn (sponsored by the Fund for Community Leadership Development, Inc.)

September 17th, 2008

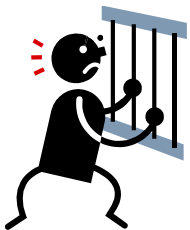
The Harsh Reality



Our young people are in trouble!

- **According to The Correctional Association of New York:**

- On any given day, hundreds of youth under the age of 16 are incarcerated in the New York City. The majority of the young people locked up in these secure detention centers are charged with non-violent, low-level offenses and do not pose any threat to public safety.
- New York City has initiated steps to reduce detention; however, it is still chronically overused and the City continues to spend millions of tax dollars to run a wasteful and racially biased juvenile detention system.



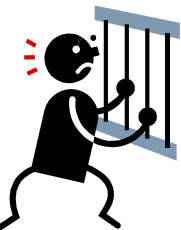
Striking Statistics



Our young people are in trouble! Each day we lose more children to violence, poverty and neglect

Did You Know?

- ❑ 580,000 Black males are serving sentences in state or federal prison, while fewer than 40,000 Black males earn a bachelors degree each year.
- ❑ An estimated 1.7 million of all races children run away or are cast out of their homes every year.
- ❑ Black children are twice as likely as White children to be put in programs for mental retardation; almost twice as likely to be repeat a grade; three times as likely to be suspended, and 50 percent more likely to drop out of school.
- ❑ 44% of the children in New York state are African American or Latino, yet they represent 86% of the youth in state custody.
- ❑ A teen is killed by gunfire almost every three hours.



The Harsh Reality



Our youth are faced with very tough decisions everyday

Poverty

- ❑ 1 in 6 American children lives below the poverty level – costing taxpayers \$500B in lost productivity, yet could be eliminated for \$55B annually.

Unstable Family Environments

- ❑ Youths face challenging circumstances such as child abuse and neglect and unstable family environments.

Lack of Education

- ❑ Lack of early and quality education will continue to affect children's academic development.

Insufficient Health Services

- ❑ The problems above are compounded by the absence of health care and lack of access to mental health services

Inadequate Juvenile Detention System

- ❑ Our juvenile detention centers are mired by insufficient rehabilitation programs.
- ❑ As many as 80% of the children who enter the detention system return to court or go to prison again within 3 years.

We can stop this cycle



It has been proved that community-based programs can...

- According to a 2007 report from the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard University, racial achievement gaps amongst children persist at every level of parental education. What share of the gap is due to schooling as opposed to home life and opportunities to learn outside of schools is a topic of ongoing research.
- This emphasizes the need for community-based programs.



Supporting Our Youth



All youth who live in an urban environment are “at risk” and need support from their schools, families, social service agencies, and the faith-based community

- These young adults need:
 - Appropriate support systems and opportunities connected to families, schools, community based organizations and churches
 - Challenging activities and initiatives
 - Safety
 - Education
- This will lead to:
 - Economic self-sufficiency
 - Healthy relationships with family, friends and associates
 - Effective community involvement

How Can Uth Turn Help



■ **Our Background:**

- Founded in 1999, Uth Turn is a collaboration of churches, criminal justice partners, and service agencies, Fund for Community Leadership Development and the New York Theological Seminary
- We work with "at-risk" youth ages 13-21, in greatest need of intervention: street youth, gang members, young people with pending or prior conflicts with the law
- Uth Turn provides these young people with:
 - Case management
 - Counseling/ Mentoring
 - Leadership Training
 - Educational and Job Preparation
 - Employment and Social Services referrals
- Uth Turn has 11 sites throughout the five boroughs in New York City, eight of these sites are located at various churches.
- We work with the United Way of New York City, Department of Education, Attendance Improvement Dropout Prevention (AIDP) Program at schools in Brooklyn, Bronx and Harlem.

How Can Uth Turn Help



■ What we do:

- A 2006 interview from the Suffolk County (MA) House of Correction revealed that incarcerated youth believe they would've benefited from support that was continuous and from people they could relate to
- Uth Turn builds on the Search Institute's 40 external and internal developmental assets with the intention of creating holistic comprehensive long-lasting human development
- Uth Turn uses a result driven program and focuses on creating a support network to support youth throughout the community
- We use Facilitators who have graduated from the New York Theological Seminary Sing Sing Masters of Professional Studies Program. Uth Turn emphasizes:
 - 1. Individual Reform
 - 2. Strengthening the Family
 - 3. Community Action Framework

