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Wanda King, Charms Scholarship Committee Co-Chair; Marzellus Moore, scholarship recipient; Clare Petty, Charms President

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# The True Cost of Over-Policing

By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, Ph.D.

The Truth Contributor



*The police are the public, and the public are the police.*  
— Tom Freston

The persistent trend where police frequently target African Americans for everyday, mundane activities is alarming. This pattern of over-policing, sometimes called “Living While Black,” continues to impact many communities, including our own.

Recently, a young African-American woman who was headed to work on foot was forced to navigate the streets of Toledo because the sidewalks were so overgrown with weeds that they couldn't be used, per reporting by 13abc's Alexis Means. Yet Toledo Police Department Officers Sharaya Lier and Brandon Spinner stopped the young lady for walking in the street.

What should have been a non-issue then quickly escalated, resulting in the young woman being handcuffed, placed in the back of a squad car, and given a citation - a stark reminder of the hostile environments Black Americans regularly encounter at the intersection of systemic neglect and racial bias.

### A Pattern of Over-Policing

This unsettling incident is not unique. It reflects a larger, more disturbing issue where Black individuals are more likely to face disproportionate targeting by authorities for minor or imagined offenses. For instance, Brandon Upchurch was attacked by a police K-9 during a traffic stop in the same area after being wrongly accused of having stolen license plates while driving his own vehicle.

In the same vicinity, officers Ashlyn Pluff and Adam Hobbs used excessive force during a traffic stop involving two Black women in January 2023. And the beat goes on.

### Historical Context and Racial Bias

It's appalling to consider that merely walking to work – making your way through an obstacle course of neglect - can become a traumatic experience solely because of race.

Nevertheless, these incidents remind us of the numerous ways African Americans have historically been unfairly scrutinized and criminalized for their mere presence in public spaces. From waiting for a friend in a coffee shop to bird-watching in a park, and from selling bottled water on a sidewalk to napping in a university common room to barbecuing at a park, everyday activities for Black individuals are often disrupted by undue attention and police actions.

### The True Cost: Eroding Trust and Police Legitimacy

Research confirms that police stops occur disproportionately in areas of color and that African-Americans are more likely to be stopped than others. These actions undermine trust and legitimacy in police-public relations. So, it is certain that the Walking While Black incident not only damages the relationship between TPD and the community but also undermines the authority of local law enforcement in the community's eyes while demonstrating a misuse of police power and a lack of understanding of the community's needs.

Moreover, TPD's persistent pattern of racial profiling and unnecessary stops risks a significant loss of political support for the Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz administration. Residents in Toledo's underserved communities

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Date: Friday, July 19, 2024  
Time: 8:00 A.M. ET  
Location: Toledo Museum of Art Glass Pavilion  
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# An Accomplished President Must be Wise Enough to Move on for the Good of the Country

By Michael A. Grant, J.D.

I have admired Joe Biden since 1988. I did not think the plagiarism charge should have caused him to abort his presidential aspirations back then. I was ecstatic when the seasoned, scrappy senator from Scranton joined - and added heft - to Barack Obama's run for the White House. And lastly, I proudly voted for Joe Biden for president in 2020.



As president, Biden compiled an enviable track record.

His list of accomplishments is well-documented: Infrastructure, a bold climate initiative, a herculean effort to lift millions of Americans' student loan debts, greatly reducing the cost of life-saving insulin, protecting millions from the scourge of COVID, getting relief checks in the hands of millions of struggling Americans during the pandemic, signing several bi-partisan bills into law and much more. Biden could end his presidency with his head held high knowing that he served his country honorably. But the time to end his occupancy in the White house may soon come upon him.

The Book of Ecclesiastes should guide his next steps: "For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven." Knowing when to exit will determine how history will record the character of this remarkable public servant.

I assume that the Democratic Party elites, the president's inner-circle and, most assuredly, his family will advise him to continue his campaign. But these enablers are deluding themselves and misleading the voters. The president's debate performance was not just an isolated incident. The CNN-sponsored event unearthed - in a dramatic fashion - what many of us have believed for some time.

Our president is experiencing diminished capacity. It has been reported that he got sleepy during the debate. The issue is not whether the president is beginning to exhibit signs of cognitive decline, the

issue is how could the enlightened members of our party put him through four more years of a grueling schedule that will begin at age 82 and end at age 86?

If, however, President Biden decides to stay in the race, I will support him because Donald Trump's mental stability and poor judgement are also being seriously discussed. The former president has already shown us that he is one of the most ruthless, vindictive, egomaniacal, dishonest and bigoted persons on the national stage today. He is a walking nightmare. Trump fuels hatred and pits Americans against each other. A skilled demagogue, he has risen to power - like Adolph Hitler - stirring up the worst impulses and fears in many of his mindless followers.

This commentary should in no way be construed to suggest that American voters will be forced to choose between the lesser of two evils. There is no comparison: Joe Biden is a decent human being; Donald Trump is evil incarnate. When I saw him peddling the Bible, I was reminded of one of my dear grandmother's favorite poems: "The devil won the robe of Christ" by Joyce Kilmer. My grandmother was an authentic Christian and by her fruit, we all knew it.

