

# 2020+1 YES SUMMARY

SATURDAY, JAN. 23, 2021

More than 55 teens from 31 different zip codes attended the 2020+1 Youth Empowerment Summit via Zoom.

During the 4-hour summit, they participated in sessions on leadership skills and cultural awareness.

They concluded the summit by formulating possible policy solutions on community issues important to them.

yes  
YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT  
2020+1



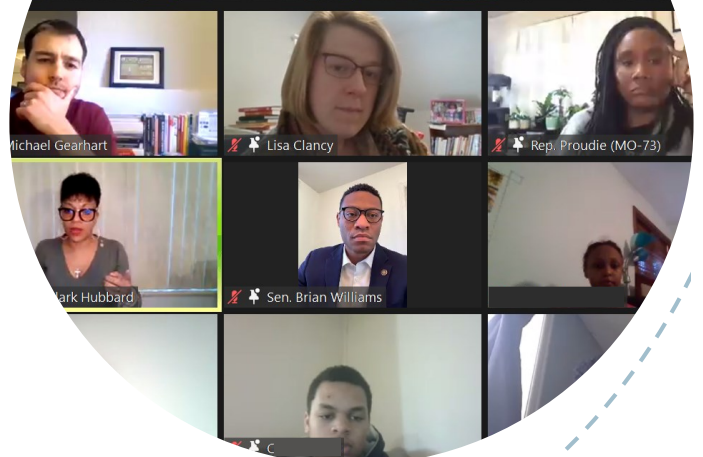
#### MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

- Koran Bolden
- Seqwana Pryor, PhD

#### POLICY PANELISTS

- St. Louis County Councilwoman Lisa Clancy
- St. Louis City Alderwoman Shameem Clark-Hubbard
- Rep. Raychel Proudie (MO-73)
- MO Senator Brian Williams
- Michael Gearhart, PhD

**3** LEADERSHIP SESSIONS  
along with  
**4** POLICY PRESENTATIONS  
delivered by  
**16** TEEN FACILITATORS



# SOLUTIONS

Possible policy solutions were presented to a panel of elected officials and practitioners.

## FOOD ACCESS 1

- Support / Promote St. Louis Metro Market
- Support Garden Education through organizations such as Gateway Greening and at high schools like that at Principia
- Develop website and social media platforms to:
  - Address food access disparities
  - Showcase success stories and personal experiences
  - Improve access to more accessible, affordable, healthier and fresher supermarkets
- Donate leftover food to food pantries or food organizations
- Promote community service at soup kitchens and other community efforts to improve food access inequities

## FOOD ACCESS 2

- Decrease price of healthy food
- Increase minimum wage
- Support urban farming models and increase access to Farmer's Markets
- Increase investments in education and job programs for youth to help lift them out of poverty
- Require major grocery store corporations and convenient store chains to sell more healthy food options

## HOMELESSNESS

- Raise awareness of the needs and issues needs affecting the unhoused population
- Advocate for government funding of "tiny home" communities
- Provide proper resources to enable the unhoused to sustain and better themselves
- Build school curriculums to raise awareness around pressing issues of the unhoused
- Make mental health education accessible for all
- Start after school clubs to provide youth with access to materials (i.e, internet, computers, etc.) they need to do their school work
- Install and distribute drop boxes with essential necessities in communities throughout the St. Louis area

## BULLYING

- Expand therapy programs:
  - Psychological therapy (victims)
  - Guidance counseling
  - Behavior counseling
- Develop and encourage friend groups and buddy system such as Big Brother Big Sister
- Provide anger management classes for the bully
- Empower victims to stand up
- Adopt and strengthen Zero Tolerance policies for bullying which include no harassment and no fighting; outlining detentions, suspension and expulsion procedures
- Engage bullies in Community Service Intervention Programs such as helping senior citizens and volunteering at school events

## WHO SHOULD IMPLEMENT THESE SOLUTIONS?

School Boards & Administration, Teachers, Parents & Families, Every Day People, Elected Officials (Local Gov't and State Reps), Mental Health Experts, Healthcare Workers, Stores, Urban Farmers, Voters, and Youth

### 2020+1 YES FUNDING PARTNERS:

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