How Can Uth Turn Help



■ Curriculum

- ❑ Self View (positive)
- ❑ Internal locus of control (anger management)
- ❑ Future Orientation (planning life)
- ❑ Coping Skills (stress management)
- ❑ Conflict Resolution
- ❑ Positive Peer Interaction (mentoring and working with other people)
- ❑ Community Responsibility

How Can Uth Turn Help



■ **The Results in 2007-2008:**

- ❑ Uth Turn served over 894 young people, at a cost of less than \$3.43 per day per Uth Turn participant (as compared to \$280 per day in Residential Centers).
- ❑ Of the young people who have previous court involvement and at risk of returning, 85% will not return.
- ❑ Of the youth who are enrolled in school or vocational training and need to improve attendance and academic performance, 45% will improve attendance and academic performance and will be promoted to the next school grade level.
- ❑ Of the youth who lack positive relationships and interactions with their families, 50% will have improved relationships and interactions with their families.
- ❑ Of the youth who lack a better understanding of the importance of community involvement, 50% will increase their understanding after participation in community service activities.

A win-win solution



Here is a successful example of our program at work

- Kamran was referred to the Uth Turn program by the Legal Aid Society, which requested our services regarding his issues of fighting, anger management, and bad friends.
- Kamran was arrested and charged with assault in the 3rd degree for fighting; However, Judge Smith, TP5, Family Court, Brooklyn NY decided to give Kamran a second chance and mandated him to the Uth Turn Program.
- At the time Kamran entered the Uth Turn Program his self-esteem was very low. He was following the wrong type of friends who were involved in drugs and robbery. Kamran stated he wanted to fit in and did not want to be an outsider. He stated he began using drugs, stopped going to class, his grade went from A's to F's, began disrespecting his parents, and fighting other teenagers.
- Uth Turn played a major role in helping Kamran get his life back in order. The Program provided individual counseling, group counseling, anger management, Therapeutic Art and Sign Language. Regular contacts has been established with a Uth Turn Facilitator.
- If Uth Turn were not in place, Kamran would not have had the opportunity to receive counseling, group sessions, therapeutic art, sign language, video taping, and addressing his problems. He probably would have been incarcerated and taking his problems out on others by fighting as well as using drugs. Uth Turn has given him a great opportunity to achieve his goals. Kamran is employed, doing very well, staying out of trouble and he has moved out of the neighborhood. Kamran has appeared on BCAT Television Cablevision Channel 68 sharing his testimony of how Uth Turn helped to turn his life around. Kamran talks with other youth and encourages them to do positive things in their lives.

A national model



- With a recidivism rate for incarceration of 8% (representing a 92% success rate), Uth Turn is being observed as a national model combining the best of the community, school and organizations of faith
- New York Theological Seminary (NYTS), an interdenominational seminary in the heart of New York City, has a strong emphasis on developing congregations to be agents of personal and social transformation.
- NYTS has played a critical role in the formation of Uth Turn, which began as only a one-year project for 1999-2000.
- Our success has led the program to continue operating in the last 9 years.

Development Opportunities



Uth Turn's work has been recognized by various funding sources.

- For example:
 - In 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 Uth Turn was selected as one of 518 diverse artistic, cultural and social service institutions within New York City to receive \$200,000 in grants from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Our Need



- Uth Turn needs additional funding in order to reach more at-risk youth and to be a sustainable long-term outreach program.
- According to Dr. John Cardwell, President of EVAXX, Inc.:
 - There is a tremendous opportunity for funders to invest in the extraordinarily innovative and effective Uth Turn program model
 - Sole Source public funds, are critical but not enough
 - Uth Turn must pursue corporate, private, individual, and foundation funding as well as non-traditional fundraising strategies

Support opportunities



- Funds for a full-time Fund Developer
- Funds for re-designing website
- Funds for general operating support such as computers, software, and technical assistance
- Funds for expansion of services to reach out to additional young people
- Funds for field trips and metro cards for youth participants
- Contributions and support for our 10th anniversary fundraising gala



Major Fundraising Targets



- **2008 – 2009 Goals:**
 - **\$500,000** for Expansion and Operating Budget
 - **\$250,000** for the FCLD/Uth Turn Contribution to the 2008-2009 OCFS Contract
 - **\$100,000** for 2009 10th Anniversary Uth Turn Celebration
 - **\$100,000** for Fund Development
 - **\$ 50,000** for Incentives, Metro Cards, Food for Uth Turn Participants
 - **\$ 12,000** for Website Developer

