



FY 2023 OJJDP Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative Grantee Profile

The Uhuru Foundation

Program Overview and Background

The Uhuru Foundation envisions a world where the most vulnerable youth and adults, especially those affected by incarceration, have the power and resources to transcend poverty and achieve upward social and economic mobility. Through our dedicated digital literacy initiatives in the reentry space, we aim to empower these individuals with the skills and knowledge necessary to navigate the digital world, enabling them to secure meaningful employment, access vital services, and participate fully in society. Our goal is to ensure that they can build healthy lifestyles for themselves and their communities, fostering a cycle of positive change and digital inclusion for generations to come.



Headquarters in Charlottesville, VA

Founded in 2019

Grant: JJ FY23 Mentoring: Juvenile Justice

Award Number: 15PJDP-23-GG-03524-MENT

Award Amount: \$500,000

Program Services

The Uhuru Foundation works with moderate to high-risk youth through re-entry programs at youth detention centers.

- **Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise Program** – Justice-involved youth enrolled in The Uhuru Foundation’s services have the opportunity to participate in weekly culturally relevant and trauma-informed cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) groups through our transformative mentoring program. HWW guides high-risk youth ages 14-21 through a series of facilitated group sessions addressing decision-making, identity, overcoming pain and trauma, life skills development, financial literacy and social entrepreneurship.
- **The Transformative Futures Program** – The Transformative Futures Program offers system-involved youth a holistic re-entry program. It empowers youth with education, advocacy skills, and financial support to become future leaders. Building on mentoring at Blue Ridge Youth Detention Center, the program formalizes a curriculum teaching leadership, organizing, and civic engagement. It ensures continuity of services from detention to re-entry, with support for completing the curriculum if released early.

Mentoring Model & Structure

- Site-based
- Group
- Partnering with juvenile justice agencies



Target Population

We aim to provide mentoring under this grant to young people with any one or more of the following:

- Juvenile Justice Involvement
- Victimization
- Substance Misuse/Impact

Additional Resources

- The Uhuru Foundation Website: www.thehurufoundation.org

this data is accurate as of June 2024.

For more information on our OJJDP grant:

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