



MBK

My Brother's Keeper

Annual Report 2020





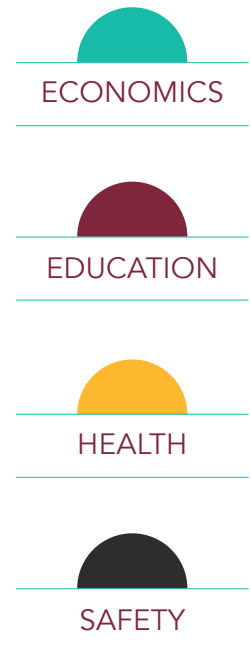
Core

What we do and who we serve

My Brother's Keeper (MBK) is focused on the pillars of education, health, safety, and economics in order to help close the disparity gap facing young men of color today. Success is measured by outcomes related to attendance, grades, extracurricular participation and intervention needs.

MBK's work to support young people during the COVID-19 pandemic provided the opportunity to build a community of caring that lifted-up our boys and young men of color. In all, 10 organizations have joined in to ensure that collectively we are providing the right interventions to achieve the greatest possible outcomes for every student to close the academic achievement gap.

The work in 2020 identified some promising programming and initiatives that merit further engagement and investment. These efforts effectively engaged young people to support their academic success. Across the MBK Round 2, Summer Youth and BOOST programs outlined below there was an emphasis on four key areas: education, employment, mental health and mentorship. These four key areas were identified in focus groups with students, parents and service providers as factors critical to the success of young people. **Of the 645 young men who engaged in MBK programming, only three were involved in acts of violence.**





Culture

How we impact change

MBK Round 2 Grant Programs 2019-2020 Academic Year

- My Brother's Keeper Round 2 grants funded non-profit agencies to test new approaches and create new partnerships to improve high school success for boys and young men of color. The awardees measured high school success through programming to reduce chronic absenteeism, equitable assignments to advanced courses and systems to ensure on-time graduation prepared for college or career.

African American Male Wellness Initiative, Men of Standard (MOS) program

Served 50 nontraditional BYMOC, including 25 graduating seniors. Students were offered:

- Self-paced academic enrichment and programming to earn high school diploma.
- Personalized individual career pathways
- Social and emotional learning support
- Professional Mentoring and Job Shadowing
- Attended Professional Trade Fairs and College Tours
- Direct Pathway to College with Wilberforce University

Columbus Urban League (CUL), I AM MBK

Served 25-30 BYMOC, including two graduating seniors. Students were offered:

- Weekly tutoring at Columbus South High School
- Weekly social and emotional learning enrichment programming
- Academic counseling
- Financial literacy classes

Community Refugee Immigration Service Inc. (Community Connectors)

Program focus: Immigrant and refugee students. Served 25 BYMOC, including seven graduating seniors. Students were offered:

- Mentorship for academic, employment and engagement pathways
- Safe environment for expressions through the arts, sports, and social activities

COVID-19 Response

2020 Summer Youth Programming/Employment

- Through CARES ACT funding, My Brother's Keeper awarded three community organizations funding to administer summer employment and engagement programming to youths in some of our most vulnerable neighborhoods. These programs afforded participants the opportunity to learn, earn and engage with other youth across central Ohio during the pandemic.

50
served

Columbus Urban League (VLOG 2020)

Program description:

- Entrepreneurship instruction
- VLOG development: YouTube, social media etiquette

30
served

Legacy U

Program description:

- Daily summer academic enrichment
- Learned essential life skills to promote responsible and independent living
- Safe environment for expression and processing dialogue regarding the importance of social justice and self-empowerment within African American community
- Weekly discussions with local community leaders, black business owners, and Columbus police officers

25
served

Urban Scouts

Program description:

- Linden area-based program
- Served boys and girls, ages 14-18 years old
- Entrepreneurship development and skills: Lawn Care Service business