Sponsorship Levels



- **Diamond** **\$50,000**
- **Platinum** **\$25,000**
- **Gold** **\$10,000**
- **Silver** **\$ 2,500**
- **Bronze** **\$ 500**
- **Friend** **\$ 250**



APPENDIX

Collaborations and Linkages



- Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)
- The United Way of New York City
- New York Theological Seminary (NYTS)
- Administration of Children Services (ACS)
- ComALERT (Community and Law Enforcement Resources Together)
- Criminal Justice Partners
- Exodus Transitional Community
- Developmental Assets Task Force
- Teaming for Technology (T4T)



Staff



Uth Turn Staff:

- **Rev. C. Vernon Mason**, FCLD, Chief Executive Officer
- **Williette Hill**, Senior Program Coordinator
- **Nestor Caraballo**, Fiscal Manager
- **Shirley Lewis-Thomas**, Executive Assistant
- **Quitman Gregory**, Information Technology Consultant

Leadership



Rev. Dr. C. Vernon Mason, Chief Executive Officer



A native of Arkansas, Dr. Mason is a graduate of Morehouse College, earned a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) with a concentration in Applied Urban Economics from Indiana University, a Juris Doctorate from Columbia Law School, a Master of Divinity from New York Theological Seminary and on May 16th, 2009 received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from New York Theological Seminary. Dr. Mason's D. Min. Project is titled **A NEW PARADIGM FOR URBAN YOUTH MINISTRY: THE STORY OF UTH TURN IN NEW YORK CITY 1999 – 2008.**

Dr. Mason is a member of the Faculty at New York Theological Seminary and is the C.E.O. for the Fund for Community Leadership Development, Inc. that operates Uth Turn and since 1999 has served several thousand at-risk youth in New York City. 94% of Uth Turn's court mandated youth were not re-arrested and the annual cost per Uth Turn participant is \$2.53 per day.

Dr. Mason has been a member of the historic Abyssinian Baptist Church since 1976, served as a Trustee from 1978 – 1988 and has served on the Deacon Board since 1990.

Rev. Dr.. Mason married his beloved wife Thelma on May 30th, 1967, the day he graduated from Morehouse and the day after she graduated from Spelman and from this union they have three wonderful adult children – Kimara, Khalila and C. Vernon, Jr. and a grandson, Harleem Addae Robinson born July 30, 2007.

Board of Directors



Fund for Community Leadership Development, Inc. (FCLD) Board of Directors:

- Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts III, Pastor, Abyssinian Baptist Church (Board Chair)
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- Dr. Dale T. Irvin, President, New York Theological Seminary (Secretary)
- Patricia L. Miller, Managing Director, Lehman Brothers (Treasurer)
- Nadja Fidelia, former Managing Director, Lehman Brothers
- Tisha Jackson, Esq.
- Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President, Medgar Evers College
- Dr. Bert M. Peterson, Jr., Medical Doctor
- Dr. Cornel West, Department of Religion, Princeton University

Board of Directors



Reverend Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III, Pastor, Abyssinian Baptist Church

Reverend Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III, is Pastor of the nationally renowned Abyssinian Baptist Church in the City of New York, and President of SUNY College at Old Westbury. His sincere commitment to enhancing the kingdom of God on earth is manifested in a loyal attention to the daily activities and services of the congregation, as well as the pervasive impact of the church on community development initiatives: homelessness, senior citizen and youth empowerment, cultural awareness and ecumenical outreach.

Under Dr. Butts' leadership, the Abyssinian Baptist Church is committed to the expansion and maintenance of the Christian mission. Rev. Butts was one of the founders, and is the current Chairman of the Abyssinian Development Corporation, a comprehensive, community-based not for profit organization, responsible for over \$500 million in housing and commercial development in Harlem. He was also instrumental in establishing the Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change – a public, state-of-the-art, intermediate and high school in Harlem, and he is the visionary behind the Thurgood Marshall Academy Lower School, which opened in September 2005.

Dr. Butts is a native New Yorker. He spent a few years in the South, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. He returned to New York and earned a Master of Divinity Degree in Church History from Union Theological Seminary, and a Doctorate of Ministry Degree in Church and Public Policy from Drew University. Reverend Butts was an Urban Affairs instructor, and served as Adjunct Professor in the African Studies Department at City College, New York. He also taught Black Church History at Fordham University, and continues to give lectures and speeches to colleges, universities and various organizations throughout the United States and abroad.

