



A Good Black Man, Inc.

2005 LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

Awards Celebration

Honoring outstanding African American males
for their positive contributions to family & community.

AGBM

A Good Black Man, Inc.
www.agoodblackman.com

P.O. Box 692 • Randallstown, Md. 21133 • 410-637-5451

Dedicated to enhancing the life options for African American male youth.

Sunday, July 17, 2005

Dear Friends and Supporters:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of A Good Black Man, Inc. (AGBM), I welcome you to the Fifth Annual Legacy of Excellence (LOE) Awards Celebration. We are pleased and grateful for the support you've given. As you know, the LOE Celebration is a tribute to the many men of color who continually serve as fathers, husbands, teachers, mentors, counselors, advisors, leaders, activists, supporters, and positive contributors within the Black community. We have selected five outstanding individuals (from a multitude of potential award recipients) and nominated each on the basis of their community involvement and commitment. In addition, we are pleased to announce the creation of the John T. Chissell Optimal Achiever Award. This annual award is being presented in memory of our father, mentor and friend, Dr. John T. Chissell (who passed away in May of 2004) to a young African American male who embodies similar principles, ideals and commitment to the community.

This time last year, we were in the planning stages of an enrichment camp for young males. This year, we're pleased to announce the completion of our first Legacy of Excellence Summer Camp. This summer enrichment camp was made possible through our collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth and Families, Zion Baptist Church and the African American Male Leadership Institute. It was our pleasure to provide life skills development and computer literacy training to African American youth (ages 11-14). Our experiences at the camp served to reinforce the importance of working together to save our youth.

We hope that you will enjoy the celebration this year. Please take a moment to congratulate the award recipients and personally thank them for the positive contributions they've made. As always, we hope that when you leave this event, it will be with a sense of resolve, purpose and commitment not only to AGBM, but to the African American community at-large.

Peace and Blessings,

D. Anne. Browne

President
A Good Black Man, Inc.

NATHANIEL J. MCFADDEN
STATE SENATOR
Legislative District 45

Majority Leader

Chairman
Baltimore City Senate Delegation

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Budget and Taxation
Joint Committee
on Federal Relations
Joint Committee on the
Management of Public Funds
Special Joint Committee on Pensions
Joint Subcommittee on
Program Open Space/Agricultural
Land Preservation



The Senate of Maryland
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1991

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☐ *District Office*
3224 Belair Rd.
Baltimore, Maryland 21213
410-563-4500
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June 14, 2005

D. Anne Browne, President
A Good Black Man, Inc.
P. O. Box 692
Randallstown, MD 21133

Dear Ms. Browne:

Please accept my sincere congratulations to your organization and its members. I applaud your efforts to recognize and celebrate the work of outstanding Black men who are making a positive difference in our communities! Your mission is a laudable one.

Your recognition of the service and fine jobs Black males are doing in our community is worthy of note. The positive impact of the works performed by these men, both within their immediate communities and within the broader community, is invaluable. I offer your organization and them my most sincere support and congratulations.

As the members of your organization join you in your annual Legacy of Excellence Award Celebration to bestow the service awards in 2005, many will join me in singing praises for the leadership and good works that each man has demonstrated. I urge you to recognize and praise, too the many community members who support your organization and these men in their work. Congratulations to all of you. Please accept my best wishes for your continued success!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathaniel J. McFadden".

Senator Nathaniel J. McFadden
45th Legislative District, Chair
Baltimore City Senate Delegation,
& Senate Majority Leader



COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY
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KENNETH N. OLIVER
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COUNCIL OFFICE: 410-887-3196
FACSIMILE: 410-887-5791

June 28, 2005

A Good Black Man, Inc.
P. O. Box 692
Randallstown, MD 21133-0692

Dear Friends, Family and Well-wishers:


It is an honor and pleasure to extend greetings to the members and supporters of A Good Black Man, Incorporated on the occasion of your Fourth Annual Legacy of Excellence Awards Celebration as you recognize the contributions of positive black males.

I commend the members of A Good Black Man, Incorporated for their positive contribution to their families and communities. A Good Black Man, Incorporated has exemplified excellence in volunteering time, talents, and significant contributions in both the private and public sectors helping to improve our families and surrounding communities.

I am proud to recognize and support the hard work and devoted efforts of A Good Black Men, Incorporated. It is with great pleasure that I salute the efforts of your President, officers, and those that are being honored; Deputy Major Richard Hite, Israel Cason, Dr. John W. Boyd, Demitri C. Kornegay and Steven Harris, Jr., for the untiring commitment and dedication, as demonstrated through their time and talents shared through such events as the Legacy of Excellence Awards Celebration.

