

CAC NEWS



Children & Charity International Newsletter

2024-2025

SPOTLIGHT



Congratulations Ghelatia!



Congratulations Layla!

YOUTH VOICE

High school and college youth are an integral part of Children and Charity International (CAC), STEM and Skills Training Program. Youth perspectives, ideas, and opinions were crucial to formulating 2024 and 2025 program activities. Based on input, CAC incorporated relevant and impactful policies and program activities including: Advancing Youth Development (AYD) segments where youth gained a better understanding of their developmental needs, and why it is important to have a good relationship with adults; conducted podcasts and panel discussions about national and world events that impact their lives; and creating Vision Boards depicting their goals and aspirations.

Youth also enjoyed Creative Science and SEL presentations by guests on **Foundational knowledge** in video editing, web design, human anatomy, bodybuilding and exercise physiology; **Discovering your Gifts** - How to use your Innate Gifts and Fulfill your Purpose; **From Trauma to triumph** - Moving from a Zombie state to a Phoenix Rising; **Drip and Conversation** - by Bishop Olde and Paul Winestock and **A conversation with the Owner of His & Hers DC Restaurant** on Rhode Island Avenue NW. A youth intern, *Alex Karden* shared knowledge and tips on using the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet; while several industry professionals, facilitators, and mentors actively engaged youth in the performing arts so they eagerly learned scripts and dances, expressed self, took solo roles, and performed a live Broadway-themed Show for the community.

SUCCESS STORIES

CAC is proud to announce that two young women were successful in their 2024 and 2025 endeavors. *Ghelatia Araia*, a productive former youth intern participated and won The Miss Eritrea Competition in August 2024, and in March 2025, *Layla Bunch* participated in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc, Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter, Talent Hunt Competition. She won 1st place. Heartfelt Congratulations ladies! Keep pursuing your dreams. ❤️

ORGANIZATION'S IMPACT

Children and Charity International administrators and instructors are committed to the Quality Improvement Process. They conduct SAYO-Y and YPQ assessments to ensure that programming is engaging, interactive, supportive, and conducted in a safe environment. After completing a year of CAC programs:

—100% of young people said that CAC programs improved their understanding of how to achieve their goals, boost their skills and confidence.

—100% youth reported developing essential skills, with the top five being: critical thinking, communication, collaboration, cooperation, and creativity.

—95% of young people agreed they had greater clarity and motivation about their future goals. This was driven by a Vision Board project. Youth felt they had life goals to achieve.

—92% of youth that did not have a GED, did not want to attend college, or needed a second chance, re-engaged with educational opportunities through STAY, tutoring, and job readiness training. Many secured apprenticeships, full-time employment, or started their own businesses.

