

# @nywusa News

[stateyourcase.us](http://stateyourcase.us) | [nywusa.com](http://nywusa.com) | Editor: Cecil Bundick

## Mission Statement:

“The purpose of OMI is to instill resiliency skills through education and developing life skills to “at-risk” youth in hopes that they will become productive members of society.

To provide opportunities that will focus on the entire mind, body, soul and spirit.”

## Board of Directors:

President/CEO- Lori Hoff

Secretary- Sharon Horton

Treasurer- Kim Mitchell

Parliamentarian- Whitney Milson

Technology Officer- Phil DiMarco

Development Director- Victor McCray

Board Advisor- Christina Schmitt

Advertising Director- Quintavion Washington

## 2020 Update:

We are celebrating 20 years of serving youth so you can expect to receive our newsletter on the 20th of every month. Also look out for our Anniversary Celebration on July 1, 2020 in Dallas. Details coming soon. Thank you all your continued support to help us stop and prevent youth homicide and suicide. You can help support our mission by donating! Donate by going to [nywusa.com](http://nywusa.com).

## Taking a Stand!

On December 29, 2019, National Youth Week partnered with local activist and preacher Quintavion Washington from the Eastern Shore of Virginia in a stand against violence. I had the privilege to sit down with Quintavion for an interview. Quintavion said he is “focused on building a bridge between the older generation and



the current generation”. During the interview Quintavion expressed how eager he was for the event, noting the importance of our partnership with him. Having attended the event, I was eager to see how passionate individuals were on the topic of gun violence. I felt the same passion Quintavion did and used that as a means of unification amongst us. Click [here to hear the full interview!](#)

-Cecil Bundick

## Celebration!

On January 11, 2020, some of the National Youth Week team gathered to march for life in the South Oak Cliff High School celebration. We are excited to see amazing things happening within this school and surrounding community. There was a 52 million dollar renovation done to the school. Prior to renovations, there was water contamination and unsuitable accommodations for learning until 4 miraculous teenagers stood up and took a stand and said **not my school!** Their collective voice started a movement and brought change which is exactly what we stand for. We are looking forward to partnering with them in the coming year.



-Lori Hoff

## Spotlight:



Lethon Williams is a native of the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Lethon, a senior at Arcadia High School, hopes to continue his education in athletic training. Lethon is a well rounded athlete as he plays football, basketball, baseball

and track. Lethon is known for his humbleness on and off the court or field. Getting involved in his community such as walks to stop violence and helping other young men develop a love for sports helps him keep a level head. Lethon's motto is, "Keep your head in the game at all times and success ultimately will come your way."

## Note From President:

We are so excited to be here 20 years strong in 2020 making a difference in the lives of our youth. My personal motto for this year is to be Bold and Brave. The word Brave means exhibiting courage or



courageous endurance. It also means to defy, challenge, or dare. When you have a purpose and a calling to make a difference you can't stop at "No" or "this is how we have always done it". I am determined to move forward with the mission God gave us... every door will open and lives will be changed. When we see our young people being taken too early that should cause us all to take a stand and say "Not in my city". Join us in standing against youth homicide and suicide. Together we can make a difference!

## National Mentoring Month:

### *R.O.O.T.S Mentoring*

I am Marcus Jenkins, a 23 year old North Carolina native. I'm a proud graduate of Fayetteville State University. Between the transition from my sophomore and junior year, I was selected for an internship under the Youth Development Coordinator of Cumberland County Schools. This opportunity granted me access to a truly unique school.



While there I fell in love with the culture and care the faculty had for their students' success. That day I began actively putting together my team of college students to help in advancing the personal progression of the students in attendance. Our team has a true passion for sowing into young men and women who reflect ourselves at a younger stage. We decided to address the group as R.O.O.T.S, (Regiment of Overriding the Statics). Our goal is to raise the consciousness level of the youths we serve, while teaching them the level of personal accountability which comes with being a successful adult in today's society.

Some advice and helpful tips we have learned from working with our youth is to be transparent and accountable to the highest standard. They are very observant and have a quick tendency to see unrealistic characters and motives. It takes a special person to work with troubled youth. You have to care, be passionate, but most of all be able to relate. Shedding some light on your early flaws, then informing them of your own personal development, is a perfect way to establish a genuine relationship while showing them they're not alone on their journey! For any other groups looking to partner, free to reach out to the me via email at [J3nkins1906@gmail.com](mailto:J3nkins1906@gmail.com). We are all about partnerships and the idea of it takes a village to raise a child.