Best wishes for a memorable afternoon and a heartfelt 'thank you' to A Good Black Man, Incorporated for your outstanding contributions to our communities.

Sincerely,



Kenneth N. Oliver
County Councilman, Fourth District

CITY OF BALTIMORE

MARTIN O'MALLEY, Mayor



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH
AND FAMILIES

JAMAAL MOSES, Executive Director
16 S. Calvert Street, Suite 800
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

June 30, 2005

D. Anne Browne
President
A Good Black Man, Inc.
P.O. Box 692
Randallstown, MD 21133-0692

Dear Ms. Browne:

The Mayor's Office of Children, Youth, and Families has been involved with a Good Black Man, Inc., since 2004. When our office became aware of the mission and vision of A Good Black Man, Inc., we knew immediately that this was an organization that we should develop a partnership with and support. Since our partnership, we have been involved in activities to develop youth in the various communities within Baltimore City and also we have been involved in efforts to develop the organization as a visible entity within the Baltimore community.

We are particularly impressed with the leadership of the organization and the manner in which the organization conducts business in relationship to fulfilling its mission. The organization has a very strong commitment and visible compassion for the youth and families of Baltimore City and that is very admirable. Since the development of this partnership, we have provided technical assistance, limited funding and some direct support in their efforts to impact the lives of Baltimore City's youth and families.

Here at the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth, and Families, we are extremely excited about the impact that A Good Black Man, Inc., will have in Baltimore City. The program serves as a model for quality and effective programming within the community and our goal is to continue to be a resource for strengthening their efforts.

In closing, again I would like to say that A Good Black Man, Inc., is an organization that is heavily supported by the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth and Families. We encourage other organizations to support their efforts as well because this unique program is definitely making a positive difference in Baltimore City. A Good Black Man, Inc., works to empower and equip black men to be in a place where the true essence of Black manhood is highlighted and promoted and a place where Black men make every attempt to uplift themselves, their families and their communities. If you have any questions, please contact my office at 410-396-4274. Thank you for your consideration given.

Sincerely,


Jamaal Moses, LCSW-C
Executive Director



AGBM Executive Board of Directors & Board Members



D. Anne Browne
AGBM President



Richard Rowe
AGBM Vice-President



Darlene Green-Connor
AGBM Treasurer



Zinah Brown
AGBM Secretary

A Good Black Man, Incorporated Board of Directors



Chenal Alford, II



Avon Bellamy



Carol Brooks



Chris Hardy



Pat Medley



Derrell Owens



Carolyn Payton



Stan Stovall

AGBM Advisory Board Members

- Angela R. Carter - Core Concepts
- Vesta Jackson-Crute - Speakers Corner Plus
- Sgt. De Lacy Davis - B-CAP
- Stan Heuisler
- Diane Sears - BSI International
- Vernon Simms
- Verna Squirrel - First Mariner Bank

2004 LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE Award Recipients



Avon J. Bellamy -- 2004 Our Better Halves Recipient. Avon J. Bellamy is the CEO of Words/Logos Communications, Inc., A compelling and charismatic innovator and motivator, Mr. Bellamy, who holds a Master of Arts degree from the prestigious Johns Hopkins University, has acquired a large arsenal of skills from his experiences, which he now puts to good use advancing entrepreneurial and business opportunities within the Information Technology arena.



Charlie Dugger -- 2004 Keeper of the Flame Award Recipient. Charlie Dugger he is widely known as one of Baltimore's most respected and committed educators and has spent over 32 years teaching students in the classrooms of the Baltimore City Public Schools where he is affectionately referred to by students as the "Professor of Black History."



David Miller -- 2004 Passing the Baton Award Recipient. David Miller has designed the African-American Male Leadership Academy, a project created to improve the retention and graduation rates of African-American males in primary, secondary and higher education. The project which was piloted at Howard Community College in Howard County, Maryland focuses on improving the survival skills of African-American males on predominately white campuses through a series of workshops.



Farajii R. Muhammad-- 2004 Our Future Award Recipient. Farajii R. Muhammad is a young leader, student, and dynamic speaker from Baltimore, Maryland. At the age of 19, Farajii co-founded New Light Leadership Coalition, Inc. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Board and spokesman for the youth-governed organization. Farajii is currently the host of Makes Me Wanna Holla, a youth talk radio show on Baltimore's WBGR 860AM.



Herman Williams, Jr. -- 2004 Our Hero Award Recipient. Former Baltimore City Fire Chief Herman Williams, Jr. is an active member of Phi Bets Sigma, Fraternity, Inc., Prince Hall Masons, Knights of Columbus, and life time member of the Vulcan Blazer, Inc., and the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Chief Williams is the author of a book "Fire Fighter", a biographical sketch of his journey from early childhood to fire chief.

