



2024-2025

# NAVIGATION TO SUCCESS

**PROGRAM RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENT REPORT**

BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION OF MICHIGAN

# MISSION STATEMENT

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To provide non-partisan, educational research, public policy development, and analysis of various issues of social and economic importance of Michigan's Black Communities, and to implement associated programs and services which enhance the quality of life for all children and families.



# MISSION & VISION

We're building a *brighter, drug-free future* for Detroit's youth through:



**Professor Nicole T. Stallworth**  
*Black Caucus Foundation of Michigan  
Operations & Training Executive*

## **Our Vision**

To empower youth to live healthy, purpose-driven lives free from tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, opioids and other drugs.

## **Our Approach**

Implement evidenced-based programming, incorporate the prevention framework combined with deep community partnership and youth engagement.

## **Our Foundation**

Dedicated to Adolescent development through **strategic collaboration** with schools, families, and community partners, we deliver *proven prevention programs* that **empower youth to make healthy choices** while fostering *positive development* and creating sustainable change in Detroit's communities.



# GOALS

- **Reduce underage drinking, tobacco use and other drug use for youth in Detroit by providing school based programming.**
- **Be a resource for students with substance use disorder needs and make sure they receive the appropriate care.**
- **Integrate behavioral health services in schools to foster academic success and health for adolescents.**
- **Create school environments that foster healthy social emotional development for all students.**
- **Support inform, and engage teachers, staff and parents.**



BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION OF MICHIGAN

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Honorable Dr. Alma G. Stallworth, Ph.D**  
Founder, & Board Member Emeritus (Posthumous)

**Professor Nicole T. Stallworth,**  
Operations & Training Executive

Lt. Rodney Sizemore  
Frank Woods  
Rochelle Black  
Honorable Leslie Love  
Honorable Marshal Bullock

Honorable Dr. KB Stallworth  
Honorable Sheldon Neely  
Rodney Cole  
Sherjeel Hanif  
Chris Aldridge

# HISTORY



*Founding Board Members: Atty. Richard White, Jack Martin, Rep. Alma Stallworth, Don Davis, and Dr. Charles Tucker*

Founded by the Honorable Alma G. Stallworth during her tenure in the Michigan Legislature while serving as Chair of the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus; the Foundation was established as a 501-c3 tax exempt organization dedicated to the creation and delivery of service programs which improve the economic circumstances and quality of life for Michigan's African American citizenry.

The Foundation's creation evolved from a segment of social-economic and political history which continues to frame the advancement of Black America. At the base of this history was the understanding of a cross section of Black leaders that intellectual resources were needed to support research dedicated to the development and implementation of public policy initiatives critical to the well-being of Black people in America and around the globe.

Prior to 1983, when James J. Blanchard was elected Michigan Governor and Gary Owen was elected Speaker to the Michigan House of Representatives, the only African American staffers at the State Capitol were those working in the offices of Black legislators. During this time there were no African American policy analysts serving on the central policy staffs of the Michigan House or Senate; and with limited exception, only a meager number worked in State agencies, departments or in private sector governmental affairs capacities. Without policy perspectives developed specifically by African Americans; African American legislators, the legislature as a whole and the Executive Branch were limited in both policy perspective and resolution options regarding the challenges facing Michigan's African American community.

In 1984, Representative Stallworth, Senator David Holmes and Senator Jackie Vaughn, III with the assistance of KB Stallworth, a marketing & syndication executive for Scott & Fetzer Corp; and Steve Zimmerman, a senior partner in the law firm of Dykema Gossett; sdclfmndf;alfgn;lqknm;lkgmaflsgmlkm convened a meeting with a cross section of Michigan's most successful and respected African Americans to formulate plans for what was to be the newly formed Black Caucus Foundation of Michigan. Among them was Jack Martin, the principle of the most successful African American accounting firm in Michigan; and Dr Karl Gregory, an economist and professor who had successfully created two African American owned financial institutions; Dr. Charles Tucker, one of the nation's most successful sports agents and psychologists; Atty. Richard White, a principle from one of the nation's most respected African American law firms; and Don Davis, a renowned music producer and song writer who was also the principle shareholder of Michigan's only African American owned bank.