So where do we go from here? If President Biden voluntarily steps aside, the Democratic party could enjoy an old fashion brokered convention. I am confident that by re-opening the nominating process, a younger, more promising candidate will emerge.

If the Democratic Party is wise enough and nimble enough, a vetted politician with the right credentials could capture the imagination of the country in a short span of time and lead Democrats up and down the ticket to victory in November. The new standard bearer could then serve as a granite wall against the pernicious designs of the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025, an insidious plot to turn the federal bureaucracy into a vehicle for autocratic (fascist) rule, something that would, no doubt, cause the founding fathers to turn over in their graves.

President Biden, lead us to victory by empowering the next generation to step up and save our Constitutional democracy. A grateful nation will honor your self-sacrifice as a true servant leader.

Michael Grant, J.D. is president-emeritus of the National Bankers Association and a former assistant professor of political science at Morgan State university.

## Community Calendar

**July 13**  
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# My "Black Job" Is to Protect Democracy

*Yes, Joe Biden is a flawed candidate, but Donald Trump is a threat to America. Our Black job, is there is such a thing, is to stop him*

By Keith Boykin

I'm not doing this again with y'all.

While Democrats debate how to respond to Joe Biden's debate performance, Trump and the Republicans are plotting to erase the entire twentieth century.

That's not an exaggeration. Donald Trump has publicly threatened to be a dictator on "day one" if he wins in November, and the Supreme Court justices he appointed have just immunized him from accountability and vested him with the unchecked powers of a monarch.

If Trump wins, he would empower an army of radical right-wing activists who plan to implement Project 2025, dismantle civil rights, women's rights, and LGBTQ rights, rescind long-established progressive laws and policies, and swing a wrecking ball against the fragile institutions of government and democracy.

Yes, Joe Biden is a flawed candidate, but Donald Trump is a threat to America. If anyone should withdraw from the race, it's the twice-impeached convicted criminal.

But some critics are making the same miscalculation they made with Hillary Clinton. A Trump victory will not bring on a progressive people's revolution, strengthen third-party candidates, or buy us time to elect a better Democrat in the next election. It will set us so far back that it will take decades to unravel, no matter who wins in 2028. America cannot afford to make that mistake again.

Back in 2016, I was teaching at Columbia University when college students were complaining about Hillary Clinton as the Democratic nominee for president. Many raised legitimate concerns, including her support for the unpopular war in Iraq. But others raised less substantive issues. She's not likable. She panders. And the most memorable critique: they didn't believe her when she appeared on "The Breakfast Club" and announced that she carried hot sauce in her purse.

A presidential election is not a popularity contest. It's a job interview.

I, too, opposed the war in Iraq, and that was one reason why I voted for Barack Obama instead of Clinton in the 2008 presidential primary. But now it was 2016, and Clinton was the Democratic nominee facing a Republican opponent. Donald Trump, who posed a clear and present danger to democracy.

"If Hillary Clinton wins, we may have a liberal majority on the Supreme

Court for the first time in nearly 50 years," I posted on Twitter a few weeks before the election.

That was eight years ago.

Now, as Trump cements his legacy on the right-wing court, that opportunity could be lost for a generation, as Republicans have appointed six of the nine Supreme Court Justices.

Joe Biden is not the ideal candidate to represent the Democratic Party. He's an 81-year-old white man leading a party that is increasingly represented by young people, women, and people of color.

I worked for Biden's opponent when he ran for president in 1988. I did not vote for Biden when he ran the second time in 2008. And I did not support him in the Democratic primary in 2020. I even wrote articles criticizing him after he was elected president. But I did vote for him in 2020 because I knew he was the best available option.

I am not invested in the question of replacing Biden on the ticket. I would vote for Biden, Kamala Harris, Gavin Newsom, Gretchen Whitmer, Wes Moore, Pete Buttigieg, or any other credible candidate that Democrats nominate. This election is not about them. It's about protecting our rights.

For five years, I covered Trump as a political commentator for CNN, following his racist speeches, midnight tweets, and unhinged press conferences. Some Americans may not remember the constant chaos and crises from Charlottesville to Covid that defined the Trump years, but I do, and I refuse to go back.

I know that Democrats prefer young, articulate, charismatic presidential candidates in the tradition of John F. Kennedy, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama. I do too, but the young guys don't always deliver. It was not JFK, but an older, less attractive Lyndon Johnson who signed the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, 60 years ago today. As Jesse Jackson said at the 1984 Democratic National Convention, "I would rather have Roosevelt in a wheelchair than Reagan on a horse."

Trump is far more entertaining than Joe Biden, but a presidential election is not a popularity contest. It's a job interview. Unfortunately, the majority of white voters plan to install a twice-impeached, quadruple-indicted, convicted criminal with a 50-year history of racism in the most powerful position in America.

My Black job, if there is such a thing, is to stop them.

Keith Boykin is a New York Times–bestselling author, TV and film producer, and former CNN political commentator. A graduate of Dartmouth College and Harvard Law School, Keith served in the White House, cofounded the National Black Justice Coalition, cohosted the BET talk show *My Two Cents*, and taught at the Institute for Research in African-American Studies at Columbia University in New York. He's a Lambda Literary Award-winning author and editor of seven books. He lives in Los Angeles.

"Black Vote, Black Power," a collaboration between Keith Boykin and Word In Black, examines the issues, the candidates, and what's at stake for Black America in the 2024 presidential election.