Board of Directors



Nadja Fidelia, former Managing Director, Lehman Brothers



Nadja Fidelia, with 20 years of financial markets experience, was a managing director at Lehman Brothers and co-founded the Partnership Solutions Group (“PSG”), a unique Wall Street business started in 2004. PSG is a commercial platform focused on proactively developing business opportunities with women- and minority- owned firms that operate as broker dealers, hedge funds, private equity firms, commercial banks, real estate firms and asset management firms.

Ms. Fidelia, as part of the Diversity & Inclusion team, drove an initiative to combine the work of Lehman Employees of African Descent (LEAD), PSG and other inclusive leadership efforts to ensure the Firm excels in recruiting, retaining and developing people of all backgrounds.

Prior to her current role with PSG, Ms. Fidelia held key leadership roles with the Firm's most strategic relationships. Ms. Fidelia started her career at Lehman Brothers in 1989 in the Emerging Markets business, working in both Investment Banking and Fixed Income trading. In 1996, after being promoted to Emerging Markets product manager, she helped institutionalize the high net worth franchise through the development of a \$60 million sales and trading business. That success led to Ms. Fidelia co-managing a team of 26 private client product managers, with revenues of over \$200 million.

Ms. Fidelia also helped brand and create two of the Firm's affinity networks: Women's Initiatives Leading Lehman (WILL), which reaches over 2,000 women employees, and Lehman Employees of African Descent (LEAD).

Ms. Fidelia holds a B.A. in Political Science from Baruch College in New York, where she is a member of the Board of Trustees. She is actively involved in her community, serving on the Boards of the Apollo Theater Foundation, the Fiver Foundation and Uth Turn, a youth intervention program. Ms. Fidelia is a member of the Executive Leadership Council and is fluent in both French and Spanish. She resides in Harlem, and obtained a Master of Divinity from the New York Theological Seminary in May 2009. Ms. Fidelia has one son, who is a senior at George Washington University.

Board of Directors



Dr. Dale T. Irvin, President, New York Theological Seminary (Secretary of the Board)

Dale T. Irvin is the eleventh President of New York Theological Seminary and Professor of World Christianity. He was elected to this position by the Seminary's Board of Trustees on July 19, 2006 after serving as Acting President since January 1, 2006, and his permanent appointment became effective on August 1.

Previously, he served as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Academic Dean of the Seminary and is a long-time member of the Seminary's Faculty. A graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary (M.Div., 1981) and Union Theological Seminary in New York (Ph.D., 1989), he has been a member of the New York Theological Seminary Faculty since 1989. He is the co-author with Scott W. Sunquist of *History of the World Christian Movement*, a two-volume project that is being written with a consulting team of more than 50 scholars from around the world and published by Orbis Books of Maryknoll, NY. Volume 1, *Earliest Christianity to 1453*, is now in its fifth printing. Dr. Irvin's previous books include *Christian Histories*, *Christian Traditioning: Rendering Accounts* (Orbis Books, 1998), and *The Agitated Mind of God: The Theology of Kosuke Koyama* (Orbis Books, 1996), which he edited with Akintunde E. Akintunde. His articles have appeared in a number of journals, among them *Christianity Today*, *The Ecumenical Review* and *The Journal of Pentecostal Studies*.

Dr. Irvin has held visiting or adjunct appointments at the University of Uppsala, Sweden; Drew University Theological School; Union Theological Seminary, New York; Wake Forest University Divinity School; New Brunswick Theological Seminary; and Regent University School of Divinity. He is currently the Executive Vice President and member of the Editorial Board of *The Living Pulpit*, a highly acclaimed journal for preaching. He is also a regular teacher and preacher in churches throughout the New York City region. An ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches USA, he is a member of The Riverside Church in New York City.

Board of Directors



Patricia L. Miller, Managing Director, Lehman Brothers (Treasurer of Uth Turn)

Ms. Miller is a Managing Director at Lehman Brothers and co-head and co-founder of the Partnership Solutions Group (“PSG”), a unique Wall Street business started in 2004. PSG is a commercial platform focused on proactively developing business opportunities with women- and minority-owned firms that operate as broker dealers, hedge funds, private equity firms, commercial banks, real estate firms and asset management firms. In addition to being honored with the Securities Industry Association (“SIA”) Diversity Innovative Leadership Award, the PSG business recently launched Lehman Brothers first Private Equity Emerging Manager Fund. Ms. Miller also serves as Co-Chair of Lehman’s firmwide women’s affinity group known as WILL (Women’s Initiatives Leading Lehman).

