



BROTHERS WHO CARE



UP Next: The Road to Financial Well Being

Research showed that financial fragility was more common among African Americans than whites in 2019. This was prior to Covid-19 and its economic outcomes.

What we have learned is that youth financial education can help level the playing field for young black boys and girls. Providing financial education at an early age will help students feel more prepared to face financial challenges head on, and to make responsible financial decisions in preparation for school, while on campus and early in their post college careers.

Financial Literacy; a tool for Overall Success

Financial Literacy is the knowledge and understanding that enable sound financial decisions making and effective management of personal finances. As your financial literacy improves so does your financial well-being. A great demonstration of this is planning what to do with your money, paying off debt, tracking spending, retirement planning, etc.

Financial well-being is having financial security and freedom of choice in the present and in the future. A major component to financial well-being is financial resilience. Financial resilience is the ability to cope with an unexpected financial shock such as a loss of income. Financial fragility is the term given to individuals who are not able to handle an unexpected financial shock.

Teaching and learning personal finance is an important skill that young black boys and girls can appreciate and should learn. It will have a huge impact on their future.

NEWS, UPDATES, AND OPPORTUNITIES

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[Don't forget to stay up to date with everything we are doing at Brother's Who Care. It's easy; visit us at https://brotherswhocare.com/.](https://brotherswhocare.com/)



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Mental Health Hour (Thursday June 16th, 2022)

Join us on June 16th for the next edition of the Brothers Who Care Mental Health Hour (MHH). We continue to focus on Creating Awareness, Stimulating Conversations and Demystifying Stigma surrounding mental health, and the best way that we can promote mental health, and well-being in the Black community.

We will have the honour of sitting down with Dr. Leo Edwards (Clinical Social Worker and Therapist), a mental health advocate who operates from a highly developed anti-racist, anti-oppressive, and trauma-informed lens to empower individual.

We will also be featuring the charismatic Dr. Andrew Campbell who has solidified his space in the mental health space by focusing his research and teaching on issues of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Racism/Ant-Black Racism, Educational Leadership, Black LGBTQI+ Issues, and Teacher Performance Evaluation.

Our viewers are in for a real treat; education, elevation, and some healthy laughter around topics that for the most part, we avoid discussing.

S.W.O.L.E Leadership Summer Camp

It's that time again. Yes!

This summer we will be welcoming back the "S.W.O.L.E."™ Leadership and Financial Literacy Summer Camp delivered by One Voice One Team (OVOT) and sponsored by CIBC Private Wealth Wood Gundy. It is a time filled with fun, high energy, engaging activities designed to teach youth in grades four through six, a series of cognitive and physical activities designed to empower them to become strong leaders with a keen focus on financial health and wellness.

"OVOT equips youth to see beyond their current circumstances and see possibilities and then act on those possibilities. The I SEE ME version of the S.W.O.L.E."™ summer camp will equip the youth of tomorrow to make educated decisions with money," said Orlando Bowen, Executive Director, OVOT.

StartWell Mondays

Snooze...

You take a look at your alarm clock; it's 6:30 am. Another Monday, and for some, another very long week filled with meetings, shuttling children to various extra-curricular activities, and figuring out how to deal with the ever rising price of living.

It can be a lot for anyone, which is why we have rallied together a group of individuals from all around the world who want to share tips on how to deal with the Monday blues.

It is about sharing stories, stories that help us to see that we are all in this together. Starting in June, you will have a chance to hear these stories, as we roll out "StartWell Mondays". We would love to hear from you and encourage you to share your own. Don't forget to follow us on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/canbwc/>.

I SEE ME Documentary Premiere, Investment Competition Ceremony Saturday, June 11th, 2022

It has been a long time coming, but we are excited to be premiering the I SEE ME Documentary, a film that matched students (Grades 4 – 6) with a role model in their chosen career path. This incredible experience has proved one thing: OUR FUTURE IS GREAT! We have to continue to find ways to support our young people, and our release party will enable youth, parents, and community members to network, dialogue, and see exactly how effective strong mentorship can be.

We will also be announcing the winners of the "I SEE ME" Youth Investment Competition. This was a competition that kicked off on March 7th, 2022 and ends on June 3rd, 2022. It was an opportunity for students to learn about money and apply it to real world situations in the stock market. With the help of The Stock Market Game application, students were introduced to saving and investing through simulation of the stock market.

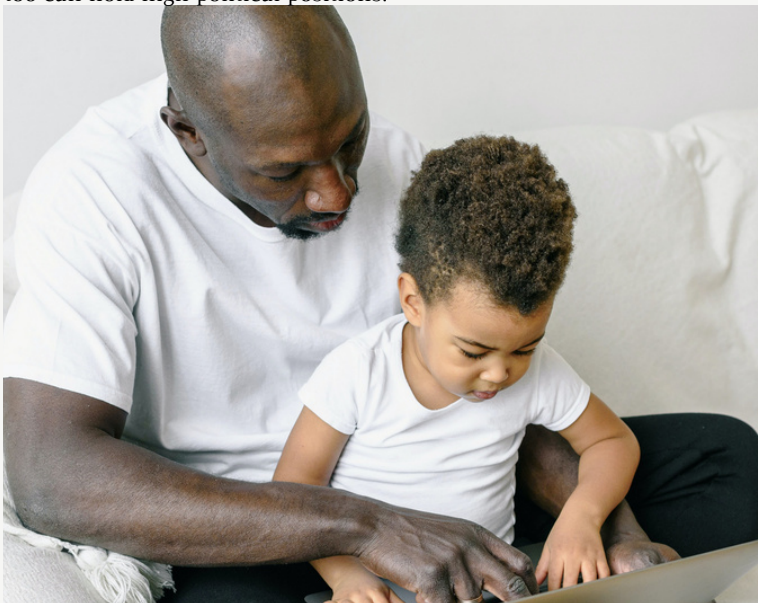
We have a busy month, and we are inviting you to be a part of it. Pick one activity, or pick them all. Join in the fun and excitement at Brothers Who Care.

