



JUST FOR YOUTH, INC

6400 Baltimore National Pike Suite 173 • Baltimore, MD 21228
(443) 768-4108 • Fax (410) 247-2041

September 15, 2004

To Prospective Volunteers:

As a means of uplifting inner city youth, my colleague, Tonya Featherston and I, have started a non-profit organization by the name of Just For Youth, Inc. We are fortunate enough to have been welcomed into Lemmel Middle School and now call their Leadership Academy home.

The Leadership Academy at Lemmel Middle School is a program designated to address students who have become too disruptive to remain in regular classes. It is here that they spend their entire day and are put in classes that incorporate sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. Our job is to uplift these youth and to aid them in establishing a better understanding of themselves and their place and role in society. Through our S.T.A.N.D. (Students Taking Authority over Negotiable life Decisions) initiative we are attempting to do just that. S.T.A.N.D. is a resiliency-based program that empowers maturing young men and women to make positive choices. Our goal is for participants to become equipped with the tools necessary to negotiate and navigate through life decisions and choices to achieve a positive outcome.

Within the realm of S.T.A.N.D. we have established WOW (Women Of Worth) and MVP (Men of Vision and Purpose). Through these two entities we are trying to establish a sense of self worth and value within each gender, while also providing them with opportunities to incorporate what they have learned when they come together.

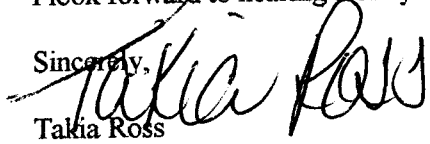
We have made great strides in advocating for the rights and privileges of the students that we serve and are committed to continue our fight in the future, however, we need help. Your record of community involvement and volunteerism is well known. With this understood we are asking that you help us to help our children. We hold WOW and MVP sessions on Saturdays as well as offering during and after school programming. We need positive role models for our young men and women. We are hoping that you will take this challenge and be the role models that we need. Any method that you choose to volunteer, whether it be conducting classroom coaching sessions, helping students with their homework after school, or conducting a life skills training during one of our WOW sessions, is up to you. We would value your presence in any capacity.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and consider our proposal. Please feel free to contact me at 410-735-3385 or 443-220-9172 if you have any questions or if you would like to set up a meeting to speak with me in person.

"Developing youth today, with a future tomorrow!"

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Takia Ross". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Takia Ross
Community Outreach Coordinator
Just For Youth, Inc.

"Developing youth today, with a future tomorrow!"