The Elizabeth Wesley Youth Merit Incentive Award Program

"Preparing Our Children for the 21st Century"

Tacoma-Pierce County, Washington 2010



The Program

Purpose:

Established in 1996, the Elizabeth Wesley Youth Merit Incentive Award Program was created to recognize and honor African American youth.

Academic excellence, community involvement and good citizenship at home, in the community, and at school, are applauded and celebrated annually by the Tacoma-Pierce County community.



Structure of Leadership

Executive Team

Policy & leadership guidance
Long range strategic plan
Budget development
Community reporting &
Accountability
Coordinate Award Ceremony

Marketing and Public Relations

Develop marketing plan

Tacoma Mall display

Constituent communication

Prepare Report to Community

Administrative Services

Managing administration services
Tracking accountability systems
Budget development
Certificate and Award check preparation
Data entry of all applications
Mail letters to schools, parents awardees

Resource and Partnership

Fund development
Prepare grant requests
Establish fundraising goal
Solicit funds
Scholarships
Letters to donors

<u>Outreach</u>

Coordinate and work with individuals in schools to recruit students

<u>Awards</u>

Mail letters to donors

Review applications
Score Applications using
template
Select Awardees
School district liaison

Volunteer Recruitment

Recruit committee volunteers
Recruit event volunteers
Organize event volunteers



Uplifting the Village

OVER 1000 STUDENTS AWARDED SINCE 1996

ELIZABETH
WESLEY YOUTH
MERIT INCENTIVE
AWARD
PROGRAM

Design a comprehensive approach:

- Average Performances
- Leadership
- Civic Responsibility
- Academic Consistency/Improvement



Establish a means for community ownership & accountability



Determine ways of encouraging a desire to learn through incentive and by removing roadblocks



Accept that the solution extends beyond the classroom

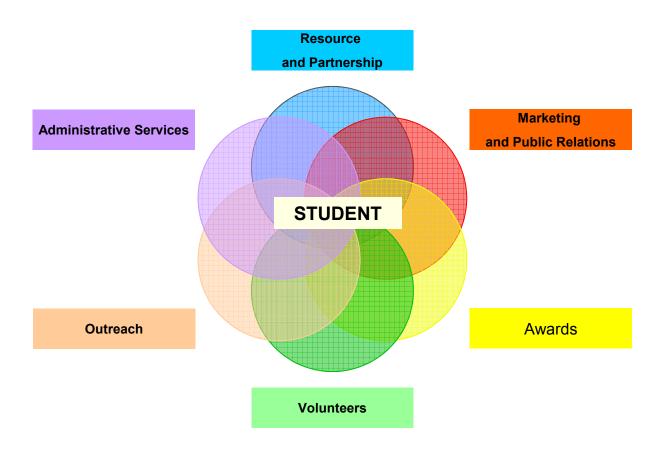


Recognize that it's not an issue of ability but the motivation to learn



African-American youth are neither performing well in academics nor completing "preparedness" pathways in higher education

Student Centered Approach





Student Qualification Criteria

First Year

 Must be an African American student who is currently enrolled and who has completed the 9th, 10th, or 11th grade at a public middle/high school in one of the following school districts in Pierce County:

Bethel Steilacoom University Place

Clover Park Puyallup Franklin Pierce Tacoma

- Must have earned a 2.50 grade point average or better.
- Maintain class attendance at least 90% of the time.
- Demonstrate algebra/math competency equal to/or exceeding the required 2.50 grade point average.
- Demonstrate ability to write well-structured 250 word essay.
- Proof of capacity to live by high ethical standards at home, in the communit and at school.

Student Qualification Criteria, cont.'

Subsequent Year(s)

- Must have received an Incentive Award the previous academic year.
- Must have maintained or exceeded the grade point average achieved during the previous academic school year.
- Maintain class attendance at least 90% of the time.
- Must provide evidence of algebra/math competency at a level equal to/or exceeding his/her previous year grade point average.
- Demonstrate ability to write a well-structured 250 word essay.
- Proof of capacity to live by high ethical standards at home, in the community and at school.



Student Recognition & Award Goal

Incentive Awards of \$350 each to all students who meet the criteria

"Treat people as they are and they remain that way. Treat them as though they were what they can be and we help them become what they are capable of becoming."

- Marva Collins



Building Block for the Future

21st Century Standards –

Skills, Capabilities, Values

(Productive, Contributing Citizens)

Academic and Technical Scholarships for Academic Achievement

(Graduating High School Seniors)

Recognition & Incentive Awards of Merit

For academic excellence, community participation, and good citizenship.