2003 Award Recipients

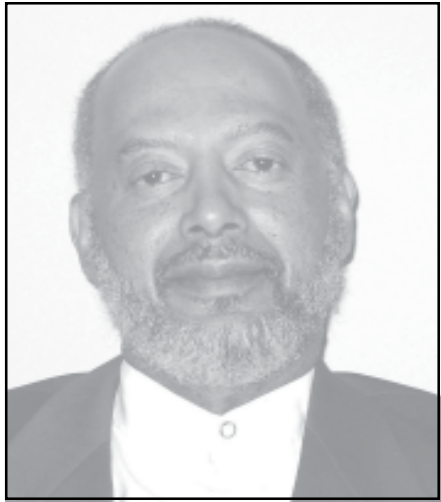
Dr. Andrey Bundley -- Keeper of the Flame
 Dr. Freeman Hrabowski -- Our Hero
 Victor C. March, Sr. -- Passing the Baton
 Cameron Miles -- Our Future
 Dr. Bob Wallace -- Our Better Halves

2002 Award Recipients

K.C. Burton -- Our Better Halves
 Dr. John T. Chissell -- Keepers of the Flame
 Sgt. DeLacy Davis -- Our Hero
 Derrell Owens -- Our Future
 Craig Thompson -- Passing the Baton

2005 LOE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Adeyemi Bendele



Adeyemi Bendele is founder and executive director of Men on the Move, a spirit based movement based in Silver Spring, Maryland, designed to empower men to stand in their truth as better fathers, sons, husbands, lovers and friends. A major goal of Men on the Move is to build a movement of men's support groups called A Gathering of Men which provide a safe space for men to share and support each other in the journey of manhood. Gatherings have been held in Brazil, Bermuda, and many cities in the U.S.. Adeyemi currently host of "Man Talk" a monthly segment on "Make it Plain" which can be heard on Power 169 XM, a new satellite based radio.

Mr. Bendele holds a Masters Degree in Human Services. He consults with organizations on development issues. As a result of his own spiritual transformation, Adeyemi has undertaken the task of supporting men on the journey of manhood. Specific emphasis is placed on celebrating wholesome fathers and sons and assisting in the healing of

challenged father and son relationships. Adeyemi is the father of 7 children and grandfather of 3.

As a young man Adeyemi Bendele served as the chairperson of the African American Students Association (ASA) in New York City. Upon graduating Tilden High school Adeyemi became active in the independent school movement in the African American community. He was one of the first graduates of the Uhuru Sasa School teacher training program. His commitment to this movement resulted in his serving 6 years as a teacher and administrator in the Uhuru Sasa School, the premier independent school in Brooklyn, New York.

In 1976 Mr. Bendele and his family relocated to Guyana, South America where he coordinated a farm project and cultural exchange program between the United States and Guyana. Upon his return to the United States in 1978 he assumed the directorship of the East Cultural and Educational Center in Brooklyn, New York. Shifting his attention to the need for self-determination in the political arena of the African American community he accepted the position as chief of staff to New York State Assemblyman Roger Green where he served for 4 years.

While working with Assemblyman Green and under the mentor ship of cultural and human rights activist, Harry Belafonte, Adeyemi was appointed regional director of the New York State Martin Luther King Institute for Nonviolence in 1984. This was the first state funded program in the nation dedicated to teaching nonviolence. He served for two years before relocating to Atlanta, Georgia. Also during this period Adeyemi received his Masters degree in Human Services from Lincoln University.

In Atlanta, Adeyemi became heavily involved in the arts as director of several community arts institutions and Arts in the Atlanta Project. He was instrumental in founding the Atlanta African Crossroads Festival which is designed to celebrate the African experience. He established Remembrance: A Tribute to Our Ancestors which is dedicated to remembering and honoring the millions of Africans who died during the African slave trade and for whom there exist no monuments or activities.

Throughout his youth and adult life he has been committed to community and individual empowerment and has specifically sought to have youth play a significant role in shaping and playing an active role in their communities. His mission is to serve humankind by working to create a just society where peace, freedom and the ability for everyone to maximize their fullest potential can be realized.

2005 KEEPER OF THE FLAME AWARD

Dr. John W. Boyd



Racial discrimination is a personal, as well as national concern of John W. Boyd, Jr. As the owner of a 300-acre poultry farm in Virginia, Mr. Boyd nearly lost both his home and livelihood due to the discriminatory practices of USDA between 1986-1997. As a result of the challenges Mr. Boyd and other Black farm families faced, Mr. Boyd founded the National Black Farmers Association (hereinafter "NBFA") in 1996 (an organization that provides outreach and assistance to 80,000 Black farm families throughout the United States and the world.

