

LEADERSHIP TEAM

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FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS

BUSINESSES

GOODWIN COLLEGE
HARTFORD COMMUNITIES THAT CARE, INC.
LAVIISH BLU STUDIOS LLC
SHOPRITE OF EAST HARTFORD
TMDAVIS ENTERPRISE
LMG PHOTOGRAPHY
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GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

CITY OF HARTFORD
TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD YOUTH SERVICES
TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD
EAST HARTFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY



Young-Educated-Determined to Succeeds

(Y.E.D.S.) vision is every young person who participates in Y.E.D.S. will advance to higher education, while gaining knowledge to become productive citizens of society and give back to their communities.

Y.E.D.S. prides itself on providing a safe and nurturing learning environment for youth of all ages.

Leaders Become Great not because of Their Powers but their Ability to Empower Others-John Maxwell



About Us

Young-Educated-Determined to Succeed Inc. (Y.E.D.S.) is a 501(c)3 community-based nonprofit organization located in East Hartford, Connecticut founded by La'Shunda Williams in 2016.

Our Mission

Y.E.D.S. mission is to provide youth with educational and recreational activities that will elevate their minds and explore their creative thinking skills while helping them to develop techniques that will lead them to exercise productive successful lives.

Y.E.D.S. achieves its mission by establishing partnerships with families, schools, community members and organizations by implementing after-school programs that focus on leadership, social development, mental health and fitness.

OUR PROGRAMS

Leadership Academy provides youth with the ability to motivate others. As community role models, youth gain the knowledge and skills to facilitate workshop and group activities at local school and recreation centers to educate their peers on becoming active positive leaders in school and their community. Developing leadership skills promotes healthy youth development.

Purple Diamond Elite Performing Arts Program

Purple Diamond Elite Performing Arts Program provides youth ages 6-18 with a safe environment that teaches the importance of movement through structured choreography focusing on discipline, teamwork, creativity, mental health, and fitness. The performing arts program offers valuable life skills that can be applied to various life pursuits. Youth participate in weekly workouts and learn/create different choreographed dance routines which enables their creative thinking skills while developing lifelong friendships.

Purple Diamond Elite dance team performs in various community events, competes in local and out of state competitions that focus on HBCU and majorette style of dancing.

Young Entrepreneurs Program

Y.E.D.S. provides youth the opportunity to successfully launch their own entrepreneurial endeavors. Over the course of 12 weeks, youth develop business plans which include their marketing and finance plans. Each youth is provided with a small startup donation and at the end of the 12 weeks, Y.E.D.S. host a Pop-up Shop Launch Party where youth invite family and friends to come and purchase from their products.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Family and Community Engagement is one of the most important aspects of Y.E.D.S. Family participation is highly recommended in all meetings and events. Parent meetings are held quarterly January, April, July, and October the second Monday of the month at 6pm.

We can not do this without FAMILY!

Health & Fitness

Physical exercise is critical for the growth and development of a strong musculoskeletal system. Kids should be encouraged to engage in activities that challenge not only their body but their mind as well.

Y.E.D.S. offers exercise activities that promote increased physical activity, physical fitness, and teamwork.

