



# The Cornerstone Conduit

## Quarterly Newsletter

Vol. IX



### Working Toward Stronger Communities!

The Board of Directors, Staff, Volunteers, and Supporters of Cornerstone Collaborative Florida, Inc. express our deepest appreciation for the wisdom, ideas, funding, and other support our community and stakeholders have provided as we complete our second year of operations.



Over the past year, we accomplished several objectives toward our mission including:

- Achieving Gold seal of transparency from Guidestar.
- Recruiting high-level talent and steadfast commitment in the form of Executive leadership and key operating roles
- Maintaining a balanced budget and positive financial bottom line.
- Developing and advocating new programmatic approaches to helping poor and vulnerable people in Florida and Massachusetts.



#### Tampa Executive Director Saul Ivy, MPA, PhD.

Dr. Ivy has 15 years of experience in non-profit capacity building focused on developing and measuring the impact on service delivery and outcomes. Dr. Ivy also teaches Leadership, and Non-profit Management courses at the Masters and Doctoral level. Dr. Ivy received his Bachelors in Urban Studies and Masters in Public Administration from Cleveland State University, and completed doctoral studies with Capella University, earning a PhD. in Business Management & Organizational Behavior.



#### Massachusetts Executive Director Francois R. Fils-Aime II

Francois is a first-generation Haitian American and a graduate of Cathedral High School in the South End of Boston. He received a BA of Arts in Political Science, a Double Minor in Communications and Black Studies at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, and a Masters in Education from the University of Massachusetts at Boston. He



has a certification in Administration from Northeastern University.



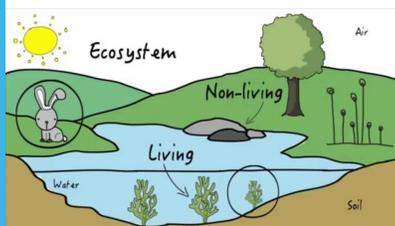
Francois has more than 25 years of service educating children, families, and communities in Boston and the surrounding areas in various leadership capacities.

Having crafted programs and pathways supporting our theory of change during our first year of operation, in year two, we began to build the infrastructure for the future.

Year three, as is everything in this world, will be what we make of it. **Thank you for your Support and Encouragement!**

**STATEMENT ON BLACK LIVES MATTER, COMMUNITY EQUITY, AND THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT TOWARD JUSTICE**

## Ecosystem



### Environmental Sustainability

Cornerstone promotes a sustainable society by supporting and pioneering initiatives that harmonize society, business and the environment. Serving as a catalyst for community strengthening and coordinates the effort of public-private initiatives, Cornerstone has strategically aligned with **Leaving A Positive Legacy, Inc.** to develop and deliver sustainable models to measurably reduce existing or avoid future emissions of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.



Positive Legacy has planted 219,461 trees in Central America & Northern Haiti, offset 12,361 tons of carbon emissions, and built 700 fuel efficient firewood cook stoves for Central American families. Positive Legacy's mission is to integrate music and service to benefit people and the environment.



### Domestic Violence

Cornerstone's "**Initiative to End Misogyny**" (ITEM) is purposed to engage boys and men of any age in educational programming and community awareness activities that encourage them to work as allies for women and girls to prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking. The Initiative plans to work closely with **The Spring of Tampa Bay** who will provide crisis intervention services and leverage the expertise of key partners, **Deep Forgiveness**, Mr. Byron Hurt, 100 Black Men of Tampa Bay, Inc, Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



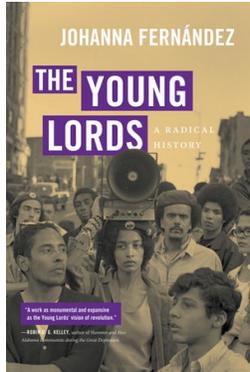
The ITEM Initiative aims to provide men and boys with the requisite tools and understanding of foundational concepts such as sustainability, intersectionality, and accountability through four Core Elements: Healing and Repairing Community, Addressing Toxic Masculinity at All Ages, Providing Civil Legal Support, and



Mentorship.

### Health Disparities

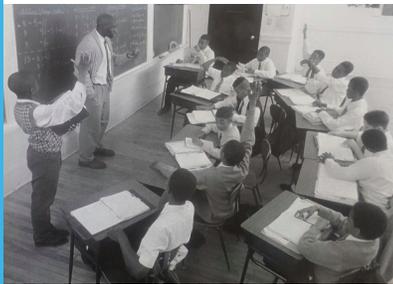
Cornerstone seeks to reduce health disparities among children by directly engaging vulnerable populations in underserved urban or rural areas to promote health awareness and improve access to care for chronic health conditions. Cornerstone disseminates health information on prevention or care related to nutrition, healthy living, obesity, sickle cell disease, and other chronic illnesses. The **Collaborative Addressing Child Healthcare & Health Education Disparities (CACHED) Initiative** is designed to capture health data and engage children and families in Florida who have limited access to resources and privileges that impact their health.