In 1985, these individuals, working in collaboration with the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus, organized the Black Caucus Foundation of Michigan's Legislative Internship Program to serve as a feeder system for African Americans interested in the pursuit of public policy related careers in state government. The program would also serve as a "front-line" research program charged with developing solutions to public policy inequities that affected the black communities of Michigan.

Revolutionary in its design, the internship program provided 12 academic credits to minority students recruited from Michigan State, Wayne State and the University of Michigan for one academic quarter of governmental affairs service, and/or submission of a policy paper (with collaboration of a Black legislator) detailing solutions to an issue adversely impacting African Americans. State policies regarding the use of minority contractors, goals of minority procurement, lottery contract expenditure distribution, auto insurance, public and private sector African American appointments, tax reversion, adolescent teen pregnancy, drug and smoking prevention are issues that have all been impacted by Foundation initiatives stimulated by the Intern Program Research.

Today, the Foundation's internship model has been replicated in university systems throughout the nation. Its success in the 1980's has opened the doors for governmental affairs occupations for African American professionals in the legislature, executive branch, fiscal agencies, state departments, and private sector. Now, more than twenty years later, the challenge continues for the Foundation to serve as a critical intellectual link between Michigan policy makers, business leaders, service organizations and the community. There remains a need to frame, refocus and remind decision makers of the critical need for "vertical integration" of African Americans throughout the public policy process to ensure fair and equitable treatment. Nothing exemplifies this need better than the current absence of a single African American in the Capitol Press Corps during a time when media coverage of black experiences and perspectives are essential to improved race relations and equitably addressing Michigan's social and economic woes.

The Foundation is dedicated to the development and implementation of programs and initiatives that effectively address issues such as these. Critical to these endeavors will be continued efforts to educate decision makers, both White and Black, to Michigan's African American political history and advocacy for the vertical integration of minorities into business and government operations for future generations to come.

# COMPONENTS OF NAVIGATION TO SUCCESS:

- Substance Use Prevention Education
- Drug Free Pledge Drive
- Drug Free Rally and Open Mic Contest
- Construction Science Expo Field Trip
- Program Graduation
- Students may be rewarded with summer employment opportunities



# PREVENTION EDUCATION:



**We utilize evidence- based curriculum**



**16 Week Program**



**Student guides are provided for every participating student**



**Sessions are facilitated once a week by a trained Black Caucus  
Adolescent Development Facilitator**





The  
Black Caucus  
Foundation  
of Michigan

# Drug & Violence Free AMBASSADOR SCHOLARS GRADUATION 2025

*"Life is Defined by the Choices You Make. So, Make Good Choices."*

**THURSDAY  
JUNE 5, 2025  
6PM-8PM**

In Partnership with



Wayne  
County  
Community  
College  
District

This initiative is made possible with support from Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network

# DRUG FREE SCHOLARS GRADUATION:

302 Program participants who successfully completed the program and took a pledge to live drug and violence free lifestyles were celebrated by family, friends, school and community leaders at the graduation celebration.



# NAVIGATION TO SUCCESS STAFF



**Dr. Shinese Johnson**  
Director of School Based &  
Community Programs



**Kenneth Matthews**  
Adolescent Development  
Facilitator



**Tonya Warren**  
Adolescent Development  
Facilitator



**Krystal Kidd Hemmings**  
Adolescent Development  
Facilitator



**Ijanae Joseph**  
Adolescent Development  
Facilitator



# **NAVIGATION TO SUCCESS**

## **STAFF TRAINING**

Throughout the program year staff training consist of weekly staff meetings and professional development activities. Staff training completed as part of onboarding includes the following:

### **Medicaid Fair Hearings, Local Appeals & Grievances**

**Cultural Competence/Diversity**

**Limited English Proficiency (LEP)**

**HIPPA Basics**

**Human sex Trafficking**

**Emergency Preparedness**

**Abuse & Neglect: Reporting Requirements**

**Medicare & Medicaid Compliance Training**

**Anti-Harassment & Non-Discrimination Training**

**Communicable Diseases (Level 1)**

**Communicable Diseases (Level 2)**

**The Basics of Confidentiality**

**Strategic Prevention Framework 1**

**Strategic Prevention Framework 2**

**Strategic Prevention Framework 3**

**Strategic Prevention Framework 4**

**Strategic Prevention Framework 5**

**Naloxone (Narcan) Training**

**Prevention Ethics**

**782 middle and high school students received an evidenced based curriculum that improved their decision-making skills to make healthy choices through an improved understanding of the power & consequences associated with choice.**