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# A Formula for Success at Maritime Academy

By Fletcher Word  
The Truth Editor

The long pandemic-induced nightmare is almost over. At least the nightmare is over at Maritime Academy. At Maritime, as it was with most schools, neighborhoods and cities around the nation for the past few years, times were difficult. Students' schedules were disrupted in the spring of 2020 as schools shut down. Then followed the emotional damage caused by the shutdown and several years of social distancing which were not easy to recover from.

For several years students were generally angry, short-tempered and unable to get past the educational turmoil those first few pandemic years caused. But the turnaround has happened, according to Maritime Academy Superintendent Aaron Lusk. He began to sense a return to normalcy during the first months of 2024.

Soon thereafter, the superintendent began to develop new plans for the upcoming academic year in an effort to bring students and families closer together, to increase the options students have in their learning choices, to bring a greater variety of professional guidance to pupils and, not least of all, to improve the learning experience, even as it is reflected on tests, such as the state achievement tests.

Just as one size does not fit all, one set of state achievement tests does not fit all students, notes Maritime Academy Superintendent Aaron Lusk.

Lusk wrote earlier for The Truth in 2024 about one such student:

*"When Shamyra came to The Maritime Academy of Toledo in seventh grade, she had been expelled from multiple schools. Upon enrollment, she had little confidence in her academic abilities and felt lost in a system designed for failure. Her performance on state tests included limited and basic scores which negatively affected the school's state report card. Her behavior continued to deteriorate as she violated many requirements of the code of conduct. By the end of her seventh-grade year, based on the politics of our public education system, she was possibly facing the end of her educational experience."*

Lusk does not have a problem with the test itself. As one measure of gauging the success of a school's ability to educate its students, he says it's acceptable. However, using it as the only gauge is problematical.

"Test scores are a secondary concern to helping students," says Lusk during a recent chat with The Truth. "Lots of kids come here because they need [something different]" from what their neighborhood public school can provide.

*"Our public school system, with its zero-sum game approach, creates an environment where good or bad schools are ranked not by their willingness to help all students, especially those with the most needs, but one that promotes the exclusion of students who may not score well on a test,"* wrote Lusk earlier this year.

Maritime accepts a diverse array of students in the sixth through 12th grades and that diversity is especially evident in the various city neighborhoods, especially central city neighborhoods, that the students come from.

This fall, as part of Lusk's new education model, students in the ninth and tenth grades will be part of a cohort.

The teachers for the cohort have made up their own schedules, says Lusk, and "both students and teachers will have all the support they need." That support includes case workers, special education instructors, social workers – support personnel necessary to help decrease absenteeism.

"We will see some real change in academic progress," said Lusk emphasizing

the 100 percent inclusion that students with special needs will experience within the "Charting Your Course" cohort.

The cohort will be placed on the third floor of the school and the students will have "a variety of elective choices" especially as the group moves into the 10th and 11th grades. Together the students will experience restorative justice after years of been subjected to the harmful effects of the pandemic shutdown and begin to really develop or re-develop their social skills.

Additionally, as Lusk notes, the goal of the cohort is also to make parents a part of the collaborative process. "Parents will always know what is going to happen, as well the students, in order to alleviate anxiety."

There is no guarantee that the success of the new program will be reflected on the state tests and report card because of the nature of that test-taking process. For example, as Lusk says, students always do better the second time around on such tests, but those results are not recorded by the State of Ohio.

However, the standard state report card is not the only measure of success, according to Lusk. "Every kid graduated on time in the class of 2024," he adds as an example of the success that Maritime does deliver to its charges.

In addition, he points to recent Niche rankings (Niche is a free, national, community-based platform that offers personalized experience for its users in a range of subject matters – schools, neighborhoods, products services, etc).

According to Niche, the Maritime Academy ranks high in numerous areas such as diversity: number two in Lucas County for both middle and public schools; number six in Lucas County for best college prep schools; number 76 (of 778) in Ohio for best college prep schools.

Similarly, the school has performed well in federal audits. "The things we can actually control, we do very well in and knock it out of the park," says Lusk. "We cannot control the state report card."

Nevertheless, Lusk does expect to see gains on the state report card as the cohort system takes effect and the students work their way through it and into higher grades such as the 11th and 12th - the "Setting Sail" years.

But the cohort system will be successful, he believes, because it will incor-

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# Faith Communities Mobilize for Freedom Summer 2024

*The National Council of Churches is spearheading a new wave of social justice activism, to motivate folks to take action and head to the polls.*

By Rev. Dorothy S. Boulware

AFRO Managing Editor, Word in Black

As technology continues to reshape every aspect of life, churches face the challenge of evolving their practices to remain relevant and effective. Just as communion and worship have evolved from traditional in-person gatherings to those that are hybrid or totally virtual, evangelism has morphed into likes, shares, and online engagement. To thrive, churches must continuously adapt and find never-before-imagined ways to expand their ministries.

In this landscape, the National Council of Churches is equipping its members and partners for the journey at hand and ahead. By embracing modern tools and revisiting the lessons of the past, the NCC aims to foster a new wave of social justice activism, reminiscent of the pivotal Freedom Summer of 1964.