The BOOST Campaign

During Fall 2020, MBK launched the Bridging Optimism & Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) Campaign. This is a collaborative between BYMOC and other non-profit partners, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent virtual learning environment. Through this campaign, educational disparities exacerbated by COVID-19 and virtual learning were mitigated, reaching over 600 elementary, middle, and high school students.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Legacy U- Rise Up
- Community for New Direction (CND)
- CRIS (Community Connectors)
- The Columbus Urban League (I AM MBK)
- Remember Us Urban Scouts
- Gamma Zeta Zeta
- Columbus Community Parks and Recreation Centers

Services and Resource offerings:

- Safe Haven for learning and social engagement
- Remote learning tools: internet boosters, lap desks
- Academic tutoring
- Mentoring
- Transportation
- Violence prevention programming
- Workforce development
- Language barrier assistance
- School supplies
- Hygiene kits
- PPE kits
- Meal programs
- Mental health services

The BOOST Campaign provided BYMOC an enhanced array of resources from trusted community partners that are aligned with MBK's focus on school success.





Climate

Similar to the weather, these events are not meant to change the culture. They are meant to expand our reach and offer exposure opportunities.

Additional Community Engagement and Student Support Activities

Black History Month – February 2020

In partnership with Columbus City Schools (CCS), L-Brands and the Department of Neighborhoods, Black History kicked off with the Read Out-Loud series at five CCS elementary schools. Students created a mini 2020 Vision Board to set future goals, read the book “White Water” and had a group discussion. MBK hosted a preview of movie the “Just Mercy” followed by a panel discussion that included judges, police officers, lawyers and community activists.

MBK Annual Job Fair – March 2020

MBK hosted the 3rd Annual Job Fair with the support of six other City departments. Over 55 central Ohio employers participated and 243 job seekers signed in at registration.

Stay Connected Campaign - March 2020

MBK launched the Stay Connected campaign to help students during quarantine continue to stay engaged. The goal of the campaign was to provide students and families with educational and safety information.

CUL Memorial Day Giveaway – May 2020

MBK partnered the Columbus Urban League and the Will Allen Foundation to provide 250 families impacted by COVID with Memorial Day meal and activity kits, mask and cleaning supplies.

MBK Alliance Virtual Town Hall Series – June 2020

The national MBK Alliance hosted the Anguish and Action: Reimagining Policing in the Wake of Continued Police Violence, an emergency call to action for communities to reimagine policing. The conversation featured President Barack Obama, Eric Holder, Rashad Robinson, Phillippe Cunningham, Brittany Packnett, and our MBK Student Ambassador, Playon Patrick. Playon delivered a spoken word and introduced President Obama. Mayor Ginther adopted the 8 Can't Wait call to action following the town hall.

Uplift CBUS PPE Distribution – July 2020

UPLift CBUS provided families with essential household cleaning supplies, toiletry items (soap, toilet paper, paper towels) and PPE. The Make-A-Day Foundation, in partnership with MBK, provided families with fresh produce and food.

MBK EA Sports Minecraft Team – October 2020

MBK partnered with the Past Foundation to create an EA Sports Minecraft team with scholars from Columbus City Boys Preparatory School. The afterschool program provided students with the opportunity to learn Minecraft, the basics of coding and explore AI. Upon mastery of skills, the team will be able to participate in a national competition.





What's Next?

Coming in 2021

My Brother's Keeper Village is committed to boosting postsecondary education for boys and young men of color to help close and eliminate the opportunity gaps that exist. To help we will launch the "We Rise" Scholarship Fund (WRSF). Through a partnership with HOMAGE we are reprising the MBK Conference t-shirt. Funds raised will seed the scholarship fund.

Reach Out is a new mentorship organization that is collaborating with My Brother's Keeper (MBK). The OSUCOM community will pair students from disadvantaged backgrounds with a personal medical student mentor. The program will target 7th-9th grade students in a virtual environment to develop a consistent and longitudinal relationship using coaching models based on goals of the students.

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