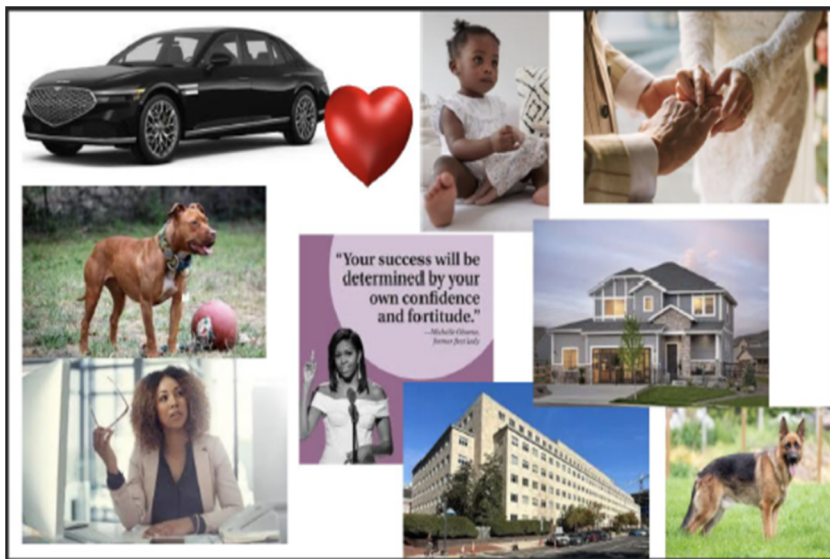
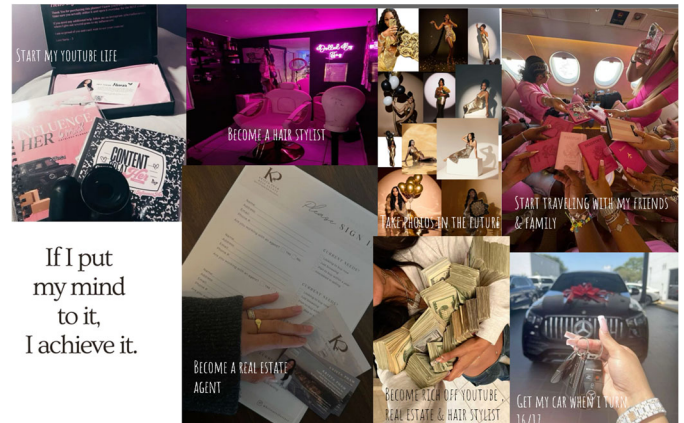
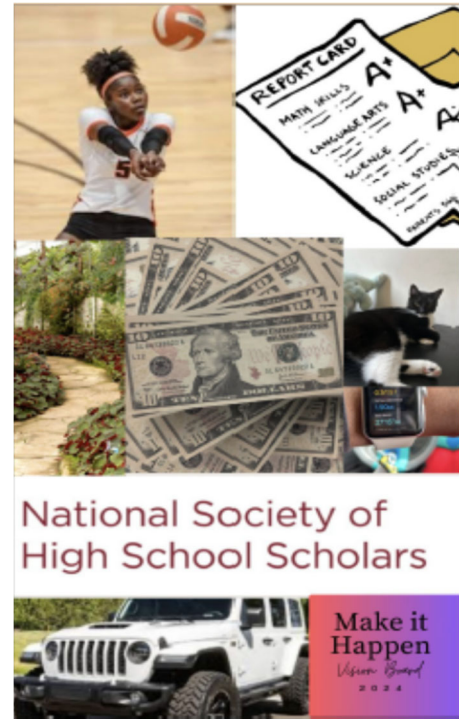
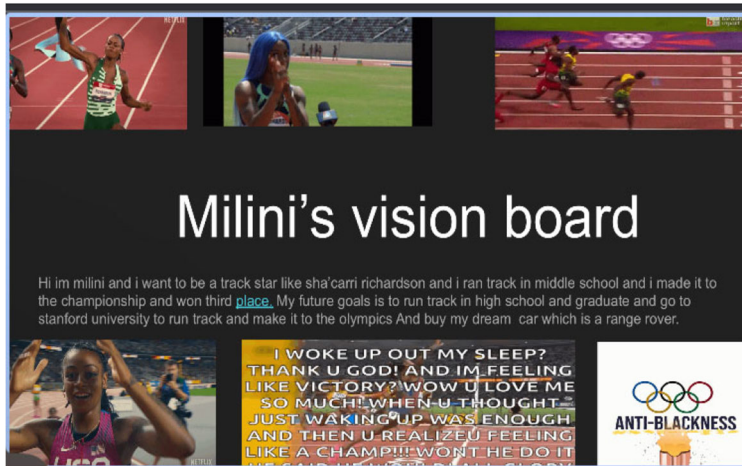
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YOUTH VOICE

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VISION BOARDS

During summers youth embrace opportunities to decide, design, and create vision boards which reflect their plans, goals, and how they foresee their future objectives and outcomes. Youth share details of their boards with classmates for clarity. It is a fun activity for youth.



A 2024 study by the National League of Cities asserts that high-quality afterschool programs are essential to support working families by offering academic support and enrichment activities, and investing in afterschool initiatives that contribute to reduced youth crime, improved academic outcomes and school day attendance, and overall community well-being, making it a strategic investment. Children and Charity International agrees with the assertion. During the 2024 to 2025 CAC served 424 K to 8th students and 410 high school and college youth during its Out of School Time (OST) Academic enrichment and creative arts program K-8; and STEM and Life Skills and Performing Arts programs 9 to college level. During programming, youth exhibited that they are smart, able to develop, learn new skills, and improve behavior.

School and community partnerships were beneficial to Turner Elementary School students. Grammy Award Artist, Lionel Cole visited CAC afterschool program on May 8, 2024. He shared pointers on effective roleplay with students; and helped with the musical pieces and dance coordination. The music and dance club students successfully prepared and showcased *The Adventures of Corduroy* on June 3, 2024 and *THE WIZ* on June 16, 2025 for the Turner ES community. Theater Arts is an integral part of social emotional learning (SEL) at Turner ES which has helped improve students' overall behavior. The live productions of *The Adventures of Corduroy* and *The WIZ* have been used as coping mechanisms by Turner Elementary School students when gun violence invades their safe space.