(Building for Excellence – Grades 9 –11)

Investment

Fundraising Goal for 2010: \$ 90,000

Fund Raising Core Strategies:

- Solicit Individuals and organizations for contributions of \$10 to \$1500 or more.
- Seek grants and contributions from foundations, businesses and corporations of \$365 to \$5,000 or more



Individual Donor Levels

Supreme Elder

\$1500 and above

Grand Elder

\$1000 to \$1200

<u>Elder</u>

\$500 to \$800

<u>Messenger</u>

\$365 to 425

Story Teller

\$125 to \$300

<u>Villager</u>

\$10 to \$100



Program Evaluation

Outputs

- Distribute information and applications to all high schools in the seven targeted school districts.
- Receive at least 100 applicants annually.
- Evaluate each application against program criteria.
- Mail funding solicitation letters to at least 1,000 individuals and businesses.
- Submit at least five inquiry letters to Washington State foundations for financial support.
- Design & produce program brochure.
- Make at least seven program presentations to businesses, civic and community organizations.
- Distribute program brochure to key public locations throughout Pierce county.

Outcomes

Community recognition & reward

Indicators:

- Targeted number of students receive recognition certificates and \$350 award.
- Achievement/recognition display of students in Tacoma Mall.
- "Achievement Month" programs offered by community partner organizations.

Community commitment/support for student academic achievement

Indicators:

- Success in raising funds from local nongovernment resources to support program.
- Increasing number of individuals, businesses, corporations and foundations who invest in students.
- Favorable print and electronic media coverage for program.

Goals

- Increased high school completion rate for African American students.
- Higher GPA averages and test scores for African Americans, grades 9-11.
- Increased post-secondary education enrollment for African American students.
- Community's commitment to assist African American students in securing sound education.

Our assessment will be used as a tool for continuous learning and program improvement throughout the life of the Elizabeth Wesley Youth Merit Incentive Award Program. It also becomes the basis for reporting to those who invest their time, expertise and financial resources in the program, and the general public on our progress.

Return on Investment

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Awardees	45	43	55	55	60	74	75	75	100	84
Number of Continuing Students		18 (42%)	21 (38%)	23 (43%)	17 (28%)	15 (20%)	20 (26%)	18 (24%)	31 (31%)	28 (28%)
Funds Raised	\$27,318	\$34,999	\$50,594	\$49,736	\$49,287	\$48,585	\$58,741	\$56,000	60,000	56,000

		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of Awardees		140	201	201							
Continuing Students		22 (15.7%)	64 (31.8%)	69 (34.3%)							
Funds Raise	d	\$80,462	\$108,294	\$98.610							
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Return on Investment cont'd

Number of Contributors	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Individuals	65 (86%)	74 (76%)	135 (80%)	127 (78%)	184 (72%)	185 (69%)	191 (61%)	107 (73%)	113 (75%)	101 (71%)
Businesses	1 (1%)	11 (11%)	18 (11%)	18 (11%)	15 (9%)	27 (15%)	19 (9%)	16 (11%)	19 (13%)	16 (11%)
Organizations	10 (13%)	13 (13%)	16 (9%)	18 (11%)	26 (19%)	15 (9%)	26 (16%)	23 (16%)	19 (13%)	25 (18%)

<mark>lumber o</mark> f <mark>contribu</mark> tors	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<u>Ind</u> ividuals	123 (76%)	192 (67%)	149 (75.25%)							
<u>Bus</u> inesses	16 (9.8%)	34 (14.7%)	30 (15.15%)							
Organ <mark>izations</mark>	23 (14.1%)	21 (9.0%)	19 (9.60%)							21 to 000

Scholarships

For 12th Gra	de Awardees
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State Farm - Two \$1,000

Paul and Praxia Apostle - \$1500

Rev. Ernest E. Brazil - \$1000

Ponce Durr and Rudolph Flyes - \$1000

Comcast - Two \$1000

Elizabeth Wesley Scholarship - \$1,000

Your Name Can Be Entered Here



Drum Major Award

Acknowledging Outstanding Outreach To Students

Recipients achieved the largest number of applicants due to direct involvement with students.

Two awards of \$250



Recognition & Award Event

What:

Annual Elizabeth Wesley Youth Merit Incentive Award Program

When:

September 18, 2010, 1:00 p.m.

Where:

Sharon McGavick Student Center Clover Park Technical College



Partner Community Organizations

- Prince Hall Masons, Washington
- Tacoma Branch NAACP
- Tacoma Ministerial Alliance
- Tacoma-Pierce County Black Collective
- Tacoma Urban League Guild
- Tacoma Urban League

"It takes a village to raise a child"

-African Proverb