Due to the fact that Mr. is dedicated and committed to eradicating discrimination against anyone, particularly minority farmers, Mr. Boyd discussed the plight of Black farmers with leadership of the House of Representatives in a campaign that resulted in the Congressional tolling of the statute of limitations. This tolling allowed Black farmers who faced discrimination from 1981-1997 to have a legal standing to bring forth civil rights violations before a federal court. The results of the investigations and the tolling of the statute of limitations culminated in the largest civil rights class action settlement in U.S. history. Nearly 90,000 black farm families came forth for compensation.

November 2003, Mr Boyd rode his covered wagon & mule's Struggle and 40 acres over 280 miles to Washington D.C to protest the lack of payments to Black farmers. The event brought National attention. Mr. Boyd was named ABC news person of the week. He has protested all over Washington D.C. to the United Nations, & around the country with his mules they have become house hold names. Mr. Boyd has traveled the world to secure trade agreements for Black farmers, He has visited several countries in Africa, Brazil, China recently Mr. Boyd negotiated a 20,000,000 million dollar trade agreement with the President of Cuba Fidel Castro.

Mr Boyd's position has also afforded him the opportunity to continually converse with members of other disadvantaged groups, whom faced discrimination. He has lobbied to officials around the country ; including President Bush, Vice President Chaney Former President Carter, former President Clinton, Vice President Al Gore USDA Agriculture Secretary Espy, Glickman, & Venenman. As well as various Congressional officials regarding USDA discrimination against minorities.. To this end, Mr. Boyd testified before the house committee on agriculture of the 105th congress on both March 19, 1997 and July 17, 1997 and the Senate Committee on Agriculture on September 12, 2000. Mr. Boyd also testified before the Congressional Black Caucus on April 23, 1997 and numerous other committees regarding discrimination.

Over the years Mr. Boyd has become a national civil rights advocate he continues to challenge major corporations who have showed to have poor records serving his people, to include Walmart, Circuit city, Major commercial Banks such as Wachovia. And other issues to numerous to name. Mr. Boyd was a candidate for the United States House of Representatives Fifth District of Virginia. Mr. Promised to bring new jobs and economic development as well as promote education and technology for the region. With only \$60,000 and a largely volunteer staff, Mr. Boyd was able to ascertain nearly 40% of the voters. This was a tremendous achievement. In 2001 Mr Boyd formed the John Boyd Agricultural & Technology Institute at Saint Paul's college to help educate black farmers & introduce them to the internet.

2005 PASSING THE BATON AWARD

Israel Cason



Israel Cason, the seventh of eleven siblings, was born and raised in Baltimore City. In most respects, his was the typical experience of a black male growing up in the segregated Baltimore City of the 1950's. Although his parents were quite religious, and tried to raise their children in that same light, Israel fell in with some of the most dangerous behaviors and influences of the street culture of the time. He held the drug user in high esteem, and learned to regard one's capacity for consumption of these drugs as a standard for "toughness". This thinking – and these behaviors - led him to try almost every drug available to him, and even a number of alternative ways of getting high. Israel Cason would spend the next 30-years of his life as a drug addict - a stone cold junkie who cared more about getting high than anything else in his life.

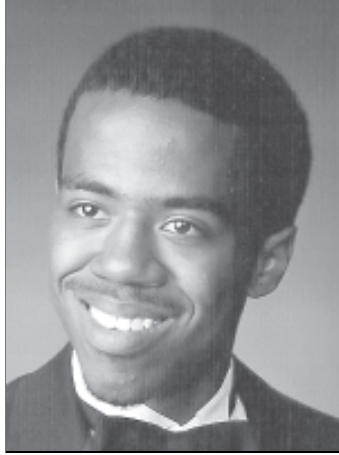
The lifestyle Mr. Cason accepted in this time was the cause of many new problems for him. He found himself estranged from family members as his relationships with many of them deteriorated. His character and demeanor changed noticeably, and he even spent some time in jail for drug-related offenses. After being shot and stabbed on numerous occasions, almost dying of drug overdoses, and constantly fighting an uphill battle for his own life, he came to realize that he was tired of this self-imposed oppression. He realized that this oppression now constituted a state worse than death, and he made a conscious decision to rebuild his life, as per the will of his Creator. With the help of his older sister, Israel made his way to Philadelphia's "Stop and Surrender" live-in treatment program, where he found himself immersed in a spiritually based, "tough-love" environment. The program's effect on him was nothing short of phenomenal. It inspired him to devote his life to providing a similar service to the world, starting with his community in Baltimore.

