

Teen Connection Project TCP @ U C



UNIVERSITY CITY HIGH SCHOOL | SPRING | 2023



Calen Payne, Elijah Patterson, Jaidyn Connors, Jordan Spearman, Madison Sistruck and Anthony Woodson, freshmen, meet for TCP with Mr. Hillgren.

PHOTO BY RYENNE DAVIS

TCP AT U. CITY

BY ERIC "ROKO" HILLGREN | FACILITATOR

Wyman's Teen Connection Project (TCP) is an evidence-based, best practice program built for 9-12 grade students. Although this is the first school year with TCP, Wyman has been proud partner with the School District of University City for nearly 13 years.

This year, students may have recognized TCP facilitator, Eric "Roko" Hillgren. Roko was a Teen Outreach Program facilitator at Brittany Woods Middle School. Other facilitators in TCP have been UCHS alum, Christina "Storm" Donald and the late DeVonne "Rogue" Wilson.

TCP aims to help teens develop higher quality peer relationships and connections to others, improved social-emotional skills, greater school belonging/engagement and improved well-being.

If you are wondering more about the TCP program, groups are semester based and are sequenced with a curriculum of 12 lessons. Topics covered are trust, communication, conflict, vulnerability, giving and getting support, and recognizing strengths in others.

If you are looking to join a TCP group in the future, look out for your chance to sign up!

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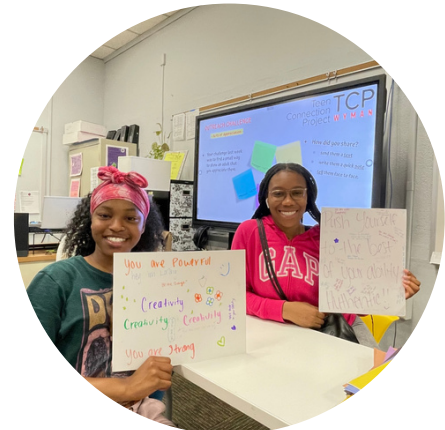
In Loving Memory



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LaTandy Simon, sophomore, and Laila Dixon, junior, share positive messages they made for others in TCP.

PHOTO BY ERIC HILLGREN



Armond Black, Janiya Knight, seniors, Joseph Robinson, LaTandy Simon, Bianey Gutierrez, and Tionne Harris, sophomores, with candy messages they planned to give to someone they didn't know to help build connections.

OUTREACH CHALLENGES

BY JORDAN SPEARMAN | TCP PARTICIPANT

Part of what we have enjoyed about TCP groups have been the outreach challenges. We have had the opportunity to let others know that they are not alone. The simple but thoughtful acts help make other people's day better. Helping with outreach challenges motivates people during testing and whatever else they might be going through. Teachers and other students have shared that it made them feel good about themselves.

Whether it was the Take What You Need Flyers, Candy Messages, or the #YOUMATTER cards and posters, people genuinely appreciated what we have made for them in TCP. These sorts of activities have brought us closer to each other. To this day we still see people that we built connections with and we still say hi to each other. Sometimes it has made us feel overwhelmed and emotional for the fact that others have felt so appreciative. With three challenges completed and one more to go it feels like we are changing the world a little bit and spreading positivity.

U CITY, U KNOW

BY RYENNE DAVIS | TCP PARTICIPANT

Team building in TCP groups have allowed us to make friends, find common interests and get to know each other. I like team building activities because it makes people feel like they matter and feel like they are not alone. Throughout the semester it got more people to speak up and be vulnerable. Our social-emotional skills have improved and people seem more confident in expressing themselves and sharing acts of kindness with others.



IN LOVING MEMORY



DeVonne "Rogue" Wilson
Fall 2022 TCP Facilitator at UCHS
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS
WYMAN CENTER



We lost two individuals this past winter. This is issue is dedicated to their memory.



Shayne Burrow
Freshmen, TCP Group Member
UNIVERSITY CITY HIGH SCHOOL