**Schools served through our partnership with the Detroit Public School Community District in the 2024-2025 school year:**

**SAMPSON WEBBER LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

**DAVISON ELEMENTARY MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**WARREN E. BOW ELEMENTARY-MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**NOBLE ELEMENTARY-MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**FRANK CODY HIGH SCHOOL**

**SAMUEL C. MUMFORD HIGH SCHOOL**



Students Rise. We All Rise.

# **PROGRAM MODULES**

**FACILITATED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR**

- 1. PRE TEST**
- 2. Self-Image and Self Awareness**
- 3. Making Decisions**
- 4. Smoking: Myths & Realities**
- 5. Smoking and Biofeedback**
- 6. Alcohol Myths and Realities**
- 7. Marijuana: Myths and Realities**
- 8. Advertising**
- 9. Violence and the Media**
- 10. Coping with Anxiety**
- 11. Coping with Anger**
- 12. Communication Skills**
- 13. Social Skills (A)**
- 14. Social Skills (B)**
- 15. Assertiveness**
- 16. Resolving Conflicts**
- 17. POST TEST**

# WHY SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PREVENTION IS IMPORTANT

In Class-based prevention programs give students accurate information, refusal skills, and supportive peer networks that encourage positive choices. 75% of both middle school and high school student participants in the **Navigation to Success School Based Life Skills Program** completed the pre and post test to access prior substance prevention knowledge and to evaluate the effectiveness of the in-class substance prevention education program.

*The Navigation to Success Based Life Skills Program*, implemented across middle and high school settings, aimed to reduce underage drinking, tobacco use, and opioid misuse by strengthening students' knowledge, skills, and attitudes toward healthy decision-making.

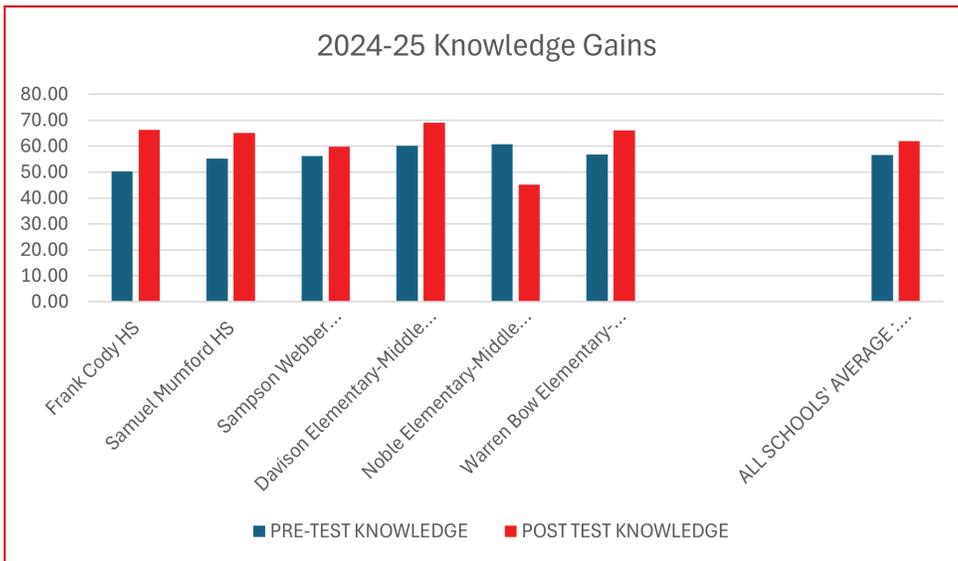
Overall, the program's impact on knowledge, skills, and attitudes suggests that students are better equipped to resist substance use and contribute to a culture of prevention within their schools and communities.

## Knowledge Gains Summary of Student Outcomes

On average, student knowledge scores increased by 9% reflecting substantial gains in factual comprehension and overall awareness of substance-related risks.