Dance Rehearsal



Spelling Bee Winners



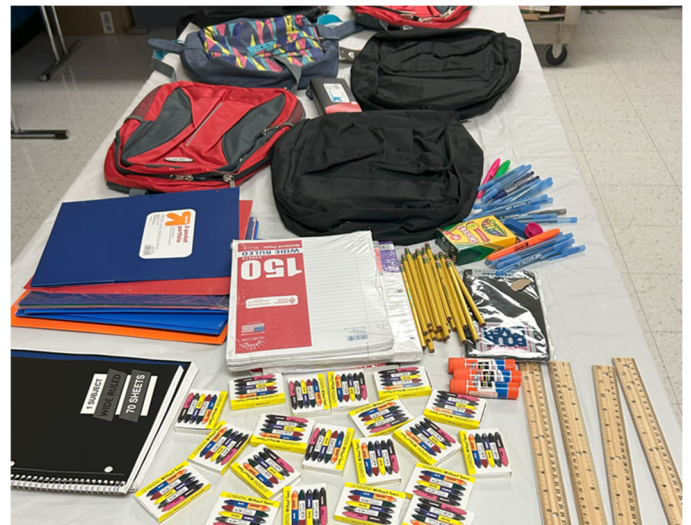
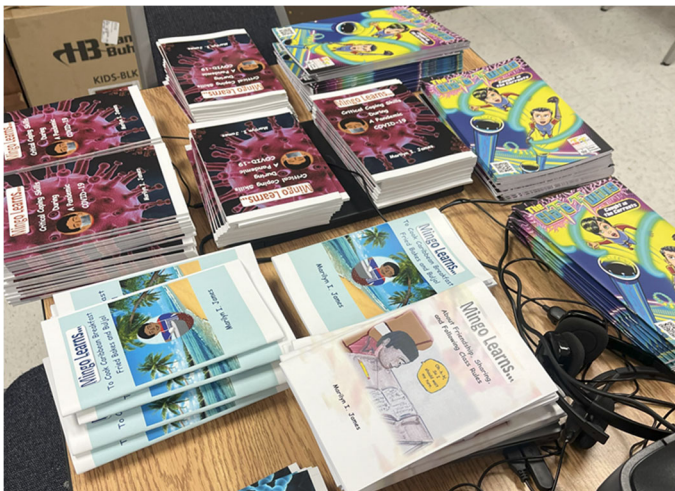
Student Learning To Sew



Students reading and sharing

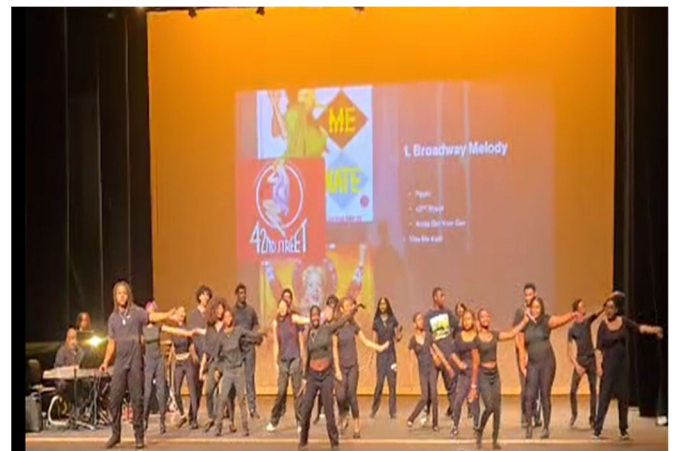
YOUTH ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO INTENTIONALLY BUILD STRONG CONNECTIONS WITH THE YOUTH

Elementary Students Activities



YOUTH WERE INTRODUCED TO PERFORMING ARTS TO INTENTIONALLY BUILD STRONG CONNECTIONS WITH THE YOUTH, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITY.

Group Activities In Preparation For A Live Show



**LISTEN
HERE**



Children and Charity International conducting Outreach in the community.

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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, Laura 2020 and more. We have sponsored 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 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 unique Educational and Job Readiness projects in Liberia, Haiti, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Nigeria, and the UK.

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!**