



How Do We Support the Education of Our Future Workforce?

Recently, I heard about a promising young student who had everything he needed to go to college – good grades, good resume, and an admittance letter from Delaware State University. Everything, that is, except all of the funding he needed. We reached out to our partners and found one that was able to provide a scholarship so that this deserving young man could begin college this year.



This started me thinking about students who are entering their senior year in high school and who eagerly anticipate going to college next year... those young hopefuls who have great attendance histories, who work hard to make good grades, participate in sports or clubs and do all those things that make them great candidates for their college of choice.

But I also thought about their concerns about how to pay for their education. Sometimes even the combination of scholarships, grants and savings doesn't add up to 100% of the cost. They turn to college loans to make up some of the difference. But in actuality, some of our youth from low-income households go off to school without the same resources so many others have – money for books, for that dorm room fridge, for transportation, healthcare, food... for the myriad of daily needs. They turn to part-time jobs to make up the difference, and that extra commitment takes a toll on study time, social time, and the ability to fully participate in the college experience.

What a burden it is for a college freshman to know they'll graduate with thousands of dollars in debt. I would guess that this concern has some students wondering if college is worth the effort. The declining post-secondary enrollment numbers suggest that those feelings, or something similar, is impacting matriculation. In addition, the number of students who drop out before graduating is increasing at an alarming rate.

A highly effective program that helps students and parents plan for college is *Stand By Me NexGen*, co-sponsored by United Way of Delaware and the State of Delaware. It's a two-phase program provided in cooperation with many Delaware high schools, teachers and guidance counselors. NexGen works with ninth- and tenth-grade students to help them chart their future pathways, and with Juniors and Seniors to learn how to find funding and scholarships, and to complete the FASFA application.

I often say "it takes a village to support young people" and that all of us can play a part. How can we support those students who have the grades to qualify for college, who may have scholarships, savings or loans, but who still fall short of the resources they need? I suggest we can do more to help students, the very people who will fill our state's need for an educated workforce.

I think it will take a new solution, a funding stream that doesn't currently exist. How do we achieve that? I don't have the answer; do you? We want to hear your ideas and suggestions. Please send your input to me at mtaylor@uwde.org. If you'd like to be part of a task force to address this issue, please reach out to Brandon Brice at bbrice@uwde.org.

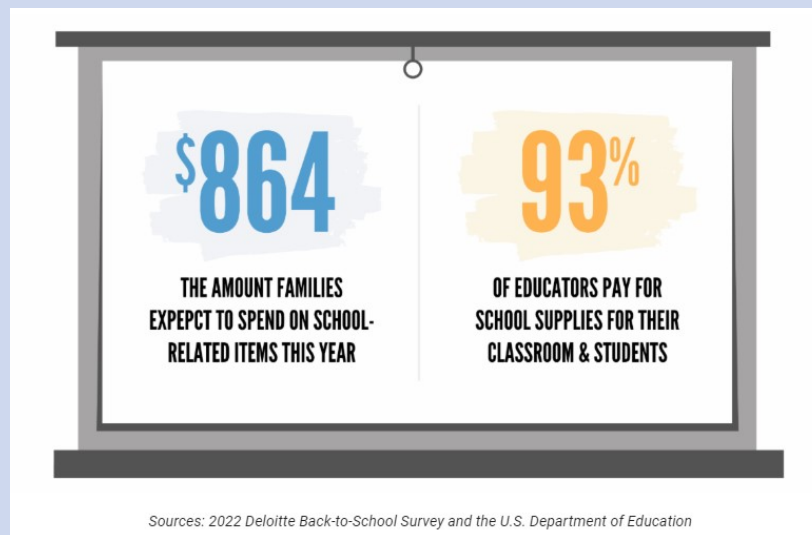
Sincerely,

Michelle

Michelle A. Taylor, Ed.D.
President and CEO
United Way of Delaware

The High Cost of Going Back to School

Back-to-school is an exciting time. It's a time for kids to reconnect with friends and establish new routines. But, the beginning of a new school year **also means extra spending for families and teachers.**



Families and educators will pay more for school-related items than they did in 2021. Your donation will help them pay for supplies to support their students throughout the year. Will you help lessen the burden?