"In 1964, NCC, with a deep sense of urgency, immersed itself into the troubled waters of racial injustice in Mississippi to engage in direct action in the struggle of African Americans for racial justice," NCC President and General Secretary Bishop Vashiti McKenzie said in a statement.

"There was a belief that it was going to be a decisive moment in American history. As it was then, so it is now. We are at a pivotal point in a polarized country. We must retrace our steps to build upon the foundations of justice left by previous generations."

The NCC's Freedom Academy is a key part of this effort, designed to train and mobilize faith leaders to inspire and guide their communities to

also become people of faith.

Through a Sunday school-style Bible study curriculum, the academy will provide theological grounding from the biblical teachings of Luke 4. The first session in a six-part series of classes, "The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me – Sacred Spirituality of Freedom/Theology of Freedom," will be taught by Rev. Stephen A. Green, pastor of the Greater Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York, on July 7.



Dorothy Boulware

"On the 60th Anniversary of Freedom Summer, I am honored to lead the Freedom Academy for the National Council of Churches. This milestone reminds us of the enduring legacy of those who fought tirelessly for civil rights and social justice. As we reflect on their sacrifices and achievements, we are inspired to continue their work with renewed vigor and dedication," Rev. Green says.

"Our mission is to educate and empower leaders who are committed to advancing social change and justice in our communities. Through comprehensive training and collaborative efforts, we aim to equip a new generation of advocates with the knowledge and tools necessary to drive meaningful progress. Together, we can build a more equitable and just society for all."

The Freedom Academy is merely one part of the broader Freedom Summer Agenda. Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton, chair of NCC's Governing Board, emphasized the urgent need for action in light of recent setbacks to voting rights.

"The Freedom Summer of 1964 led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 making it possible for thousands of disenfranchised to vote. In 2013 the Supreme Court gutted the Voting Rights Act enabling new restrictions to the constitutional right to vote. The Freedom Summer of 1964 turned deadly. The Freedom Summer of 2024 is still a matter of life and death. We dare not stand idle — too much is at stake," Eaton said in a statement.

"We call upon all people of faith, our member communions, and partner organizations to mobilize for this movement. As we follow in the footsteps of Freedom Summer 1964, let us educate, engage, and empower voters around the country to take part in the democratic process this upcoming election season. 'For freedom Christ has set us free' (Galatians 5:1 NRSVUE)."

Continuing the legacy of the original Freedom Summer, where nearly 1,500 volunteers, including 254 NCC-sponsored clergy, worked in project offices across Mississippi, this year's Freedom Fellows will help organize congregations to engage in voter registration, community canvassing, and phone and text banking.


The Freedom Summer Agenda also includes the Freedom Riders initiative, which will empower and engage communities through faith, food, and fellowship with stops in Jacksonville, Florida; Atlanta, Georgia; Durham, North Carolina; Detroit, Michigan; and Jackson, Mississippi.

So as the church adapts to new technological realities, its commitment to justice and equity remains steadfast. And through this initiative, the NCC will, no doubt, mobilize a new generation.

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# Central State University's Alumni Gathering in Toledo

By Tricia Hall

The Truth Reporter

Central State University, Ohio's only public historic black college (HBCU), organized an alumni gathering the weekend of June 21 at downtown Toledo's Renaissance Hotel. The university's National Alumni Association (NAA) selects a different city each year, allowing alumni known as Centralians and Marauders to gather, network and support scholarship endeavors.

Centralians from across Ohio, Michigan, Texas, Florida and Indiana convened at The Heights on Friday, NAA breakfast and scholarship lunch on Saturday, and evening reception at TolHouse Saturday evening.

"I'm grateful that Centralians have traveled from near and far to join us in Toledo. Thank you to the previous interim president Dr. Alex Johnson,

... continued on page 8



Rev. Jones; Interim President Alex Johnson, PhD, and Pamela Hodge, PhD



Alumni



(NAA Board Members and CSU Staff)



Keith Perkins (Alumni Director), Dr. Burney (scholarship guest speaker), Dr. Kuti (CSU President) and Anthony Gardner (NAA President)



John Jones, Artisha Lawson and Stazia Bowman, Alumni (Toledo chapter future members)

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**Alumni Gathering...continued from page 7**

current CSU president Dr. Morakinyo A.O. Kuti, CSU NAA board and CSU trustees,” said Rev. John Jones during the scholarship brunch. “It’s wonderful to have each of you here. This brunch is about scholarships which is critical to the success of our beloved organization. Toledo is working on a chapter, so we’re coming soon.”

The occasion received a proclamation from Toledo City Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz. The proclamation acknowledged Central State University and Central State University National Alumni Association’s commitment to education and recognized the conference occurring in Toledo. Jones read the proclamation, delivered a warm welcome and introduced the guest speaker, Calvin Burney, Jr., PhD.

Burney, an advocate for education serves as a youth advisor for Alpha Esquires, a youth affiliate of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Morehouse

College graduated, and superintendent of Rise and Shine Academy a charter school located in North Toledo.

“Each and every one of us should use our God given ability to ensure that youth don’t fall victim to the gap,” began Dr. Burney. “We have to make sure our babies’ futures are secured.”

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, the weekend also launched efforts to establish a Toledo chapter of NAA. Toledo’s own Rev. John C. Jones has been recruited as chapter president and at least six others have committed to this effort.