Returning to Baltimore in 1996, Israel began his mission. He rounded up his old friends and acquaintances, and took them to NA (Narcotics Anonymous) meetings. Before long, Israel had sought to establish in Baltimore a program similar in format and structure to Philadelphia's "Stop and Surrender".

Through some hard work, and the help of family and friends, Israel managed to purchase a house on Dukeland Street in west Baltimore City. He and his son moved in, and by the spring of 1997, the house was filled with recovering addicts seeking refuge from the clutches of drug addiction. And so began the continuing legacy of I Can't We Can, Inc., an effective, state certified, non-profit drug recovery program with 27 housing units, maintaining an average of 280 recovering addicts at any given time. Through charitable contributions and community support, I Can't We Can, Inc. has opened a thrift store, a moving and hauling company, a construction company, a dollar store, and a supermarket to help sustain its efforts. Through I Can't We Can, Inc., Israel Cason has touched and empowered countless lives with hope and rejuvenated life. When asked if, how, and why he does what he does, he simply replies, "I cannot, we can!"

2005 OUR FUTURE AWARD

Steven James Harris, Jr.



Steven James Harris, Jr. is an up and coming third year medical student at Howard University College of Medicine. Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, he graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute in 1999 and attended Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia.

While at Morehouse College, Steven competed across the country as a sprinter and hurdler on the Morehouse College Maroon Tigers Track and Field team. In three years he became the Captain of the team and assisted the track team in winning three consecutive Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships in 2000, 2001, and 2002. In addition Steven was the second leg on the 2002 hurdle relay team at the Penn Relays which proved to be the 10th fastest time in the world that year according to *Track and Field News*.

At Morehouse, Mr. Harris majored in Biology and Spanish. He has worked in the department of cell biology at Morehouse College in the lab of Dr. Rita Finley; he has done research in Neurobiology at Spelman College under Dr. Pamela Scott-Johnson and at Morehouse School of Medicine with Dr. Byron Ford. In Dr. Ford's Lab, Mr. Harris worked to isolate a protein named Nna-1 (*nuclear neuronal protein induced by axotomy*) from its mRNA transcripts. This protein, which was discovered at Morehouse School of Medicine, is expressed after crush injury or *axotomy* to nerves in mice, and is hoped to show promise in the re-growth of neural tissues in paralyzed patients.

In 2001, Steven was inducted into Beta Kappa Chi, the national scientific honor society, and Alpha Epsilon Delta, the national premedical honor society. The latter of which, Steven was one of three students awarded an academic scholarship by Dr. Thomas Blocker, the regional president. Steven Graduated Cum Laude from Morehouse College in 2003.

Mr. Harris, son of Steven and Linda Harris is currently a Doctoral of Medicine candidate at Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, DC where he will be eligible for the receipt of the MD in Emergency Medicine in May of 2007. Mr. Harris plans to practice in one of this country's many medically underserved minority communities.

2005 OUR HERO AWARD

Major Richard Hite



Major Richard Hite is currently the Commander of Community Outreach and Crime Prevention Programs in the Baltimore City Police Department. He also supervises the Crime Resistance Unit and coordinates the Community Liaison Programs. These programs addresses on-going crime problems within trauma communities and mediates disputes between citizens and police.

Major Hite is a 27-year veteran who was assigned to Criminal Investigations and Executive Protection for both the Mayor of Baltimore City and the Governor of the State of Maryland. He is Police Coordinator for the CD-CP Program (which is the Baltimore Child Development/Community Policing Program). As a member of the Crisis Response Team, he facilitates the collaboration between Johns Hopkins Mental Health clinicians and the Baltimore City Police Department. Major Hite is also a Crisis Responder for N.O.V.A. (National Organization of Victim

Assistance), as well as a trainer and facilitator for the National Center for Children and Communities Exposed to Violence.

These affiliations have successfully intervened in the lives of over one thousand children and those communities that have been impacted by violent crime. In addition, over two thousand clinicians and police officer “fellows” have been trained in the area of juvenile’s violence intervention as a result of Major Hite’s work and commitment.

2005 OUR BETTER HALVES AWARD

Demitri C. Kornegay



Demitri C. Kornegay is currently a lieutenant and a 22 year veteran with the Montgomery County Police Department in Montgomery County, Maryland. Born and reared in Washington, D.C., he graduated from Calvin Coolidge High School in the District in 1974. Demitri lettered in track, was All-American and All-Met in Football, and was nominated “Outstanding Teenager of America” by Coolidge’s principal, the late Otis W. Thompson, for his leadership and work with the many committees in the school. He attended the University of Richmond, Virginia, on a football scholarship and graduated in 1979 with majors in Speech Communications, Theater Arts, and minored in Sociology.

