

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Innovative Enrichment Program Promotes Youth Development”

Spartanburg SC -

Oscar Neely, former Mauldin High basketball coach sparked a fire in the hearts of fellow fraternity brothers when he spoke about the Kappa Knights Program that his chapter was implementing in Greenville County. With just a few meetings it was time to make that impact in the Metro Spartanburg area. As the stream of youthful faces rolled into TK Gregg Recreational Center, The members of the Nu Chi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. were now face to face with their future mentee's. Sunday August 27th was the initial interest meeting of the organizations newest Community service program.

The Over Achievers Enrichment Program is in its first year of operation in Spartanburg County. A similar program has been in operation for 13 years in neighboring Greenville County and was instrumental in the development of the Over Achievers Program . The purpose of the program is to produce positive and productive adolescent men as they strive for educational, academic and personal goals. Participants are adolescent boys in 5th through 8th grade. This years group of Achievers hale from a variety of Spartanburg District 7 Schools, Which has a staggering minority drop-out rate. “This is a much needed program and I’m excited about it” says Gwendolyn Mc McAllister, Guidance counselor at Park Hills Elementary School. Where the majority of the parents are single mothers.

Participants take part in monthly enrichment events and enhancement workshops. Mentors keep a weekly log of academic performance and behavior. Through this direct one on one contact, the Over Achiever Program will achieve two things. First offer chances to broaden the horizon of the participants by giving them the opportunity to see how important pursuing a college education is. Next , instill confidence and a sense of pride about being who they are. The Enrichment portion of the program ranges from college campus tours to Guidance workshops that encourage the importance of self appearance and self-respect. Along with the self enrichment the youths get an understanding of the vital need to achieve academically whether in a class setting or on standardized tests.

“Working with these guys on a daily basis “I saw the need for them to feel apart of something positive. Many have no positive male role model and that is what we hope to bring to the table.” we also want Them to understand that there is more to life than Westgate mall on Saturday night. Says Program Director and Founder of Brothers Restoring Urban Hope ,Inc. ,Clevon A. Boyd ,with a smile. “These guys are not bad at all they just need that extra push in the right direction.” Just think ,who was is for you? ” Boyd says, “Somebody yanked you before it was too late, right” “I’m not sure who is more excited about the program us or the parents and kids says Co- Founder and Advisor for the fraternity, James Lindsey

On Monday mornings, when a lot of the conversations are filled with negativity and normal mischief the kids have gotten them selves into ,I do however have some students that will come to me and excitedly tell me about how much fun they have had with the guys at the Enrichment program. Says Dione Williams . Sixth Grade teacher at EP Todd Elementary

The culmination of this five month program Is the Over Achievers Ball , Which will be held on January 27 2007 at the University of South Carolina Upstate. During the ceremony these guys will be presented to friends family and the entire upstate community as Over Achievers. Awards on academic excellence, Athletic achievements, and many other acknowledgment will be awarded to participants that complete the program. The groups emphasis is on Achievement in everything that one does.

Brothers Restoring Urban Hope, Inc. is a newly formed organization with the primary purpose "To Enhance the Urban community through Mentorship Leadership training and Spiritual Guidance". The groups with area youth organizations and student organizations to provides a variety of youth development activities.

Last January the group held its First Annual Martin Luther King Leadership Basketball Camp at TK Gregg Recreational Center. On a day of no school the youths were eager to wake up and enjoy a day of action. Along with learning the fundamentals of basketball they were given the importance of hard work, communication skills, and team work. During Lunch, provided by the Boys and Girls Club of the Upstate, Inc, the youth discussed future plans and goals with area college players. " I learned that in order to play well on the court ,I have to do my best in the classroom" say AJ Booker from Fairforest Middle. Over Achievers target young male in elementary and middle school grades. For more information on how to get involved ,contact

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OVER ACHIEVERS CODE

*It is easy to be Ordinary,
But takes Courage to Excel
Trust my God for Everything
And I will never fail
Be Strong, Work Hard
And always Believe
Not only will I do great things
But I will...
OVER ACHIEVE*

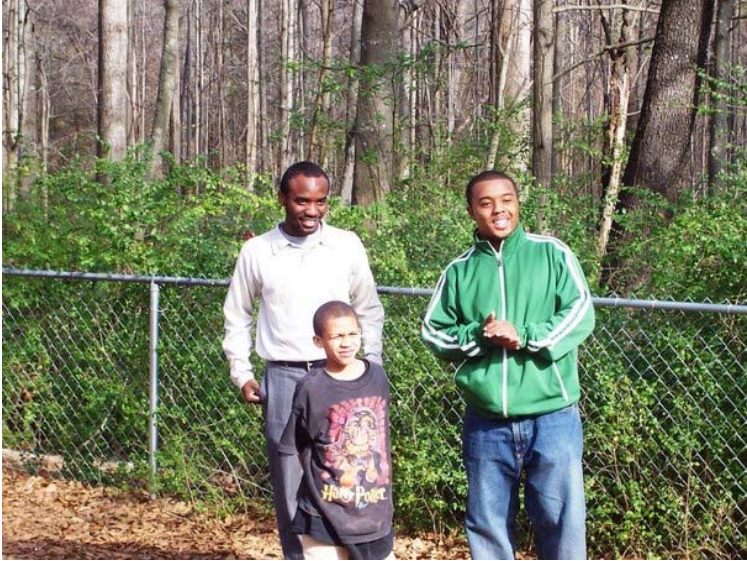
Below: Over Achievers Mentors.

Left to Right: Levi Gray YMCA, Clevon A. Boyd Brothers Restoring Urban Hop, Inc. Founder, Trevar Mayes and Adrian Harrison , Boys and Girls Club of the Upstate.

All are members of Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity at USC- Upstate.



Mentor, Levi Gray and **Brothers Restoring Urban Hop.Inc. Co – Founder, James Lindsey** take part in after school enrichment.



Over Achieves Mentor, Roy Smalls and Participants at the MLK Leadership Basketball Camp at TK Gregg Recreational Center.





Picture 1. Montavious Smith from Witlock JR. High and his mentor Levi Gray
Picture 2. Over Achievers Enrichment before heading to the Wofford vs. South Carolina State Game
Picture 3. Mentees and mentor Jessie Robinson take a break from campus tour at USC-upstate to pose on the sculptures.