Centralians that are interested in supporting the chartering of a Toledo chapter can contact Jones at (jonesjo313@gmail.com). Individuals interested in learning more about the campus and student benefits for students can visit [www.centralstate.edu](http://www.centralstate.edu) The 2025 NAA convening will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina.



Alumni check-in station



Rev. John C. Jones (Toledo chapter president) and Edwin Lloyd (past NAA president)



Keith Perkins (Alumni Director), Beniann Moss (Dallas Chapter president) and Juan Bailey (Cincinnati chapter president)

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# Everything You Need to Know About Borrowing Money for College

*Special to The Truth*

College-related costs are at an all-time high, and while many parents harbor concerns about the expense, they value the education their child is receiving.

That's according to the April 2024 College Ave survey. The survey found that while 89 percent of parents of four-year college students believe a college degree is important for their child's future, 78 percent agree that paying for college is stressful.

"Families today are relying on a mix of sources to fund college, including scholarships, federal aid and grants, income and savings, and in some cases, private student loans," says Angela Colatriano, chief marketing officer, College Ave.

According to Colatriano, it's critical to understand the ins and outs of borrowing for college before taking out a loan. If you believe your family will take this path, here's everything you need to know:

1. Exhaust other options. Many experts agree that private loans only make sense once other financial aid options are exhausted. After filing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), you'll receive a financial aid package from each school, which may include scholarships, grants and federal student loans. If your selected school is one of the 400 institutions that requires

the CSS profile, submit that application, too to qualify for institutional aid. And of course, don't forget to apply to private scholarships to access funds that don't need to be repaid.

*...continued on page 15*

## *Maritime Academy...continued from page 5*

porate those things that the members of the diverse student body will need to succeed, such as support from professionals, parental involvement, emphasis on developing interpersonal skills and flexibility.

"School is all about flexibility [that] is what makes kids feel comfortable," said Lusk.

As he wrote earlier this year:

*"Four and a half years later Shamyra is now a junior at The Maritime Academy of Toledo. The journey had often been marked by frustration and sadness, but those times have lessened significantly. In all state measurements, Shamyra continues to grow but this progress does not equate to success on the school's report card.*

*The truth is, however, that Shamyra is likely to finish most of her required classes at the end of the 2023-2024 school year to take college classes her senior year. In addition, she is on track to graduate and plans to attend either Owens Community College or Lourdes University, for nursing, after her 2025 graduation."*



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# HOPE Toledo – A Success Story Still in the Making

By Fletcher Word  
The Truth Editor

On January 29, 2020, just before the COVID-19 pandemic began to play havoc with schools and students' plans for completing their educations, the 2020 class of Scott High School students and their parents or guardians were called to the school for an event in the fieldhouse.

They had not been told what the event was about so the universal surprise, amazement and joy that broke out in the audience was overwhelming when the speaker, Pete Kadens (a Toledo native/Chicago area entrepreneur) announced that he would be funding college or trade school for all the graduating seniors and one of their parents.

In all, 108 students in the class of 2020 were given the opportunity to take advantage of a free higher education and, after that, the benefits were extended to several following classes. The duties of assisting the students in their quest for higher education and tracking their progress fell to a newly established non-profit organization, HOPE Toledo and its president/CEO, Rev. John Jones.

HOPE Toledo was the first fully funded two-generation program in the United States. That meant that graduates of that 2020 class and a parent could attend 4.5 years of an accredited university, community college or trade school for free, including tuition, room and board, books and fees. The program also includes wraparound support services and coaching.

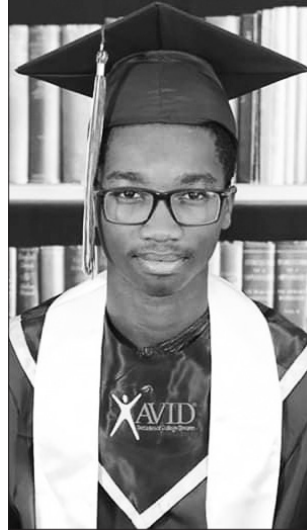
This spring the first two students in the class of 2020 graduated from college. Wakeso Peterson, Jr. graduated from Bowling Green State University with a bachelor of science degree in architecture and environmental design and Mario Purifie, Jr. graduated from Wright State University with a bachelor of arts degree in crime and justice studies with a double minor in legal studies and deaf studies.

While Peterson and Purifie are the first two four-year graduates in the class of 2020, there has already been more success, says, Jones, and much more success to come.

Of the 108 graduates in that class, 62 entered college or a trade school the following fall. Five parents of those graduates did also while another five parents entered some sort of program later in the year. Of the students who entered college or a trade program, nine have received an associate's degree or a trade certification. About 25 students in that cohort are still working on degrees, says Jones.

To assist in tracking the outcomes of HOPE Toledo, the staff solicited the assistance of the Northwestern University's Institute for Policy Research. The report, which was completed in December 2023, focused on the progress of Scott classes 2020, 2021, and 2021. The class of 2023 was not included because students had not had the chance to complete a full year of college.

