



education



WE BELIEVE A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL ANGELENOS DEPENDS ON UNCOVERING THE LIMITLESS POTENTIAL OUR YOUNG BLACK MEN. CCF SEEKS TO HELP POSITIVELY CHANGE THE LIVES OF BLACK MALE YOUTH WHO ARE OR ARE AT RISK OF BECOMING INVOLVED IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM. TOGETHER WITH OUR PARTNERS, WE HAVE HELPED YOUNG MEN'S FUTURES BLOSSOM THROUGH ACADEMIC SUPPORT, MENTORSHIP AND ENRICHING OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREER OPTIONS.

At a time when a bachelor's degree leads to a \$1 million increase in lifetime earnings, only one in 10 young Black men graduates from a four-year college. And though they are only 9 percent of all young people living in L.A., Black youth make up nearly 33 percent of those on probation. Once in the system, it is hard to get out, with more than 80 percent facing re-arrest within three years.

What it costs to send one young man to prison for a year would pay the full CSU tuition for 20 people, but the true cost to society is even greater. We are losing out on countless innovators and entrepreneurs - a generation of civic and community leaders who could shape the future of Los Angeles, but education holds the key. By investing in the potential of our young Black men, we can help them sow the seeds for success and break the school-to-prison pipeline.

THE WAY FORWARD

For the last seven years, **Building a Lifetime of Options and Opportunities for Men (BLOOM)** has focused on young Black men who are involved in the juvenile justice system or are at-risk of becoming involved, with the goal of putting these young men on a positive path toward success. This means helping them finish high school and continuing to support them as they pursue higher education or start a meaningful career. Many in society tell a negative story about young Black men, but BLOOM tells a positive story about Black male youth who are driven to succeed no matter the obstacles they have and will encounter.

Since 2012, nearly 1,000 young men have been served, and the program has been recognized by the White House as a promising model to be replicated nationally. Combining mentorship, character development and specially-tailored programming, BLOOM has helped hundreds of young people succeed in high school, higher education and life.

OUR IMPACT

- 100% of BLOOM seniors graduated from high school
- 94% of BLOOM seniors attended college
- 94% of BLOOMers in high school and middle school advanced to the next grade level
- 97% of BLOOMers upheld the terms of their probation and have not reoffended

Data from 2016-17 school year

PARTNERS

The BLOOM partners are experienced, innovative community-based organizations whose expertise in working with young men of color has been recognized throughout the region, as well as nationally.

For almost 50 years, **Brotherhood Crusade** has improved the quality of life of low-income, underserved, under-represented and disenfranchised South L.A. residents. Through diverse programming including education, employment readiness, leadership development and trauma-informed care, Brotherhood Crusade is building a strong and healthy future for South L.A.



The **Social Justice Learning Institute** is dedicated to improving the education, health and well-being of youth and communities of color by empowering them to enact social change through research, training and community mobilization. With two key programs focusing on health and educational equity, Social Justice Learning Institute is breaking the cycle of inequity and creating a new generation of engaged leaders.



CHANGING SYSTEMS

BLOOM is part of a broader grantmaking effort to address disparities in student achievement among the most vulnerable in our communities. From cradle to college, we fund issues like early childhood education access, support for English language learners and college opportunity for students of color. We want to help create a future in which all Angelenos have the opportunity to learn, succeed and thrive.

BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION

To learn more about BLOOM, contact Program Officer **Jai Phillips** at jphillips@calfund.org, Director of Donor Relations **Tammy Johnson** at tjohnson@calfund.org or visit calfund.org/bloom.

