

CAC NEWS



Children & Charity International Newsletter

2020

VIRTUAL AND HYBRID LEARNING DURING COVID-19

This year, Children & Charity International (CAC) asked a number of students about their coronavirus pandemic experience and they promptly responded, “2020 will be a year to remember.” Since mid-March the novel coronavirus pandemic (Covid-19) attacked the world’s population like a raging bull. Stay-at-home directives, social distancing, wearing face masks, business closures, and school closures were the immediate disruptions. A new era in educational methodology made virtual and hybrid learning the new norm. Educators everywhere including CAC’s administrators needed to create learning platforms utilizing digital systems like Clever, Canvas, Blackboard Learn, Google Classroom, eThinklms, or Talentlms; and utilize audio/video conferencing apps like, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Cisco Webex, and Google Meet to accommodate elementary students to college youth. Fortunately, CAC was already utilizing an online environment for Computer Science and coding classes so the adjustment was not too difficult.

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Children & Charity International



Welcome and Orientation...



Creative Science



Computer Science



Engineering



Mathematics



Life Skills:



Life Skills:



Life Skills:



Life Skills:

CAC SUMMER LEARNING PLATFORM

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Student learning virtually



Students in hybrid classroom

Virtual Learning During Covid-19 – continued from pg 1

Students adjusted well to the new norm of online or a mix of online and in-person classes, and teachers became familiar with new platforms and conferencing apps. Elementary students studied math, English Language, and Science and reviewed reading and Social Studies, to prevent learning loss. Take Home packets given to students ensured that no one was left out. IXL and other virtual interactive practice drills helped students master grade level work.

One hundred and twenty high school youth from District schools participated in academic and enrichment activities. They explored science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM). They engaged in: tutoring; peer mentoring; work-

readiness and leadership training; professional development and life skills; financial literacy; and social, emotional learning because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Youth discovered ways to improve career and life success by building self-esteem, resolving conflict, planning career paths, and building and maintaining healthy relationships.

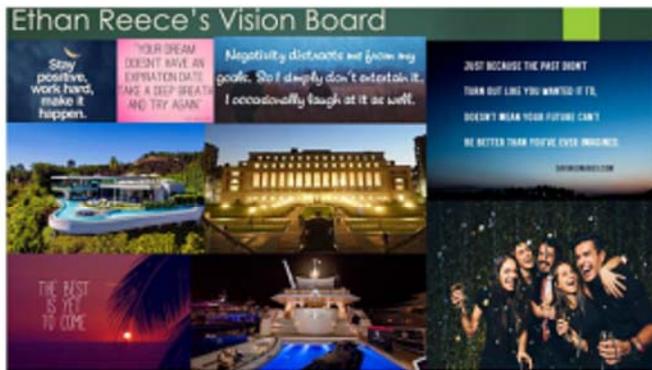
VISION BOARDS

CAC summer participants were provided with resources to assist them in completing assigned creative projects. One of the required projects was designing a Vision Board displaying a collage of words and pictures to repre-

sent their goals and dreams.

At the conclusion of the project CAC conducted an interactive session that gave each youth an opportunity to explain his/her board. There were many fascinating stories. For example, one youth explained that her family was at one point homeless. Now she is on a mission to help other homeless youth. She manages a Blog and shares information and resources to help homeless youth. She plans to one day be a doctor. Another youth shared that her interest to pursue a career in healthcare stems from her concern for her family and extended family members. Many have health problems and concerns and do not get the care they need. The youth is the first in her family gaining a high school diploma. She plans to work hard and be resilient to succeed.

YOUTH VISION BOARDS



ETHAN REECE



JUSTIN JONES



CHINYERE MCLEAN



CHIMA OKAFOR

SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations!
Ghelatia Petros Araia



**Molding Thinkers,
Innovators, and Builders
For A Brighter Future**



YOUTH VOICE

In collaboration with facilitators from CAUSES, University of the District of Columbia, participants in Children & Charity International summer programming were given opportunities to demonstrate skills and abilities during June to August 2020. They hosted several forums, and 2 Podcasts called: **Let' Talk About It: The Discussion of Tomorrow by Today's Youth**. The Podcasts were presented on two occasions as Part I and Part II. Youth invited friends and family to listen in. Some of the topics and sub-topics discussed were:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Ongoing Global Changes | (a) | |
| The Current Era of Activism | (b) Thoughts on Going back to School | (c) |
| Voting and Politics | (d) Our Identity and Purpose | (e) |
| Being Comfortable with Self | (f) Success and Resilience | (g) |

Youth participants demonstrated their communication and leadership skills by serving as Hosts, Conversation Increaseers and Chat Managers during the Podcasts. Everyone was proud of the youth. Use link to download or listen in:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bQdKKLZk95U5gwPPAodHWwgXgrJR014V/view?usp=sharing>

GHELATIA PETROS ARAIA

Ghelatia Petros Araia (left) has been a youth worker in CAC programs for the last 5 year. On May 9, 2020 Ghelatia graduated from American University with her Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology. She plans to complete a Masters of Public Health Degree in her pursuit to one day become a Pediatrician. Congratulations Ghelatia!

EPHRAM MERSHA

Ephram Mersha (right) is an eighth grade student who competed in the Scripps Cluster Spelling Bee in February. He placed sixth among 34 students which gave him an opportunity to participate in the NBC Annual Scripps City Wide Spelling Bee. Ephram gained seventh place overall. He received a certificate, trophy, and tickets to the National games which were cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic. Ephram graduated at the top of his eight grade class and gave the Valedictorian Speech on August 2, 2020. Ephram will be attending Gonzaga College High School.

Congratulations Ephram!



YEAR ROUND PROGRAMMING

Prior to and during Covid-19, Three hundred, ten (310) K-8 students received homework help, enrichment, and tutoring in mathematics, reading, science, and technology. They practiced math and reading drills using IXL, Scripps, and Nettekter software. By participating in Spelling Bee Competitions youth highlight their capabilities and potential that with a little effort they could achieve great success. Students were socially engaged through sports, music, art, dance, and drama.

Hundreds of program participants transitioned to middle school, high school, and college. Also:
7 youth got Opportunity Scholarship valued \$2,000 each.
15 youth received 300 hours of job-training and apprenticeships.
36,600 academic support hours were received by youth
10,200 service-learning hours were gained by youth

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Ongoing Humanitarian and Relief Efforts



Children & Charity International continues its humanitarian mission and disaster relief efforts. We support people affected by earthquakes and hurricanes with supplies and aid. We have assisted during Hurricane Katrina 2005, Ike 2008, Sandy 2012, Harvey 2017, and Dorian 2019. We also sponsor medical mission trips to Haiti to provide free clinics for children and elderly people that cannot afford to pay for treatment.

CAC supports the Care for A Child's Heart (CFACH) Project that provides pre-op and post-op care for patients suffering from heart diseases in Kenya. In our quest to motivate children and youth to attend school we sponsor special education projects in Haiti, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone.

Lend your professional skills and expertise as lecturers/trainers in the US or join us on a mission trip. Visit the website for upcoming trips.

All size tax-deductible donations are welcomed!