The highlights of the study can be examined in three different areas: enrollment, persistence and completion. The study found, for example, that post-HOPE Toledo students enrolled in college at higher rates than pre-HOPE Toledo students (Scott classes 2015-2019). HOPE Toledo "led to a 28 percent increase in college enrollment in the first



Wakeso Peterson, Jr.



Mario Purifie, Jr

year after graduation among Scott High School graduates."

Persistence rates were higher for post-HOPE Toledo students than for pre-HOPE Toledo students in that post-HOPE Toledo students were 38 percent more likely to complete at least one term of college in the first year following graduation than pre-HOPE Toledo students.

It's too early to fully assess completion rates for pre and post-HOPE Toledo students. At the time of the report only one student in each group had received a post secondary education certificate, however, a number of post secondary institutions are not included in the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) database used in the study so the comparisons will probably always be lacking sufficient information.

Forty-three percent of post HOPE Toledo students enrolled in a postsecondary institution compared to 33 percent of pre-HOPE Toledo students. More post HOPE Toledo students enrolled in four-year institutions (73 percent) and fewer in two-year institutions (27 percent) compared to pre-HOPE Toledo student 63 and 37 percent respectively).

The conclusion of the report conducted by the Institute for Policy Research noted that while it is still a bit early to draw complete conclusions about the full effect of the HOPE Toledo program, it is already evident that that the program has worked as intended.

"Short and medium-term indicators are promising: students who had access to the program had higher enrollment and persistence rates than students who did not."

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Publication Date 06/24

# Treating Violence: An Emergency Room Doctor Takes On a Deadly American Epidemic by Rob Gore, MD

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
The Truth Contributor

Well, thank you so much to your co-worker.

c. 2024  
Beacon Press  
\$27.95  
200 pages

That's where you got this ick, this scratchy-throat, achy-body, upset-stomach, can't-sleep virus. He sneezed and that's all it took. Now you've got what he had and you're trying not to spread it anymore. As you know, and as in the new book *Treating Violence* by Rob Gore, MD, an epidemic affects everybody.

Once upon a time, Rob Gore had a brother.

Angel wasn't biologically related but within a short time after Gore's parents fostered the young boy, Gore considered Angel as a sibling. They tussled and played together. Gore watched over his "brother" and when Angel got older, he did the same for Gore. But Angel was anything but an angel and slowly, he turned to hustling drugs.

Gore says he wishes he'd done more to stop him. Eventually, Angel went to prison.

Growing up in Brooklyn, Gore knew that the streets were not kind to people who looked like him, people with Brown or Black skin, and he understood early how privileged he was. He was granted – and sometimes squandered – the best education. In high school, after he was

given a chance to "shadow" sports medicine practitioners and after he noticed a lack of Black people in medical careers, he saw his own future. Gore attended Morehouse College, with an eye toward helping Black and Brown people in crisis.



*Treating Violence* author, courtesy Shannon Greer

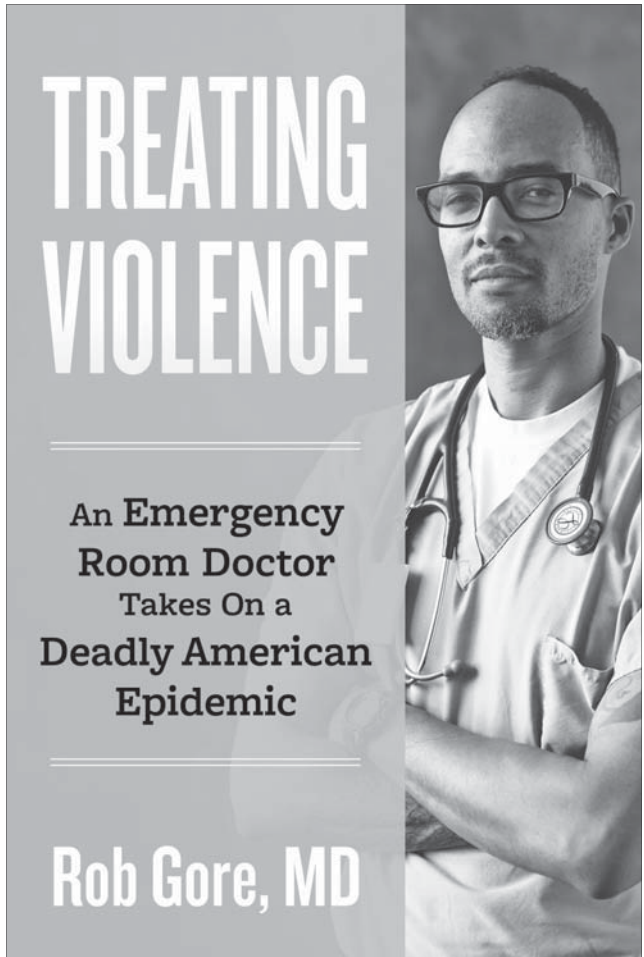
According to the CDC, he says, "homicide... is the number-two cause of death for Black males ages one to nine..." but there are ways to identify issues before they become dangerous, out-of-control problems. The process moves through examination of a person's childhood traumas and what happened to them as adults, followed by listening, validating, and asking for calm. Gore understood this as a young doctor, and he decided to do something about it.

"Lack of funding was a roadblock" for it, he says, "but the seed was planted and my conviction continued to grow."

