

CAC NEWS



Children & Charity International Newsletter

2021

STEAMING AHEAD DURING COVID VARIANTS

Learning is continuous, and Children & Charity International (CAC) is thankful for another year of successfully impacting the lives of children and youth. The Covid-19 and its variants—Delta and Omicron, kept on raging and disrupting but learning continued. Helping students achieve academic success is one of the priorities teachers look forward to in CAC programs. Throughout the year and during summer, CAC served 760 K to 8th, high school, and college youth. We observed that the K to 8th students just wanted to have fun after being cooped up for 18 months because of the pandemic. This was demonstrated from their engagement in fun STEM activities after 2 hours of homework help and academic enrichment. The students were very excited to express their creativity using household products and everyday items to draw, paint, design, and build gadgets.

During summer one hundred, twenty-four, K to 8th students participated in an array of academic and social activities to bring them to grade level. Students were engaged in 2 power hours of age-appropriate instruction in math, science, and ELA, using common core standards textbooks from their regular school day. Additionally, one-on-one tutoring sessions were given as needed. Online blended learning meant using iReady, IXL, and netTrekker that assessed and helped build students' math and reading skills to meet grade level standards. For STEM exposure students were introduced to a curriculum of instruction, and practical hands-on activities, minds-on, activities to build 21st Century technological skills.

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Students designing projects



Students creating artworks.

High school and college youth trainees and workers explored science, technology, engineering, and mathematical concepts. Youth honed STEM skills by doing research, coding and creating Apps. Youth completed 5-hours youth development training and obtained a certificate. Youth participated in daily social, emotional, learning webinars and gained insights on dealing with life’s difficulties, conflicts, and ways to improve college and career readiness skills. Youth designed and created Vision Boards. Youth planned and conducted Podcast, lead interactive peer discussions expressing thoughts and feelings about the coronavirus pandemic, and mentored each other. During programming, instructors noticed that Miles, a high school youth was always punctual and present for the

program and webinars but was very quiet. Miles revealed that it was his first summer program experience. Everyone welcomed Miles and explained that he was joining others who were also having their first experience of a virtual summer program. That assurance worked and Miles started to show his leadership skills. He was a diligent worker who completed all assigned projects and tasks on time. Miles took charge of helping his peers by explaining STEM projects so they could understand, and readily engaged and contributed to group discussions. Miles actively participated in SEL webinars, and served as a conversationalist during the Youth Podcast. Administrators and instructors felt it was a pleasure having Miles around as a summer youth worker.

CAC administrators and instructors are committed to the Quality Improvement Process. They conduct YPQ assessments to ensure that programming is engaging, interactive, supportive, and conducted in a safe environment. Training has allowed teachers to become familiar with new presentation formats, and gain efficiency in manipulating technology for smooth virtual teaching and interaction.

VISION BOARDS

CAC Summer Youth embraced opportunities to decide, design, and create vision boards which reflect their plans and goals, and how they foresee their future objectives and outcomes. Youth shared details of their boards for clarity. It was fun.

YOUTH VISION BOARDS



Jasmine Keitt



Amare Carter



Lauren Parrish



Yohanes Alemay

YOUTH VOICE

SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations!

Nalleti Otieno



Molding Thinkers,
Innovators, and Builders
For A Brighter Future

In collaboration with facilitators from CAUSES, University of the District of Columbia, participants in CAC summer program pursued 5 hours of Advancing Youth Development Training. To demonstrate skills and abilities youth organized and hosted forums, and a Podcast called: **Let' Talk About It: The Discussion of Tomorrow by Today's Youth** during the June-August. Some topics and sub-topics discussed were: **What are Y'all Watching?** — DC Comics or Marvel? What happened to crime shows? What are some common misconceptions surrounding anime? How can streaming services improve? **Friendships & Relationships** - How has our generation combatted gender roles? What are some important boundaries that should be discussed? The "Insurrection." Where were you when the Capitol was stormed? How will this event be remembered in history? Youth participants demonstrated their communication and leadership skills by serving as Hosts, Conversation Increases and Chat Managers during the Podcasts. Everyone was proud of the youth. Use the below link to download or listen in:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1O19m9fiV8xy_VVtIMEdNedfA_IgMUW8P/view

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## NALLETI OTIENO

Nalleti Otieno (left) won first place in the 39th Annual Washington Informer Spelling Bee that was broadcast on Saturday April 25, 2021. For the first time, the bee was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Congratulations Nalleti!

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GRADUATION TIME

Hundreds of program participants transitioned to Kindergarten, middle school, high school, and college. Below are three students from CAC's Afterschool Program shortly after graduating from PRE-K

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POSITIVE PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Children & Charity International high-quality afterschool and summer programs were a significant resource for District youth. Programs were held in safe spaces. Positive Outcomes over the last 2 years include: **Academic Achievement:** Elementary and primary students demonstrated a 12 to 20% gain in school grades and test scores. They were also more engaged in learning. **Social and Behavioral:** Elementary students improved behaviors and reduced skipping school, and getting into fights. Middle school students reported reduced use of drugs and alcohol,

Further, a total of 760 elementary, middle, and high school youth were exposed to learning opportunities and STEM enrichment. - 7 youth received 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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Children & Charity International (CAC) is a USA registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible.

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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, floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes with supplies and aid. We have assisted during Hurricane Katrina 2005, Ike 2008, Sandy 2012, Harvey 2017, Dorian 2019, and Laura 2020. 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!