Demitri has volunteered his time and services to the Washington Urban League as a tutor at Whittier Elementary school in their “Operation Rescue” program after volunteering for the City of Richmond’s campaign against sexually transmitted diseases. He was nominated as one of the “Outstanding Young Men of America” and is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. He still volunteers his time with Woodson Senior High School’s “Stop the Violence” program.

As a Deacon at Galilee Baptist Church in Suitland, Maryland, Kornegay spearheaded the “Let’s Celebrate our Men Project” which established a “Proud Fathers Roll Call of Honor” in 1991. In 1992, he developed an award-winning 12-week, Rites of Passage program for young men called “Men Under Construction.” The program, which has been running for 13 years, teaches table manners, public speaking, setting a personal budget, and choosing the “right” woman, to young men aged 13 to 21 and classes are starting in Detroit, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Houston.

On November 7, 1996, he was presented the J. Franklin Bourne Association’s prestigious, “Award for Community Service,” for founding the program that now has taught over 300 young men. A gifted motivational speaker, Demitri is well known in the Washington D.C. area for the “frank and to-the-point” messages he has delivered to high schoolers.

The author of four books, “Dear Rhonda-Life Lessons From A Father to His Daughter,” (his latest) and “Dear Sons, Letters You Wish Your Father Had Written To You,” (due to released this fall) Demitri has appeared on such television and radio broadcasts as **“Good Morning America, The View, The Bev Smith Show, Fox Morning News, The Bernie McCain Show, The Donnie Simpson Show, and The Tavis Smiley Show.”**

He has conducted workshops and forums at the Prince George’s County, Maryland, Fatherhood Conference, the African American Male Empowerment Summit, African American Women On Tour, and Blacks In Government (BIG). He has been a Visiting Scholar at Hampton University, in Hampton Virginia, and Clark Atlanta University, in Atlanta, Georgia. He has also trained the new deaconate candidates at Galilee.

In Brandywine, Maryland, he’s been called “Coach Deacon” for the last five years at Gwynn Park Senior High School. It has been there that he has volunteered his services as running back coach for their championship football team. His motto, which has become the team’s creed is, “No Excuses, Do the Work!” Demitri C. Kornegay is married to the former Angela Nichols of Baltimore, Maryland, has one daughter, 22 year old Rhonda Michelle Kornegay, and about 350 sons.

2005 OPTIMAL ACHIEVER AWARD

In Memory of Dr. John T. Chissell



During his years of medical practice, Dr. John was a leader in the medical profession and an activist for access to quality health care for all, regardless of race or socio-economic status. He was a charter fellow and life member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, a life member of the National Medical Association, a member of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland. In 1971 he became the first African-American to serve as President of the Maryland Academy of Family Physicians. He served on the Medical Assistance Advisory Committee for Maryland's Medical Assistance Program and was Chairman of its Physician's Service Sub-Committee from 1965 to 1971. He served as Chief of the Department of Family Practice and Clinical Director of Ambulatory Care Services at Provident Hospital in Baltimore from 1973-1976. Sought after for his wisdom, leadership, and integrity, Dr. John served on countless advisory committees (including AGBM), task forces and other health care governing bodies up until the time of his death.

After 32 years of practicing what he called "sick care," Dr. John retired from clinical practice to pursue full time his major purpose in life: "To study, model, motivate, and teach the principles and practices of optimal health." He was the founder and Chief Consultant of the Positive Perceptions Group, an Optimal Health Education Network, and enjoyed working as a Consultant, Lecturer, Program Producer and Moderator, Writer, and life long student of Optimal Health, Natural and Universal Laws. He was the proud author of *Pyramids of Power: An Ancient African-Centered Approach to Optimal Health*, inspired by his journey through Egypt in late 1986. Based upon ancient African history and philosophy, the book is a comprehensive, reader-friendly guide to attaining mental, physical, spiritual, emotional, and socio-economic well-being.

The John T. Chissell Optimal Achiever Award was created to honor, celebrate and preserve the extraordinary life and legacy of one of this nation's most venerable health advocate and a true Black hero. Each year, during AGBM's Legacy of Excellence Award Celebration, this award will be presented to an outstanding African American high school senior, or college student who has demonstrated an appreciation for and understanding of the best possible emotional, intellectual, physical, spiritual and socioeconomic aliveness, which was promoted and practiced by Dr. Chissell. This award will highlight his brilliant and committed life and the recipient will be asked to advance his legacy through academic excellence, community service and the promotion of the principles of "Optimal Health." The John T. Chissell Optimal Achiever Award embodies the mission of AGBM and represents the highest levels of individual accomplishment, personal courage and the empowerment of African American male youth and the communities in which they live. Criteria for recipients of the award are African American male:

- High school seniors residing in and attending school in metropolitan Baltimore or college students attending an accredited four year college
- Students majoring in one of the following areas: physical/mental health, human services, law, business, economics, or religious studies with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.
- Students exhibiting high standards of behavior and character
- Students advancing the legacy of Dr. Chissell through academic excellence, community service and individual accomplishment.