You're tired of attending funerals, and tired of reading about another dead child somewhere. You're ready to act. You're ready to read *Treating Violence*.

Indeed, this book might light a fire under you: author Rob Gore, MD first explains what street violence does to Black communities and families, which is shocking and upsetting. This begins his biography, which is a brief (too-brief!) set-up for how and why Gore ultimately founded KAVI, an organization that uses trained volunteers to lower the anger level and any desires for revenge when someone is the victim of violence. The story is a rousing one, but readers may feel a bit cheated by the rushed transition from Gore's life and his work as an ED doctor, to KAVI. Information on KAVI and similar organizations may spur you to take action. An abrupt stoppage of Gore's personal stories may disappoint you.

Still, with the Surgeon General's recent warning on gun use in mind, *Treating Violence* couldn't be more timely or necessary. Find it, read it for the excellent biography and the ideas, statistics, and urgency – and get to work.



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# CLASSIFIEDS

Page 14

July 10, 2024

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Firekeepers Casino Trip July 6th and 7th. For more info contact Ms. Nixon at (419)901-1515.

## Position Available: Grant Writer



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## PUBLIC BID ADVERTISEMENT (ELECTRONIC BIDDING)

Electronic proposals will be received by the Board of Lucas County Commissioners of Lucas County, Ohio, at their office, One Government Center, Suite 800, Toledo, Ohio 43604 at **10:00 am** local time on **July 9, 2024** and opened immediately thereafter for the **Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Home Elevation Project located at 11025 Dorr Street, Spencer Township.**

Specifications are to be downloaded from the Lucas County website: <https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/36500/home>.

By order of the Board of Lucas County Commissioners of Lucas County, Ohio.

Pete Gerken, President  
Lisa A. Sobbecki  
Anita Lopez

## \*\*CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) POSITION AVAILABLE AT PATHWAY INC.\*\*

Pathway Inc., Ohio's number one community action agency, seeks a dynamic and visionary Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to lead our organization. Reporting to the Board of Directors, the CEO will provide strategic direction and organizational leadership and oversee Pathway's administration and programs. This full-time position requires a 40-hour workweek and involves collaborating with management to oversee various departments. Salary is commensurate with experience, and a comprehensive benefits package is included.

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- Provide supervision and leadership to the organization's staff
- Manage the organization's finances, including budget development and fiscal oversight
- Develop and implement programs in line with Pathway's mission and goals
- Foster positive relationships with the Board of Directors, community leaders, and civic organizations
- Represent Pathway in various activities and forums
- Communicate information on programs and policies to the public and government officials
- Oversee facilities management
- Lead fundraising initiatives to secure financial support for Pathway's programs and services.

### \*\*Qualifications:\*\*

- College Degree or nonprofit leadership experience
  - Proficiency in computer operations and programs
  - Strong public speaking and strategic analysis skills
  - Proven fiscal management skills
  - Comprehensive understanding of federal and state standards, auditing requirements, nonprofit structures, community demographics, grant management, and crisis intervention techniques
- Demonstrated success in fundraising and development, with experience in donor engagement and grant writing.

**\*\*Application Process:\*\***To apply, please submit your resume and cover letter to Kristie Clark at [kclark@pathwaytoledo.org](mailto:kclark@pathwaytoledo.org) (<mailto:kclark@pathwaytoledo.org>). We kindly request no phone calls. Pathway Inc. is an equal-opportunity employer.

## SCOTT CLASS OF '69

Calling all Scott class of 69 alumni. Our 55th reunion will take place on Saturday and Sunday, August 10 and 11. Please call Evelyn at 419-4906851 or Tommy Johnson at 419-7041835 ASAP. So we can update your info and send your reunion information and registration packet. Looking forward to a wonderful reunion. Hope to see you there!

Scott class of 69 reunion committee



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# Summer Crisis Program Begins July 1

*More than 44,000 Ohio households served in 2023*

The Ohio Department of Development and Pathway Inc. are once again offering assistance to help Ohio's families stay cool during the hot summer months.

From July 1 through Sept. 30, income-eligible Ohioans can receive assistance in paying their electric bill, purchasing an air conditioner or fan, or making repairs to their central air conditioning unit through the Ohio Department of Development's Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis Program.

The Summer Crisis Program assists low-income households or those that have a disconnection notice, have been shut off, are trying to establish new service on their electric bill, require air conditioning, or those with an elderly household member (60 years or older) who can provide physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for their health. Qualifying medical

conditions can include lung disease, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, asthma, and others.

To qualify for assistance, Ohioans must have a gross income at or below 175 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a family of up to seven members, and 60 percent of the State Median Income for a family of eight or more members. For a family of four, the annual income must be at or below \$54,600.

Last year, the Summer Crisis Program assisted more than 44,000 households in Ohio, providing a total of \$13.4 million in benefits.

To apply for the program, clients are required to schedule an appointment with Pathway Inc. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 567-803-0010.

Clients need to bring copies of the following documents to their appointment:

- Copies of their most recent energy bills.
- A list of all household members and proof of income for the last 30 days or 12 months for each member.
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members.
- Proof of disability (if applicable).
- Physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for a household member's health (if there isn't a household member over the age of 60).

