The House DC hosted an afternoon of elegance where women from the community were invited to join in for a royal experience. From the comfort of their own homes, women dressed up in beautiful gowns and participated in our Dress to Bless event. We wanted our community to know that they are fearfully and wonderfully made. We wanted them to know that God created each of them specially unique, and our Dress to Bless event did just that.

Weeks before the event, women were able to come to The House DC to shop for beautiful gowns completely free of charge. Each participant was able to come and pick up a lovely gift including delicious cookies, special treats, and sparkly novelties to add a little bling! The event from beginning to end was absolutely marvelous! We started our afternoon of elegance showcasing each woman in her beautiful gown. From there we enjoyed beautiful poetry performed by House DC students, a powerful message from Program Director, Britney Smith and lots of laughs.

The highlight of the event was the surprise pronouncement of La'Torus’ family as the “Royal Family of Southeast.” Their pronunciation as Southeast’s “Royals” was spontaneous, yet so fitting, as La'Torus and her daughters totally exuded royalty in their gorgeous gowns and gracious demeanor throughout the event. This event gave them and our other House families an opportunity to shine.

Not only were The House participants inspired by the event, our sponsors were blessed as well:

“I had the honor and privilege of participating in the Dress to Bless event. Congratulations on a job well done!”

– Sponsor, Lelia Ivery
DeQuwan is known as the jokester of The House DC. Although his jokes are plentiful, he’s so much more than just that. Not only is DeQuwan a leader to young men at The House, he’s a leader in the community, as well. DeQuwan often stops through the neighborhoods most people avoid to encourage young guys and to check on their well-being. You can often find him at Anacostia park with guys from the community fishing, playing ball or working out.

DeQuwan’s physical strength is impressive, but it is no match for the strength of his faith. For the past six years DeQuwan has suffered from DVT’s (deep vein thrombosis) in both of his legs. All of his great veins are completely blocked, and according to doctors, DeQuwan shouldn’t be able to do any of the things he does. However, the doctor explained how even though all of his great veins are blocked, somehow his body has created new small veins that pumps the perfect amount of blood that his body needs each day. We know that God is the creator of those new veins!

Recently, DeQuwan was rushed into emergency surgery due to an aneurysm in his leg. He made a full recovery and is back to his normal joking self. The House DC is honored to have DeQuwan on staff. His faith in God, love for his community and cheerful personality play a huge role in the positive impact The House DC has in the community.

Kiana walked into The House DC her ninth grade year in high school. At that time she was part of a popular violent gang in the community and was arrested on multiple occasions. After several suspensions Kiana was put out of public schools and was sent to an alternative learning school, where she almost gave up and dropped out.

The staff has been there for me more times than I can count. They are the type of people that never give up on you. Even if you’re bad or do bad things, they give you chances. That’s all we need is a chance.

– Kiana

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

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Young adults in our community have huge disadvantages when it comes to success in the workplace. It is already a struggle to gain employment with a criminal record or with no degree or certifications. No job experience can make the search seem impossible. After months and months of not being able to find work to provide for themselves and their children, it is easy for them to slip into alternative ways of making money, like selling drugs or other illegal activities.

Using his very own side moving company, Executive Director of Life Skills, Jonathan Harris employs several young men from the community to come and not only make money but gain some much-needed work experience. While on the job, Jonathan uses those opportunities to teach the young men proper job etiquette, life skills and other important information needed for success in the workplace.

We know that there are many obstacles young men face in our community. Some hurdles are hard to avoid. However, when we create opportunity, we can see change.

“MOVING JOBS

It’s about more than them getting a job. It’s about them maintaining the job, being great employees and eventually advancing in their careers, so that they one day can be homeowners taking care of their families.”

– Jonathan Harris

House DC staff had an opportunity to refresh and enjoy a time of team building and fellowship. May 2021.
AJ came to The House DC as a part of a neighborhood gang. AJ decided that he wanted better for himself. He didn’t want to end up in jail or worse, so he began a new path and found a job. He spent time talking to Jonathan on a regular basis about work ethic and was well-prepared to succeed.

After he had been working at his job for some time, AJ came to visit the staff at our men’s fellowship cookout. He explained to Jonathan how well he was doing at his job and how motivated he was to move up in the company. Jonathan knew that there were many more young men like AJ that truly needed to get their foot in the door.

Davon was amongst that group and months prior to his graduation he was a victim in a shooting. Jonathan gave AJ a call and weeks later Davon was hired as a full time employee.

Davon and AJ work together each day and are model employees. AJ was even promoted to assistant manager! It is so amazing when our young people reach back to pull others up. It lets us know that they are proudly passing on to others the things we teach and model for them, and that’s the kind of cycle we want to keep in motion.

Davon is doing so well that my manager asked if I knew anyone else looking for a job.

— AJ

We have been so excited to be a part of the creative ways that The House has been adapting to serve its community this past year.

— Sponsors, Peter & Julia Buckingham
WHISKEY CREEK GOLF CLUB
4804 Whiskey Ct, Ijamsville, MD 21754

This 22nd Annual Golf Tournament is in honor of our Co-founder and First Board Chair and First Golf Chair, Richard (“Dick”) Henry Schacht (1/2/1935 - 4/6/2021)

We need your support during COVID-19 to help youth and their families in need in the inner city.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Tournament $15,000
Diamond $10,000
Platinum $5,000
Gold $2,500
Silver $1,000
Bronze $650
Individual Player $250

For more information contact:
Jonathan Harris
c: 202-610-3100 x107
events@thehousedc.org

Registration requested by September 3, 2021

www.thehousedc.org

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF RICHARD SCHACHT
(January 2, 1935 – April 6, 2021)

Richard Schacht was a co-founder of The House DC. His faith in Jesus Christ stirred a desire to cross racial barriers—he wasn’t afraid of truth, hard conversations, and doing what was needed to make real change. Richard Schacht was a visionary who foresaw a community transformed by the power of God’s love.

A SPECIAL POEM WRITTEN FOR THE DRESS TO BLESS EVENT.

THE BLING OF LIFE

Altogether, Lord You have no flaw At Your presence Lord, We bow in awe You made everything beautiful including us You made everything marvelous from dawn to dusk Yes, diamonds are stunning but we’re more precious Regardless of our jewels, the Lord will bless us Because it really doesn’t matter, of the outside view What’s important is that our insides live for you Materialistic things will never prove your worth To God you’re worth more than all on the earth You are beautifully fearfully and wonderfully made You are worth the great price our Savior paid All creation is beautiful and elegance is rife But remember the Lord is the true bling of life

Written by: Britney Smith
MARCH MADNESS!

Instead of the normal basketball tournaments we host each year, we decided to do something different. For the entire month of March we hit the streets of Anacostia. Each week we chose a neighborhood in Anacostia to serve healthy meals prepared and packaged by our youth. We also provided people in the community with House DC water bottles to help them stay hydrated and bags full of healthy snacks. Small gestures of love can truly change a heart, and teaching our youth to give back helps them have a heart for improving their community.

“
I really do love helping people in my community. It makes me feel good to be able to help. Even after I graduate I’m going to come back to The House to help serve the community.

– 12th Grade Student

CONGRATS!
The House DC is proud to announce that Tija graduated from Sewanee University in Tennessee with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science. She is also the President of the NAACP Chapter at Sewanee University. We are so proud of Tija’s accomplishments!

CANDY CORN 5K
BENEFITING THE HOUSE DC
Serving the Community in Anacostia
October 16, 2021