

**TURN IT
AROUND**

ISSUE: 30
TURN IT AROUND
YOUTH GROUP
JUNE NEWSLETTER



This Month in Turn It Around

Turn It Around is still coping with the ongoing protests surrounding George Floyd's controversial and tragic death during an arrest. The group has been sharing their thoughts on the issue through rhetoric and spoken word. Many of the youth are people of color and this event strikes close to home as they themselves have experienced racism even in their own neighborhoods.

Our youth are not quite sure yet as to how they'd like to respond to this issue at a community-level, but they are currently brainstorming ideas to bring more awareness to even the subtle racism they face and how to further unite our Charlestown community.

Please read one of the poem's our youth, Sammy, wrote in response to Floyd's life being cut-short. For more of our youth's writings, please visit our social media pages.

Black Lives Matter Poem

"Black lives matter. Brown lives matter. How many times do we have to say it through day and night? How many times do my brothers and sisters got to die in broad daylight just for you to say you know what they're right? Because Black lives matter. Why is that when a white child has "the talk" it's about the birds and the bees but when a black child has "the talk" it's about how he should do what the cop says so he won't get shot in the middle of the street. Brown lives matter to. Why is that I can be born in your country in the U.S of A but you still speak English to me slowly acting like I haven't been speaking that same language as you for the past decade. Because when you speak to me like that, you're telling that even though I was born here I'm still Spanish and that I'm from another planet, cuz I'm an alien in your eyes right?"

And beautiful intelligent blacks' friends who ask peacefully to be seen in a different light is what threatens your life right? Because you people seem to love black and Spanish food and black and Spanish dance but the moment we ask to be seen as equal you won't even spare a passing glance. Because the natives, Blacks, Spanish, Asian, and Indian and every other race that was pushed and stomped under your white foot. I'm here to tell you we are here to stay because we built America from the very FIRST DAY! And I don't hate white people because there are some who stand with us but after seeing them associated with us you act like they're not the same color of your back hand. America home the free land of brave. Nah, more like America home of the racist, whites to be free, and the other races who got their rights but are still treated like slaves." -Sammy Quintin, Age 14

Congratulations Class of 2020



Congratulations
**TURN IT
AROUND**
Class of 2020

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
CONGRATULATIONS KHALID, MELVIN, ELSIE, KELVIN, DYLAN,
TERRELL, SAMMY, STANLEY, MAX, JOSVIEL, MAWUKO,
MELISSA, RENALIDO & EMMANUELLA!



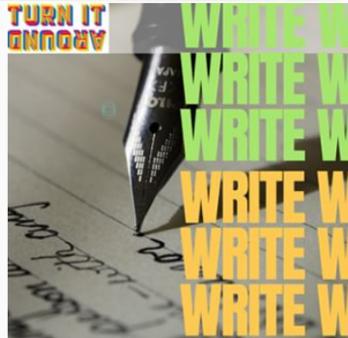
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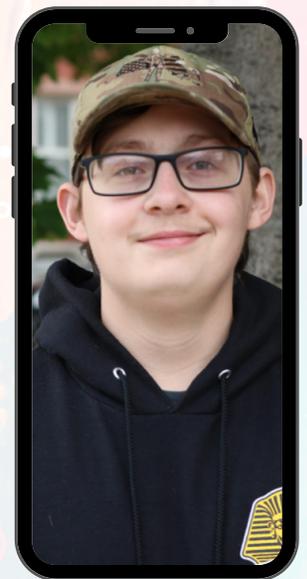
Last Month in Turn It Around

Last month in May, Turn It Around members were faced with more stress due to the death of George Perry Floyd Jr., an African American man, who was killed by police during an arrest. This led to thousands of people protesting the unlawful and senseless act with Black Lives Matter organizations leading the way. Our youth became inspired to express their feelings and emotions through writing poetry, music lyrics and even reciting their poems on video.



May's Youth of the Month:

"This month's Turn It Around Youth of The Month is Brandon Meyers. Brandon has been one of our most active members in the last couple of months, competing in our weekly social media contests, and faithfully attending every one of our 3x/week workouts. He's leading by example and showing how important it is to have a strong Mind AND Body, in order to overcome this pandemic."



-Mswati Hanks
(Youth Prevention Coordinator)

Ways to get Involved:

Want to join in on the fun during one of our meetings or events? We'd love to have you! There are many opportunities for parents and guardians to get involved in *Turn It Around*. Whether you help cook, serve, clean or participate in the activities, all are invited and welcome. Please reach out to Ginaya for more information.

Prefer Email?

To receive our Family & Friends Newsletter email instead of a paper copy, please contact Ginaya Greene Murray at Ggreene-Murray@Partners.org or call her directly at 617-726-6684

Have Questions?

If you need assistance with your youth regarding school, job placement, risky behaviors, or anything else, please contact the Charlestown Coalition. We will be happy to help with any questions regarding you and your child.

Find us online:

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