2005 OPTIMAL ACHIEVER AWARD

Keon A. Gerow



Minister Gerow is no stranger to difficulty. After being kicked out of the prestigious Baltimore Polytechnic Institute for demonstrating poor academic behavior in the 10th grade, Minister Gerow entered and graduated from Lake Clifton-Eastern High's Academy of Law. His belief of having no excuses propelled him to conquer many feats

In his past position as President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People-Morehouse College chapter, he ensured that students were informed of issues directly affecting them. Massive "Get Out the Vote" activities took place including regular voter registration drives, seminars, and town hall meetings. With the collaborative help of the entire Executive Committee, Minister Gerow was instrumental in the awarding of the chapter as the "Regional College Chapter of the Year" and was nominated for the "National College Chapter of the Year." In addition,

he was named the "Morehouse College Distinguished Leader of the Year."

At 24 years old, Minister Gerow is the Chief Executive Officer of KeonSpeaks, Inc., a motivational speaking and consulting company that caters to the needs of youth. Currently, he sits on the board of The Middle House; a Christian based holistic health center that assists with the recovery of abuse victims and those suffering with drug addictions. He is a former board member of several organizations including: The Leadership Center and The Brisbane Institute.

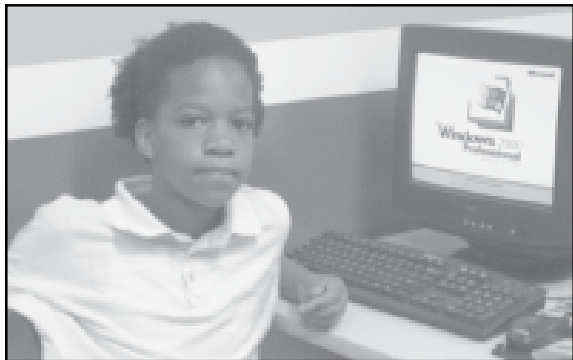
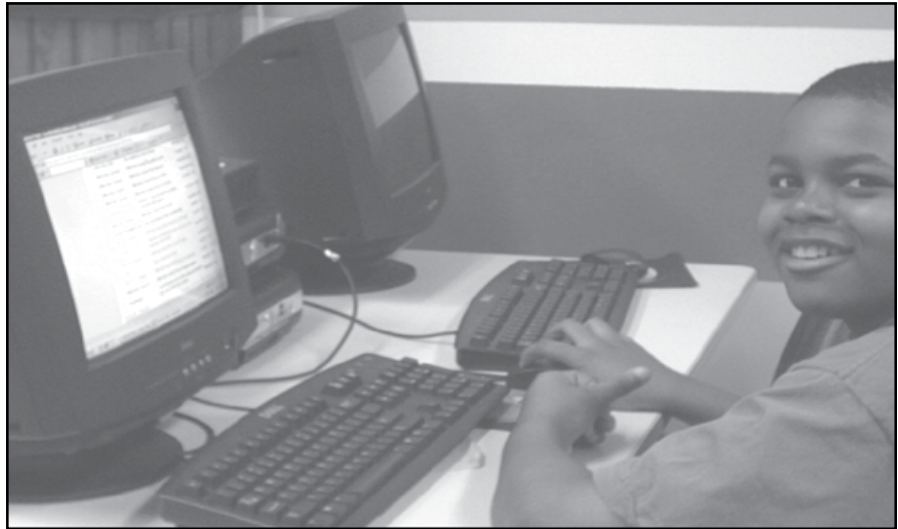
In 1998, he became the first high school intern in the history of the United States Attorney's Office- District of Maryland. One month later, he was named "Employee of the Month." In 1999, Minister Gerow interned in the office of Presidential Personnel at the White House; becoming one of the youngest interns in the department. Continuing a spirit of activism, he successfully served as a Volunteer Coordinator for the Kwame Kilpatrick for Mayor campaign; helping to elect the youngest Mayor in the history of Detroit, Michigan.

In addition, Minister Gerow has been honored by Governor Parris Glendening, United States Congressman Elijah Cummings, Mayor Kurt Schmoke, and a host of Maryland House of Representatives and City Council members for his outstanding contributions to the community. His foremost accomplishment remains to be his leadership role as former Youth Minister at Prayer of Faith Church of God in Christ in Atlanta, Georgia. His ministry has taken him to different parts of the world including South Africa and Egypt. As well, he has keynoted at several colleges and universities. Most recently, he electrified the crowd at the National Granville Academy Conference and the National Martin Luther King, Jr. March.