[DONATE NOW](#)

The Importance of School Attendance

**By Jamie Forrest | Policy and Programs Manager,
Delaware Afterschool Network (DEAN)**

Attending school regularly is essential to students gaining the academic, social, and emotional skills they need to thrive. Chronic absence, no matter its cause, has real-life consequences for students, families, and society as a whole.

Research shows that starting as early as preschool and kindergarten, chronic absence—missing 10% of the academic year—can leave third graders unable to read proficiently, sixth graders struggling with coursework, and high school students off track for graduation.



Reducing absenteeism is an essential but often overlooked strategy for responding to the academic and social-emotional loss experienced by millions of students. Practical strategies to improve attendance can benefit the entire community.

Community-based organizations can use school and district attendance data to identify which student groups have lost out most on opportunities to learn and ensure they are prioritized in recovery planning.

Regular attendance and participation in a comprehensive program improves social and academic outcomes. Research shows that quality programs can improve school-day attendance. These programs provide a sense of belonging, connection to caring adults, and academic enrichment outside of the school day, all of which make children more likely to go to school.

Here are ways learning providers can make a difference and give children and youth a reason to come to school:

- Engage students in enriching activities: Innovative, stimulating activities keep students coming to your program and school.
- Establish a welcoming environment that promotes a sense of safety and belonging.
- Take the time to acknowledge and notice each child every day they attend the program, and express concern if they are absent. Celebrate improvements.
- Share the importance of regular attendance with students and parents.
- Record program attendance accurately.
- Offer supports to improve attendance. Serve as a bridge to the school and community resources for parents and caregivers who may have had negative school experiences.

The Delaware Afterschool Network is proud to be the State Affiliate for *Attendance Works*. For more information, visit DEAN's website (www.deasn.org) or Attendance Works (<https://www.attendanceworks.org/>).

Vaccine Access DE makes it easy to get COVID vaccines and boosters

For a long time at the beginning of the pandemic, getting access to vaccines was not easy. Leaders in Black and Brown communities in Delaware rose to the challenge and created coalitions in each county. Working together, they established vaccine clinics in settings that ensured all Delawareans had equal access to vaccination.

Testing sites were established and advertised with the help of the Department of Public Health and community leaders and partners. It is collaboration as such this that makes it easy for our communities to have such vital service.

Now older adults who have difficulty getting to the vaccine clinics can have the vaccine brought to them. Find out how by [watching this video](#).



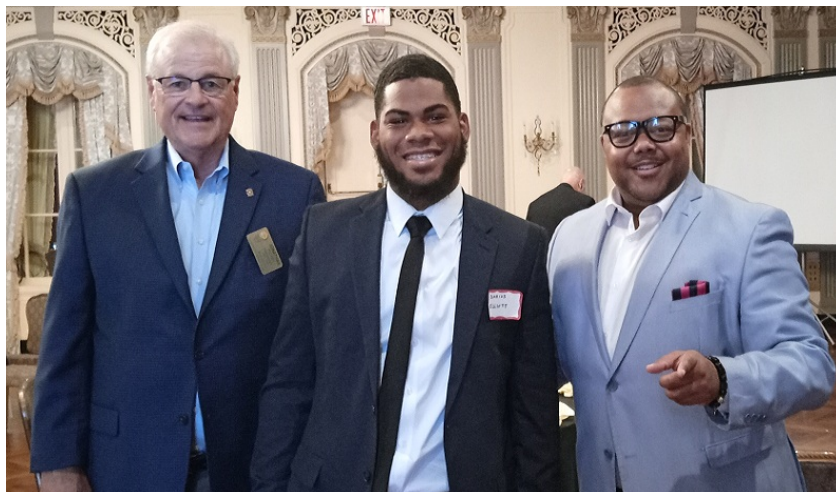
Delaware Racial Justice Collaborative Happenings



Wilmington Rotary Awards Scholarship

Wilmington Rotary has awarded Darius Elliot, a 2022 graduate of St. George's Technical High School, a scholarship to support his attendance at Delaware State University for academic year 2022-2023.

The scholarship committee cited his leadership as a mentor to young men in the community as a factor in their decision. Darius will study criminal justice in pursuit of a career in law enforcement.