Following the instructional intervention, students demonstrated a significantly increased understanding of the health risks and social consequences associated with alcohol, tobacco, and opioid use. Analysis of pre- and post-assessment data showed marked improvement in several key areas:

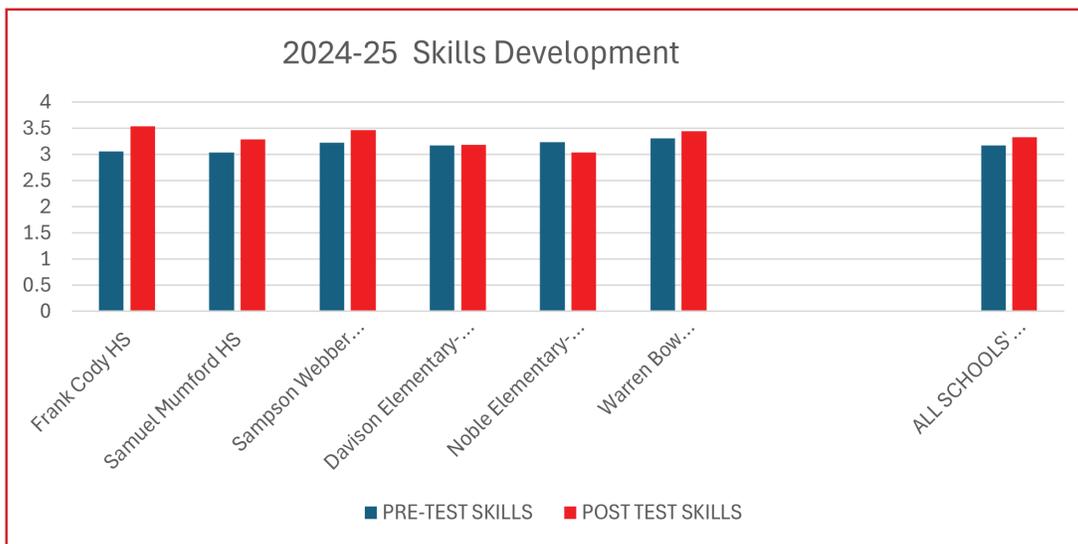
- **Identification of harmful substances**
- **Comprehension of addiction pathways**
- **Awareness of the impact of substance use on brain development and academic performance**



## Skills Development Gains Summary of Student Outcomes

Post-program evaluations revealed a 5% increase in students' self-reported ability to apply these skills in real-life situations—especially in social settings where substance use might occur.

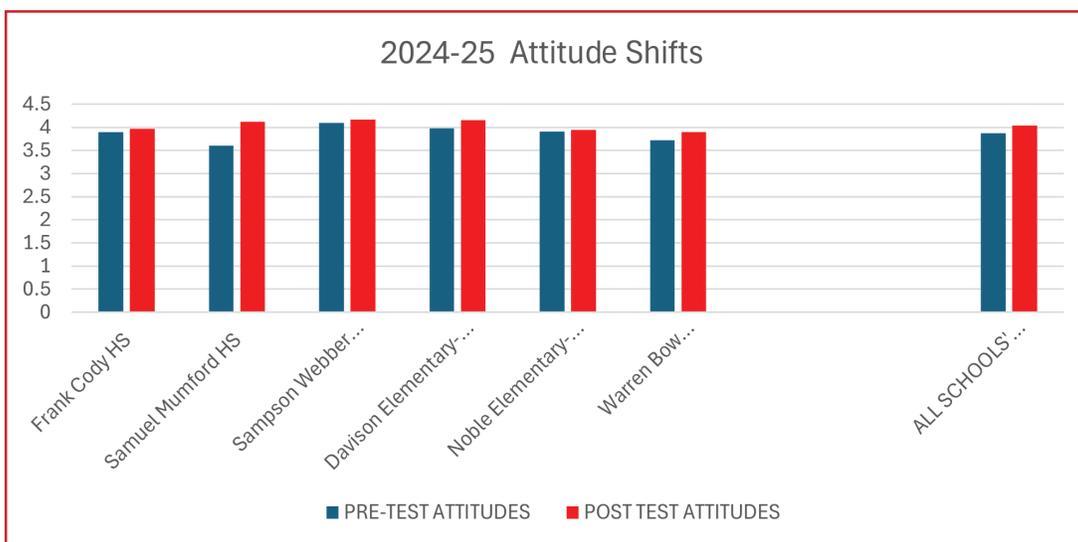
The program focused on teaching practical, age-appropriate skills, including refusal techniques, peer resistance strategies, and stress management. Through interactive methods such as role-playing, group discussions, and scenario-based learning, students built confidence in handling peer pressure and making safe, informed choices.



