

# AAOEC NEWS

Against All Odds Empowerment Center

Empowering Young Mothers to Make the Impossible...POSSIBLE

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## Word from Our Founder

Inspiring SUCCESS in 2015!!! January starts the Parenting Insight Program (PIP), focusing on providing our members with the support and guidance needed to live the life they desire to live. We have great classes and activities planned this year and can't wait to see our young ladies grow and become the women they are destined to be. Join us as we transition from the IMPOSSIBLE to POSSIBLE.

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



*Stephanie Lewter*

– AAOEC Founder and CEO

## New Year, New Mission

2015  
2014



As our organization grows and evolves, AAOEC will strive to be most relevant and effective through innovation and flexibility. Our ability to shift with our members, provide resources and offer opportunities will ensure our future successes and accomplishments.

Our New Mission:

*Equipping young mothers with the knowledge, tools and confidence needed to achieve their fullest potential while making better choices for both them and their children.*

**Make it a wonderful New Year!!**

# Recognizing AAOEC



Stephanie Lewter, Founder and CEO of AAOEC was presented with an award for AAOEC's commitment to helping the community by empowering women.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Growing the Dream Award Ceremony** was held at **Johnson C. Smith University** and is a luncheon held to honor community members who work to foster unity and promote diversity and multiculturalism in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

## 2015 Growing the Dream Charlotte Presentation of Awards

Mr. David Howard, Charlotte-Mecklenburg City Council  
Mr. Justin Jackson

Ms. Nancy Stroud - First Legacy  
Mr. Thomas "Pop" Sadler

Mr. Millard House, New Leaders-Charlotte  
Ms. Lula Wolfe

Mr. Steve Johnson - Friendship Trays, Inc.  
Ms. Blanche Penn

Sherriff Irwin Carmichael - CMSD  
Dr. Beverly J. Smith

Mr. Sparty Jeralds - Charlotte Hornets  
Hendrick Automotive Group

Major Gerald Smith - CMPD  
Mr. Richard McClrath

Al Austin - Charlotte - Mecklenburg City Council  
Ms. Stephanie Lewter

Ms. Alejandra Garcia-Charlotte - Mecklenburg Schools  
Mr. Sergio Parada

Mr. Eric Watson - Executive Director CVMSDC  
Growing the Dream - Charlotte Seed Award  
Mr. Author Griffin  
Community Activist

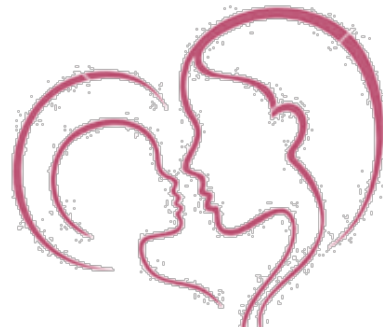
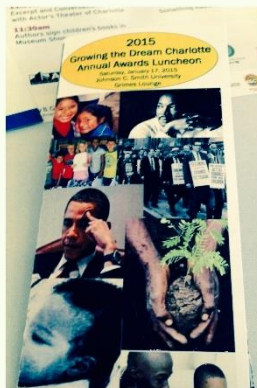
Ms. Sarah Stevenson- Community Activist  
Growing the Dream - Charlotte Root Award  
Dr. Ronald C. Carter  
President, Johnson C. Smith University

Call to Action  
Mr. Edward Hamilton Harris  
Bishop Terrell L. Murphy

Closing Remarks  
Dr. Ronald L. Carter  
President, Johnson C. Smith University

Mr. Terry Colen, Financial Advisor  
Truliant Federal Credit Union

Dr. Curtis Carroll, Ed. D  
Superintendent, West Learning Community



## AAOEC is Moving!!!

### New Program Location

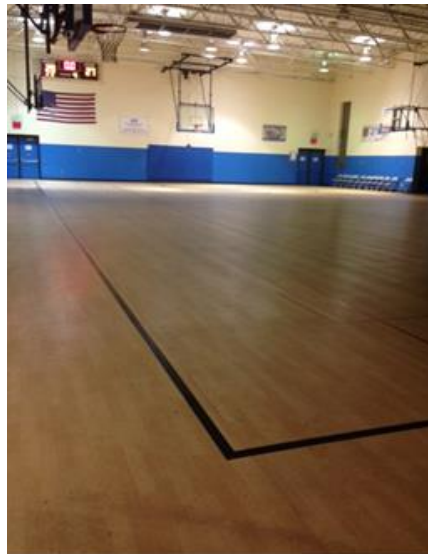
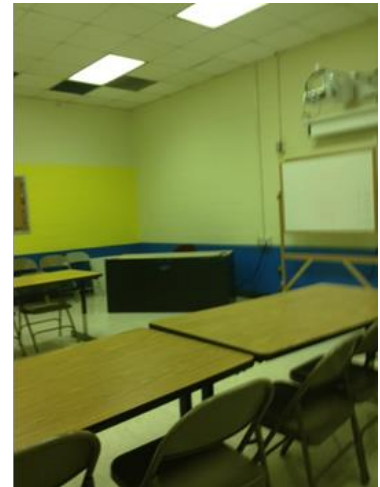
We are looking to expand the space for our information- and experience-filled events to come in 2015. And we are sure to make exceptional use of the larger classrooms and gymnasium offered at our new site. AAOEC leaders and volunteers are excited to plan this year's schedule of events in our new space.

#### The new event location:

**Amay James Recreation Center**  
2425 Lester Street  
Charlotte, NC 28208



See a sneak peak of the new site...



**Join us for our upcoming events and visit the new location.**

## Upcoming AAOEC Events

### Save these dates

#### January 2015

##### **Healthy Living – January 31<sup>st</sup>**

Acknowledging your talents and strengths while learning the importance of physical health

#### February 2015

##### **Self-Esteem Building – February 21<sup>st</sup>**

Positive self-talk and walking through life as a young mother

**Save  
the  
Date**



#### Event Details:

Location:  
Amay James Recreation Center  
2425 Lester Street  
Charlotte, NC 28208

Time:  
12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

***We look forward to seeing you there!!***



## AAOEC Holiday Event

### Wrapping up the year at our Annual Christmas celebration

We had a wonderful time celebrating the holidays with our young mothers at our Annual Christmas Event. Smiling faces filled the room as our young members opened gifts received through various donations. They were excited to receive everything from clothes, toys and diapers to a little something special for our young mothers. It was truly a joyous occasion and well deserved celebration for the members that have consistently participated in AAOEC events throughout 2014. Their hard work and perseverance has also rewarded them as they continually grow and *make possible* a better future for themselves and their families.



## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

### January / February Community Events

No upcoming events for  
January / February

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### Interested in having us participate in your event?

Please contact us

*Against All Odds*  
**EMPOWERMENT CENTER**  
Empowering Young Mothers To Make The Impossible POSSIBLE



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