Up Next: Why Black Mentors are Essential

A mentor is a trusted counsellor or guide who provides support in the mentee's development whether academic or professional. Black boys and girls have a unique set of experiences growing up that influence their development.

Black Mentors Provide Representation for Our Black Youth

Representation is everything for black youth, who are easily impressionable. Representation can help expand their mindset and show them what they can achieve. Barack Obama became the 44th president and has inspired a generation of young black boys that they too can hold high political positions.



Black Mentors Reinforce Positive Racial Identity

Black mentors act as a positive influence that can challenge any negative internalized feelings that black youth may have about their race. Black mentors can provide youth with a renewed sense of value that positively impacts their personality and actions.

Research supports that positive racial identity is associated with more academic motivations for black youth. When youth are able to define themselves in terms of their race, they feel a sense of group pride and have more positive academic performance.

Black Mentors Have Critical Consciousness

Critical consciousness is the ability to perceive and understand, social, political, and economic oppressions. With critical consciousness it's possible to deal with these issues and take corrective action that can result in tangible change for our black youth.

Black Mentors Empower and Address Opportunity Gaps

Black mentors can help to address opportunity gaps, which are the unique challenges that young black men may face that can cause them to disproportionately experience economic and social disadvantages such as over-referral for school disciplinary actions.

Black male mentors provide black youth with both proactive support to enhance their success and a second chance to be reconnected to the essential structures that will help them reach their full potential.



Spotlight Profile Andrew McDonald & David Griffiths "I SEE ME" Initiative

To think, this all started in a Starbucks!

Two African Caribbean men: two islands in a sea of faces, none that looked like their own. In that brief interaction, a friendship was struck that has changed the course of history here in Toronto, Ontario Canada.

What we now know is that there is a synchronicity and purpose for each person you meet. These people are needed to arrive exactly at the time and place you met them – to transport you to the next level of your life journey. They represent and symbolize purpose. They help to motivate you to keep pursuing what you want – and stay on track.

The chance meeting of Andrew and David has alchemized the "I SEE ME," project an initiative built out of love for the Black community, and Black youth

Heralding from Kingston Jamaica, Andrew McDonald is lead portfolio manager and head of The McDonald Group at CIBC Wood Gundy. He joined the firm in 1996 as a sales assistant at Midland Walwyn, a predecessor firm. Joyce Eisen, a Vice President and Senior Advisor encouraged Andrew's work ethic and perseverance at the time (she retired in 2010). She took Andrew under her tutelage to provide great career and personal mentorship.

Andrew specializes in creating personalized and holistic wealth strategies for private and institutional clients. He is committed to building positive and impactful relationships, and advocates for his clients throughout their financial growth process.

Andrew has an Honours BA from the University of Toronto, the Chartered Investment Manager (CIM) designation, and derivatives and estate planning accreditations. He is passionate about sharing his career journey with students and members of marginalized communities. Over the last few years, Andrew has spoken to students at the TDSB virtual school, and to MBA students at the Schulich School of Business and Rotman School of Management about the challenges and opportunities of wealth management.

What many may not know is that "I SEE ME," is the brainchild of Andrew McDonald, and it is why the meeting between David Griffiths, founder of Brothers Who Care was so profound. Like Andrew, there were many times that David was the only person of colour in corporate spaces.



Always known as the person who can mobilize and bring people together for a common cause, David launched "Brothers Who Care." The basis of this passion project was to bring like-minded individuals together from across the GTA and Ontario to collectively give back with big impact and minimal effort.

Born in Manchester, Jamaica David is currently an Associate Partner with IBM Consulting. He holds a BAsC in Industrial & Manufacturing Systems Engineering from the University of Windsor and an MBA from the Schulich School of Business. David brings energy, tenacity and authenticity to help people, communities and organizations reach their full potential.

David took the the "I SEE ME" concept and worked with the Brothers Who Care leadership team to create the I SEE ME Project comprising of three parts; 1) The I SEE ME Leadership and Financial Literary Summer camp; 2) The I SEE ME Documentary on youth leadership and development and; 3) The I SEE ME Youth Investment competition.

The I SEE ME project is only one of his calls to action. Brothers Who Care is committed to changing the social, financial and psychological health of the black community through short videos, live webinars, video podcasts, documentaries, digital arts and animation. David hopes that the I SEE ME project's power and influence will inspire Canadians as we spotlight and showcase ordinary citizens doing extraordinary work, changing the world through a process of caring, learning, sharing and acting. . He believes that collectively we can find the resources and build the foundation needed to influence major changes in our communities.