## Attitude Shifts Summary of Student Outcomes

Attitude scores increased by 4% indicating stronger alignment with prevention values and a deeper commitment to both personal and community wellness.

Students demonstrated more critical attitudes toward substance use, with a marked decline in the perceived acceptability of underage drinking and vaping. Additionally, there was a positive shift in students' intentions to avoid substance use and to support peers in making healthy decisions.



# EXPOSURE EQUALS EXPERIENCE

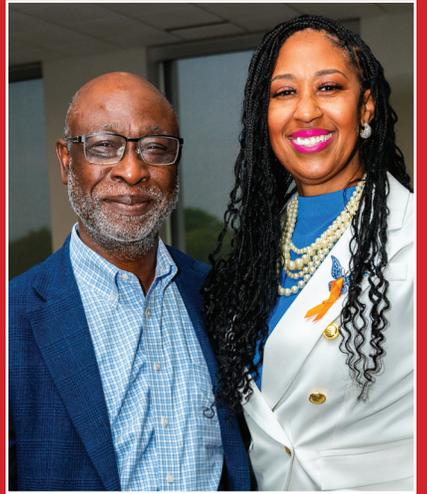
In late spring, 800 students in the Black Caucus Foundation of Michigan's Navigation To Success School Based Life Skills Program who sign a drug-free pledge, are rewarded by spending a day learning about careers in the engineering and construction fields through a variety of speakers and hands-on experiences.

The Construction Science Expo is dedicated to the creation and delivery of educational experience that will improve the economic circumstances and quality of life for Detroit's youth. Over 5,000 youth have been exposed to careers in engineering and construction trades.











BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION OF MICHIGAN PROUDLY PRESENTS

# DRUG FREE PLEDGE DRIVE & PEP RALLY

# OPEN MIC CONTEST

SCAN TO REGISTER



For the Best  
DRUG OR VIOLENCE FREE  
RAP, SONG, POETRY  
& SPEECH  
3-minute performance

BEST SOLO OR GROUP PERFORMANCE WILL WIN		
GRAND PRIZE	2ND PLACE	3RD PLACE
\$500.00	\$250.00	\$100.00



## DRUG FREE RALLY AND OPEN MIC CONTEST, SERVICE-LEARNING:

### Student Rally & Performances

Six dynamic, youth-led rallies celebrated a drug- and violence-free lifestyle through powerful performances in music, spoken word, rap, and other creative expressions.

### Open Mic Competition

A total of 76 students took the stage to showcase their talents and share personal messages of commitment to living drug-free and violence-free lives.

### Student Pledges

340 program participants made formal pledges to uphold a lifestyle free from drugs and violence.

### Awards & Recognition

Outstanding students were honored during the Annual Drug & Violence-Free Scholars Graduation.

**Cash prizes were awarded to top performers!**

## **VISIT OUR OFFICE**

**660 Woodward Ave. Ste. 450 E  
Detroit, MI 48226  
Monday - Friday  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM EST**

## **CONTACT US DIRECTLY**

**DR. SHINESE JOHNSON**  
**Director of School Based and Community Programs**  
**Email: [dfc@michiganblackcaucus.org](mailto:dfc@michiganblackcaucus.org)**  
**Main Office: (313) 285-9234**

## **TO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM**

**Scan Donation QR Code**





# SPECIAL THANKS

to our Sponsors *and* Supporters:

Detroit Wayne Integrated  
Health Network

Substance Abuse and Mental  
Health Services Administration

Detroit Public School  
Community District

Michigan Construction & Design  
Coalition Members

Utility Services of America

Black Caucus Foundation of  
Michigan Board Members

Drug Free Youth in Detroit Coalition  
Advisory Board Members

To All Parent and Student  
Participants



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