Before rejoining Lehman Brothers in 2004, Ms. Miller spent 8 years in asset management. Most of that time was with Goldman Sachs, where she was a vice president of institutional marketing. She served as a senior relationship manager for some of the largest pension plans in North America offering investment advice and products across the full risk spectrum. Ms. Miller began her Wall Street career 18 years ago at NationsBank as an investment banker in structured finance, followed by an earlier career with Lehman Brothers as an emerging markets derivatives salesperson.

Ms. Miller received her MBA from Harvard Business School and her B.S., with highest distinction, from North Carolina A&T State University, where she majored in accounting. She is also a Certified Public Accountant.

Ms. Miller’s volunteer work has included the AICPA Retirement Committee, Harvard Business School Alumni Club President and reading programs for children. She serves on the board of the Women’s Venture Fund, Uth Turn, the Executive Advisory Council of North Carolina A&T State University, and is a member of the Executive Leadership Council. Ms. Miller lectures and speaks on a variety of topics including: portfolio allocation, investing, and diversity in the workplace.

Board of Directors



Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President, Medgar Evers College

Dr. Edison O. Jackson was born in Heathsville, Virginia. He received the Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology, the Master of Arts degree in Counseling from Howard University, and the Doctorate in Education from Rutgers University with academic emphasis on the philosophy, function, role and administration of urban educational institutions.

After serving for four years as a Senior Counselor/Instructor at Federal City College, in 1969 Dr. Jackson assumed the position of Dean of Student Affairs at Essex County College in New Jersey. Promoted to Vice President for Student Affairs, he was soon appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer of Essex County College in September of 1983. In 1985, Dr. Jackson accepted the challenge to lead Compton Community College in Compton, California, assuming the position of President/Superintendent, remaining there until his assumption of the presidency of Medgar Evers College of The City University of New York in 1989.

Dr. Jackson holds membership in a number of civic, educational and community organizations. Likewise, Dr. Jackson has served as a member of the Board of Directors of numerous social, political, and economic organizations. Service has included the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO); the American Association of State Colleges and Universities Millennium Leadership Institute; and, the Commission on Educational Credit and Credentials of the American Council on Education.

Board of Directors



Dr. Bert M. Peterson, Jr., Medical Doctor

Bert M. Petersen, Jr., M.D., is the co-founder and Managing Partner of Global Cancer Control, an international cancer consultancy and project management firm based in New York City whose mission is to reduce cancer incidence and mortality in emergent nations by providing expertise in establishing educational, clinical, scientific and research programs for cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment. He is the former Chief of Breast Surgery and Co-Director of Breast Cancer Services at The Cancer Center at Hackensack University Medical Center until August 2006. Prior to joining the staff of The Cancer Center, Dr. Petersen was an attending in the Department of Surgery at Beth Israel Medical Center and St. Luke's/Roosevelt Hospital, both in New York City. He also was director of the Family Risk Program at Beth Israel Medical Center.

Dr. Petersen received his undergraduate degree from The Johns Hopkins University and his medical degree from The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, M.D. He completed his internship and residency in General Surgery at The George Washington University Medical center in Washington, D.C. Dr. Petersen subsequently completed his fellowship in Surgical Oncology at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.

Board of Directors



Dr. Cornel West, Princeton University

One of America's most gifted and provocative public intellectuals, Dr. Cornel West's writing, speaking, and teaching weaves together the American traditions of the Black Baptist Church, progressive politics, and jazz. Dr. West graduated from Harvard in three years, magna cum laude, and Martin Kilson, one of Dr. West's professors, recalls him as "the most intellectually aggressive and highly cerebral student I have taught in my 30 years here."

He has published 17 books and edited 13 texts. In his major bestseller, *Race Matters*, philosopher Dr. Cornel West burst onto the national scene with his searing analysis of the scars of racism in American democracy. *Race Matters* has become a contemporary classic, having sold more than 400,000 copies. Praised by *The New York Times* for his "ferocious moral vision," Dr. West speaks with an utterly distinctive voice about the thorniest social and political issues of our day and bridges the gap between black and white opinion.

In *Democracy Matters*, Dr. West returns to the analysis of the arrested development of democracy—both in America and in the crisis-ridden Middle East. In a strikingly original diagnosis, he argues that if America is to become a better steward of democratization around the world, we must first wake up to the long history of imperialist corruption that has plagued our own democracy.

Dr. West is a Class of 1943 University Professor at Princeton University. He has held previous positions at Union Theological Seminary, Yale University, Harvard University and the University of Paris.

For more information



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