**Johanna Fernández** is assistant professor of history at Baruch College of the City University of New York and editor of *Writing on the Wall: Selected Prison Writings of Mumia Abu-Jamal*.

### Bookshelf Spotlight

The Young Lords is set against the backdrop of America's escalating urban rebellions in the 1960s, an unexpected cohort of New York radicals unleashed a series of urban guerrilla actions against the city's racist policies and contempt for the poor. Their dramatic flair, uncompromising vision, and skillful ability to link local problems to international crises riveted the media, alarmed New York's political class, and challenged nationwide perceptions of civil rights and black power protest. **Johanna Fernández** has written the definitive account of the Young Lords, from their roots as a street gang to their rise and fall as a political organization. Led predominantly by poor and working-class Puerto Rican youth, and consciously fashioned after the Black Panther Party, the Young Lords confronted race and class inequality and questioned American foreign policy.



**Clyde Cole** teaching and mentoring brilliant youth in Harlem in 1995.

### Partnership For Boys

P4B believes that it is necessary to change and improve the conditions surrounding boys so that they can thrive. They do this in partnership with parents and caregivers, educators, mentors, and others responsible for the well-being of boys.

### Our Growing Ecosystem

**Click below to Join Us!**



[CONTACT US](#)



# Community Engagement



Cornerstone Collaborative's network of caring individuals and committed organizations directly engages the most vulnerable populations and people most in need of support for education, training, employment, legal advocacy, housing, health, nutrition, wellness, and whose underserved communities need immediate and sustainable economic development.

### Florida

Orlando  
Tampa  
West Palm Beach  
Ft. Lauderdale  
Miami  
Jacksonville  
Gainesville  
Daytona Beach  
Ocala  
Tallahassee

### Other States

Massachusetts

## Corporate Social Responsibility

Cornerstone continues to build strategic partnerships with corporations, foundations, and community stakeholders as we expand our presence in Florida and Massachusetts. Meaningful collaborations serve as catalyst to bring about new ideas and improve the range of services through innovative programming.

## Reading Literacy

According to 2003 National Center for Education Statistics estimates, 20% of the population in Florida lacked basic prose literacy skills. Of the 100,894 inmates incarcerated in the Florida prison system during fiscal year 2008-2009, approximately 60% were assessed as having less than functional literacy skills (below 9th grade) and 36% were classified as having only basic literacy skills (1st-5th grade). Unemployment is far more prevalent in the lowest literacy level. Individuals in the lowest literacy level who work, do so an average of 19 weeks a year, as compared to those in the highest level who work an average of 42 weeks a year. The Cornerstone Community Literacy Initiative addresses these statistics by presenting reading improvement opportunities via free, low-cost, or reward-based book vending machines in community settings in which adults, children and families are regular patrons and pedestrians. The Initiative couples access to reading material with adult-peer mentoring and support.



## Financial Literacy

Cornerstone creates pathways for individuals to improve their financial knowledge and confidence through a web-based broadcast and provides the opportunity to directly engage with financial experts to have broad financial questions answered.

The recurring podcast segment will begin this summer with the objective to better prepare individuals and families to understand and respond to macroeconomic events or relevant microeconomic concerns such as the impact on personal and household finance of interest rates, the housing market, banking, unemployment, insurance, etc.



Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#),  
Connect with us on [LinkedIn](#) or Contact us  
below for additional information or to help us  
serve those in need.



## Finance

### 2019 Financials (in '000)

Income 118.9

Expense 117.7

Net Income 1.2

Assets 25.6

Liabilities 24.6

Net Assets 1.0



"Unrestricted assets are the cushion, the breathing room that give organizations the ability to pivot, to be entrepreneurial, to be more sustainable."

<https://www.philanthropy.com/article/Nonprofits-Led-by-People-of/248720#.Xr10-DG2Pss.email>



Join our giving program to support current and emerging initiatives to improve community health, promote youth and adult literacy, strengthen public safety and support education, training, and workforce development.

Cornerstone Collaborative Florida Inc. is an IRC 501(c)(3) organization and your donation is tax-deductible as allowed by law.

**Click below to Support Us!**

➔ Donation