Minister Gerow is the proud son of Cynthia Trusty and James Gerow. Moreover, he is a recent graduate of Morehouse College where he majored in political science and is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary

2005 LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE Summer Enrichment Camp

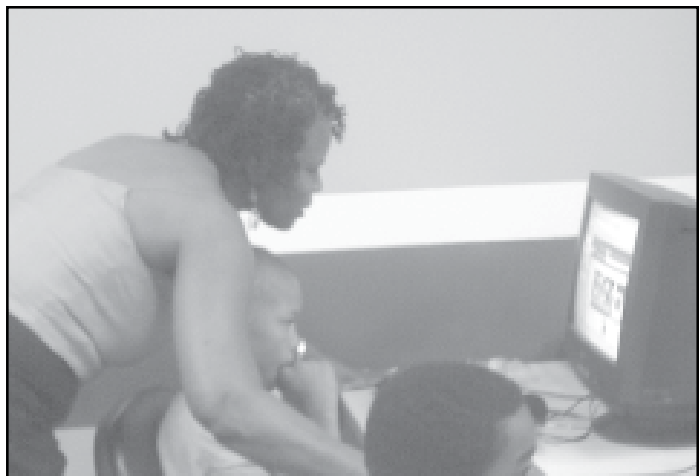
This year, A Good Black Man, Inc. held its first (annual) Legacy of Excellence Summer Camp. This summer enrichment camp was made possible through our collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth and Families, Zion Baptist Church and the African American Male Leadership Institute.



The purpose of the Legacy of Excellence summer programs offered is to help African American males (between the ages of 11-13) with developing a clear sense of their attributes, talents, goals, and attitudes to enhance their self-image, self-esteem and build character.

A Good Black Man, Inc. (AGBM) hopes that our learning modules will serve as yet another intervention strategy to help young people stay interested and engaged in the learning process.

We have created two (2) learning modules to achieve our goals. The first, the AGBM Life Skills Modules, **was** designed to help the child(ren) develop an individual plan self-improvement, and obtain skills for job searching, job retention and career management. The second, the Computer Literacy Training module, makes use of technological tools such as personal computers (and www.agoodblackman.com) to help camp participants demonstrate an appreciation of the historical strength of the African American family as well as reflect the positive contributions of their families, friends and the community in which they live.



2005 LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE Summer Enrichment Camp

The overall objective of the Life Skills Program Module is to help children develop a clear sense of their attributes, talents, goals, and attitudes to enhance their employability. In the process, we will assist them with creating individual plans for self-improvement, and obtain skills for job searching, job retention and career management.



The areas of concentration and specific programmatic objectives for this module are self discovery, understanding yourself, identification and self analysis.



Through the use of technological tools, PCs, software, scanners, and digital cameras camp participants will be actively engaged in creating a digital diary designed to help them demonstrate an appreciation of the historical strength of the African American family as well as reflect the positive contributions of their families, friends, and the community in which they live.

2005 LOE AWARDS CELEBRATION Event Program

2:00 to 3:45 Reception
3:45 to 4:00 Welcome Address
4:00 to 5:00 Presentation of Awards
5:00 to 5:15 Closing Remarks
5:15 to 6:00 Fellowship with the Honorees

Thank You For Your Support

This fundraiser will help AGBM, Inc. provide African American males between the ages of 11-13 with the resources needed to participate in the Legacy of Excellence Program modules. The program includes a combination of classroom activities and computer technologies designed as vehicle for self-exploration and to address some of the issues created by the Digital Divide. For more information, contact us at:

AGBM, Inc.

P.O. Box 692

Randallstown, Maryland 21133-0692

410-637-5451

www.agoodblackman.com

AGBM, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization

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Rediscover A Legacy Of Excellence

Thank you for your support

A Good Black Man, Inc.

P.O. Box 692

Randallstown, MD 21133-0692

410-634-5451

A Good Black Man, Inc.
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What Is Life?

Life is a challenge. Meet it.

Life is a gift. Accept it.

Life is an adventure. Dare it.

Life is a sorrow. Overcome it.

Life is a tragedy. Face it.

Life is a duty. Perform it.

Life is a game. Play it.

Life is a mystery. Unfold it.

Life is a song. Sing it.

Life is an opportunity. Take it.

Life is a journey. Complete it.

Life is a promise. Fulfill it.

Life is a beauty. Praise it.

Life is a struggle. Fight it.

Life is a goal. Achieve it

Life is a puzzle. Solve it.