

AAOEC NEWS

Against All Odds Empowerment Center

Empowering Young Mothers to Make the Impossible...POSSIBLE

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Word from Our Founder

The holiday season is upon us and we find ourselves reflecting on the past year and those who have helped to shape our organization in a significant way. I want to thank our volunteers for their support and members for their dedication. We value our relationship with you and look forward to working with you in 2015. This year-end brings no greater pleasure than the opportunity to wish you season's greetings and good wishes. May your holidays and New Year be filled with joy and happiness.

One Team. One Mission. Together We Can. Together We Will.



Stephanie Lewter

– AAOEC Founder and CEO

Happy Holiday Greeting!!!



We would like to send our greatest holiday wishes for you, your families, and your friends. This holiday is a time for all of us to acknowledge and reflect on the many blessings that we have received during this 2014 year.

Expect an even greater 2015.

Remember to share your gifts to help others, stay positive, and smile.



Happy Holidays and Have a Wonderful New Year!!!

AAOEC Events in Review

Thanksgiving with AAOEC

Give Thanks!!



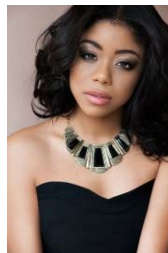
We are so thankful to have had time to come together for good food and fellowship with our members this Thanksgiving holiday. We heard an inspirational message from the reigning Miss North Carolina U.S. Ambassador, Gabrielle Hunter. Our members were able to listen and learn about perseverance, self-motivation, and gratitude. We are encouraged to remember that even through temporary trails and obstacles, we still have so much to be thankful for and to look forward to.



Some of our members were also recipients of a great Thanksgiving gift-- we are so delighted to have been able to provide food for our ladies.



We are so Thankful for you all!



A **Special Thanks** to our honored guest, Gabrielle Hunter. Gabrielle is the newest Miss Black North Carolina U.S. Ambassador. She is a 2013 graduate of High Point University. Despite being one of the top athletes in her high school, she was frequently bullied and struggled with depression. She has turned that life experience into the basis for her platform speaking out against depression, suicide, and bullying.

We would like to thank Gabrielle for joining us, sharing her inspirational story as well as other gifts with our members.



“Society has the responsibility to provide young people with the tools they need to safeguard their sexual health, and young people have the responsibility to protect themselves from unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV.”

Advocates for Youth

Established in 1980, Advocates for Youth champions efforts that help young people make informed and responsible decisions about their reproductive and sexual health. Advocates’ has developed a number of educational programs targeting young people ages 12-18 that contains a wide variety of lesson plans divided into specific topics and issues.

“Be Proud! Be Responsible! A Safer Sex Curriculum” is an Advocates’ program developed to prevent teen pregnancy, HIV, and sexually transmitted infections (STI’s). This program is a five-hour, six-part intervention appropriate for inner city youth ages 13 to 18. In small groups of six to 12, a trained educator engages the participants in experiential activities, games, and role-playing to encourage learning and participation.

“Be Proud! Be Responsible! A Safer Sex Curriculum” topics include:

- Pregnancy Prevention
- Avoiding Risky Situations
- Proper condom use
- Risks of injected drug use
- Unsafe sexual behaviors

“Be Proud! Be Responsible! A Safer Sex Curriculum” builds young people's sense of community and addresses the importance of protecting one's community, as well as oneself, against the potentially negative consequences of unprotected sexual intercourse. The curriculum emphasizes that it feels good to make proud and responsible safer sex decisions.

Discover more about Advocates for Youth by visiting their website AdvocatesforYouth.org

AAOEC Recognizes

Join us as we celebrate the achievements of our members and volunteers who have obtained their Advocates for Youth “Be Proud! Be Responsible” educator certifications!!!

- ✓ Stephanie Lewter, **AAOEC Founder and CEO**
- ✓ Felecia Scarborough, **AAOEC Project Coordinator**
- ✓ Rashonda Holmes, **AAOEC PIP Coordinator**
- ✓ Tiffiney McKoy, **AAOEC Volunteer**



Congratulations for this wonderful accomplishment! We know that your hard work and effort will be used to make a profound impact for our members.



AAOEC Volunteers

AAOEC would not and could not exist without the support of our volunteers. They are the heart of our organization. Volunteers give their time and talents in unique and creative ways. Most importantly, our volunteers offer a great deal of love and care.

We have different volunteer opportunities available:

- Speaker
- Mentor
- Tutor
- Event Organizer
- Fund Raiser
- Child Care
- Administration/Management
- Technical Support

If you have a special skill that might benefit our members and organization, we would like to encourage you to visit our website www.aaonc.org and sign up!!

AAOEC Partners

Become an AAOEC Partner

When you donate to AAOEC, you partner with us by investing in a teen mother's future and making a long-lasting impact on families. Thank you for your support and donation.

Against All Odds Empowerment Center (AAOEC), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

Ways to Donate:



PayPal donation to AAONC- You can donate securely online (www.aaonc.org/support/give)

Shop - AAOEC has a number of sponsors who throughout the year have merchandise and other items available for online purchase. A portion of the proceeds is donated to AAOEC in an effort to support our members. (www.aaonc.org/support/shop)



Company Match - many companies will match your charitable giving, so contact your employer for their gift matching policies.



Meet Us in the Community

Join us as we venture out into our surrounding schools, organizations, and communities. We look forward to any opportunity to share information about how our services will benefit teenage mothers and their children's futures.

December Community Events:



Interested in having us participate in your event?

Please contact us at 704.266.2260 or info@aaonc.org.

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