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Greetings,

In 2014, Le Dujour founder Vachenzia McKinney started the first Domestic Violence Awareness education program for Shelby County Schools. The inaugural event was held at American Way Middle School. The first keynote speaker for the event was Bridget Harris, mother of Gabby Harris, the 14 year-old who lost her life to gun violence in 2018. While we have accomplished a lot, much more needs to be done. Please join the village and assist us in creating a stronger impact!

#### Domestic Violence Awareness Inaugural Impact:

- 738 youth and 107 adults identified adaptive strategies to address feelings and thoughts which support productive interpersonal relationships in school, home, and community environments.
- Student: "I know that school is out, but if you need me to keep helping, I will. The program was amazing and I am glad to be a part of this."
- Parent: <through tears> "I just came out of my own unhealthy relationship. But I am so glad you had this program to help teach my son a better way."
- In addition to the program at American Way, Vachenzia McKinney provided Healthy Relationship lesson plans and announcements to over 100,000 students across the Shelby County Schools' District.

#### SOLUTION

Since 2014, we have continued to work with the mother of Gabby Harris to provide anti-violence awareness and outreach. 552 of the families served in 2017 received anti-bullying support. For 2018, we hope you will support additional outreach and our Gabby Harris Anti-Violence Scholarship Program!

Thank you,

Vachenzia M. McKinney, Executive Director

#### 2017 OUTCOMES

##### Healthier Living

- ✓ Ride Against Suicide: 22 survivors, riders, and counselors shared tools for overcoming suicidal thoughts and resources to help the loved ones of those who committed suicide.
- ✓ HIV Awareness and Support: Provided 241 individuals with group sessions for those infected, awareness opportunities for those needing more information, and an awards ceremony for those who educate, advocate, and fight HIV related stigma.

##### Educational Support

- ✓ Supporting Parents of Students with Special Needs: Trained 7 AGAPE connectors on intervention strategies and protocol to assist parents of youth that do not respond to typical discipline and/or learning strategies.
- ✓ SCS Block Party: Provided 150 custodial parents and motivated 185 youth with tips to improve academics, health, relationships, and finances.

##### Relationship Building

- ✓ Managing Feelings, Bullying, and Long-Term Goals: Helped over 500 elementary students address available resources and strategies to improve safety, achievement, and inner peace.
- ✓ Boots on the Ground: Educated 52 attendees to raise self-esteem, overcome bullying, and improve decision-making.
- ✓ Parenting 101: 22 parents received one-on-one consultation regarding discipline, parenting after divorce, college transitions, and other parenting needs.

##### Obtainment Economics

- ✓ Man Laws of Health: Motivated 46 families on ways to improve financial health, physical and mental health, and relationship health. Attendees received access to local mental and physical health specialists, financial and legal experts, and faith-based leaders to overcome difficult situations.

Le Dujour HERO Village, Inc. provides youth and parenting interventions.

Visit a director, [herovillage.org](http://herovillage.org), or email [empowered@herovillage.org](mailto:empowered@herovillage.org) for information about future events.