Ohioans enrolled in the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus (PIPP) program who meet the above criteria may also be eligible for assistance towards their default PIPP payment, first PIPP payment, central air conditioning repairs, or may receive an air conditioning unit and/or fan.

For more information about the Summer Crisis Program, and what is needed to apply, contact Claudia Rodriguez-Salazar at 419-242-7304 ext. 1155. Pathway's website is [www.PathwayToledo.org](http://www.PathwayToledo.org). To be connected to your local Energy Assistance Provider visit [www.energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://www.energyhelp.ohio.gov) or call (800) 282-0880.

The Ohio Department of Development empowers communities to succeed by investing in Ohio's people, places, and businesses. Learn more about our work at [development.ohio.gov](http://development.ohio.gov).

**Borrowing Money... continued from page 10**

2. Do the math. Federal student loans in the student's name offer unique benefits, so if you do need to borrow, start there. If you decide that a private student loan or private parent loan is also right for your family, borrow only the minimum amount needed to save over the life of the loan. This is a good time to explore additional avenues for reducing your financing needs, such as renting textbooks, and buying groceries versus paying into the school meal plan.

3. Understand loan costs. Unlike federal loans, which have fixed interest rates for all borrowers, private student loans offer a choice of fixed or variable interest rates. Shop around for a lender that doesn't charge origination fees, and learn the difference between fixed and variable interest rates. Use [CollegeAve.com](http://CollegeAve.com)'s student loan calculator to get a sense of the overall cost of a given loan and its monthly loan payments.

4. Compare lender repayment options. Another factor to consider when shopping for a lender is repayment terms. Some lenders, like College Ave, let borrowers choose how long they want to repay their loan, and whether to start making payments immediately or defer until after graduation. The important thing is to select a loan with budget-friendly terms and a monthly payment you can live with.

5. Apply with a cosigner. Private student loan lenders look at income and credit history to determine a student's ability to repay the loan. If approved, their credit history also impacts the interest rate they're offered. Many college students don't have an established credit history or sufficient income and may not get approved for a private loan on their own. Your student can improve their chances of getting approved and securing a lower interest rate by adding a cosigner to their loan application. The cosigner should understand that they share equal responsibility for repayment if the student falls behind on payments.

Bottom line? Researching financial aid options, applying for scholarships and being a strategic borrower can help your family get on with what matters most: preparing for a bright future.

Courtesy StatePoint



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THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS:

# Toledo Chapter of Charms Donates Scholarship Funds to Aspiring Electrician

*Special to The Truth*

In a world increasingly driven by technology and sustainability, skilled trades are more essential than ever. Recognizing this critical need, The Toledo Chapter of Charms, Inc. has once again demonstrated its commitment to empowering individuals in vocational and technical fields by awarding a \$1000 scholarship to Marzellus Moore, a dedicated student in the Electrical Apprenticeship Program at the Toledo Electrical Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC).

Moore, an ambitious and hardworking individual, has his sights set on excelling in his trade and entrepreneurship. His goal is to start his own electrician company and, in collaboration with his twin brother, aspires to become the next Property Brothers. The dynamic duo plans to revolutionize the field with their innovative ideas and commitment to excellence.

In an interview, Moore emphasized the critical importance of his chosen trade in today's world. "Installing and maintaining solar panels, wind turbines, and other renewable energy systems, as well as finding methods to lower energy use and increase efficiency, are all important tasks trained electricians perform in electrician schools," he explained. His passion for renewable energy and sustainability highlights the forward-thinking mindset that earned him this scholarship.

Charms, Inc., is a national social, civic, and cultural organization with a rich history dating back to its establishment in 1952. The Toledo Chapter, known for its unwavering support of education, specifically designed this scholarship to support individuals pursuing careers in vocational and technical trades. This initiative is part of their broader mission to foster community growth and individual success, recognizing that skilled trades are foundational to a thriving society.

President of The Toledo Chapter of Charms, Inc., Clara Petty, expressed her pride in this year's recipient. "Mr. Moore exemplifies the dedication and vision we aim to support through our scholarship pro-

gram. His commitment to his education and future career, combined with his entrepreneurial spirit, embodies the values we hold dear. We are excited to see the impact he will make in the field of electrical work and beyond."

Adding to this sentiment, Felicia Roberts-Dunston, scholarship chairman, remarked, "In a world increasingly driven by technology and sustainability, skilled trades are more essential than ever. Our scholarship program is designed to recognize and support individuals like Mr. Moore who are poised to make significant contributions to these vital fields."

This scholarship is more than just financial aid; it represents a vote of confidence in Moore's potential to make significant contributions to the community and the industry. By investing in his education, The Toledo Chapter of Charms, Inc. is also investing in the future of sustainable energy solutions and the skilled workforce necessary to implement them.

Moore's story is a testament to the power of vocational education and the vital role skilled trades play in advancing modern society. As he continues his journey, his success will undoubtedly inspire others to pursue their dreams in vocational and technical fields, proving that with dedication and support, anything is possible.

For more information on the scholarship program and The Toledo Chapter of Charms, Inc., please contact them at [toledocharmsscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:toledocharmsscholarship@gmail.com).

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*The Charms members and Marzellus Moore*



*Wanda King, Charms Scholarship Committee Co-Chair; Marzellus Moore, scholarship recipient; Clara Petty Charms President copy*