Rotary President Jonathon Hickey, Darius Elliott and Brandon Brice

THE UNITED WAY OF DELAWARE & 100 BLACK MEN OF DELAWARE
PRESENT

YOUNG MEN UNITED FREE MENTORING PROGRAM

New Castle County Cohort
High School Males



Every 4th Saturday
The Western Family YMCA
11:00 AM to 1:00PM



POWERED BY
MAN UP & THE BROTHERS BRUNCH INC.
-THERE IS POWER IN PARTNERSHIP-



FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: KTURMAN@THEBROTHERSBRUNCH.COM

Shelter Village in Georgetown To Open in October

A new shelter village for homeless adults should be completed by October. The Springboard Collaborative is partnering with the First State Community Action Agency to bring 40 tiny homes to Georgetown, according to a social media post by Delaware Department of Health and Social Services.

"Several months ago we began clearing," said Judson Malone, executive director of the Springboard Collaborative. "It's a property where the First State Community Action Agency is located....Volunteers will put the modular homes together once they are delivered."



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Race Toward Affordable Housing!



Central Delaware
Habitat for Humanity®

10th



BUILDER'S DASH
5K RUN/WALK
in honor of Hoong Chow
Saturday, September 3, 2022
Registration 8 a.m. Race 9 a.m.



FORDHAM & DOMINION
BREWING COMPANY
BREWED IN DOVER, DE

1284 McD Drive
Dover DE, 19901

Register today:



TriSports EVENTS

Registration includes a free beverage from Fordham & Dominion, a commemorative t-shirt and more.



Giveaways

Information tables

Guest speaker

Registration requested but
not required:



Mental Health
Information

Food and drinks provided

Kids activities

CDCDP PRESENTS 1ST ANNUAL COMMUNITY DAY



Dedicated
to Women

AUGUST 27, 2022 1PM-6PM KILLENS POND PAVILLION #4



Delaware State Housing Authority is partnering with state legislators to bring awareness and answer questions about the [Delaware Mortgage Relief Program](#).

Visit demortgagehelp.com for more information and links to each partnership event.

Delaware Mortgage Relief Presentation



Hosted in partnership with
Representative Ruth Briggs King

 Monday, August 29
6:00 p.m.

 Virtual Via Webex



Register Here:

<https://bit.ly/DEMRF-AugustSession>

Delaware Mortgage Relief Presentation



Hosted in partnership with
Representative Kevin S. Hensley

 Tuesday, Sept. 13
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

 Odessa Fire Hall
304 Main St., Odessa, DE



Apply Today:

www.demortgagehelp.com

Delaware Mortgage Relief Presentation



Hosted in partnership with
Senator Marie Pinkney

 Wednesday, Sept. 21
6:00 p.m.

 Virtual Via Zoom



Learn More Here:

www.demortgagehelp.com

Delaware Mortgage Relief Presentation



Hosted in partnership with
Representative Madinah Wilson-Anton

 Wednesday, Sept. 28
7:00 p.m.

 Virtual Via Zoom



Learn More Here:

www.demortgagehelp.com



Saturday, September 17

Wilmington: Brandywine Park:

North Park Drive, near Brandywine Zoo and Josephine Fountain.

Rehoboth Beach: Grove Park:

Columbia Avenue and Grove Street, near the Visitor's Center and Rehoboth Beach Museum.

**AIDS Walk Delaware is the state's largest and oldest
HIV/AIDS fundraising and awareness event.**

We hope to raise \$100,000 in support of free HIV testing, education and prevention programs, case management services, HIV-specific mental health counseling, and housing services.

Find out more: <https://aidsdelaware.salsalabs.org/2022AIDSWalkDelaware/index.html>



Coming Soon! Festival Hispano!

**In Wilmington on Sept 11
In Georgetown on Sep 18**

In Delaware, the Hispanic Festival has been a tradition since 1976, brought to you by dedicated volunteers serving Nuestras Raices DE Inc. This event is an opening celebration to Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept 15 through Oct 15.



UWDE's Latinos Unidos will be there! Come join the celebration with us!



It's Easy to Support United Way of Delaware

Your donation to United Way helps us work to make Delaware a great state to live, work and play for all our neighbors.



[Make an online donation here](#)

Start With a Smile

Shopping at Amazon? Start at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and feel better about spending money! Just set United Way of Delaware as your charity of choice. Then spend away and Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to us — no fees, no extra cost!



United Way of Delaware | 625 North Orange Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

[Unsubscribe bnieves@uwde.org](mailto:Unsubscribe.bnieves@uwde.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by leadingtheway@uwde.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!