

ELEVATE

JACKSONVILLE

Our Dearest Elevate Jacksonville Community,

I am thrilled to extend warm greetings to each and every one of you as the newly appointed Executive Director of Elevate Jacksonville. It is with great enthusiasm that I step into this role, and I am eager to embark on a journey of growth, collaboration, and positive impact alongside this incredible community! Having served as Program Director for the past five years and as prior Interim Executive Director, I've had the chance to get to know many of you and participate in **your** Elevate Jacksonville journey.



Championing our students inside the program has been my *passion and joy*, and I will continue to support their needs as we grow as an organization and empower our staff to serve our students every day.

As we say goodbye to our previous Executive Director, George Maxey, we wish him all the very best, as we know his passion has always been working with students in schools. George is returning to the campus as a Principal in Little Rock, Arkansas. We know you will do great things, George!

I am honored to lead Elevate Jacksonville and our talented staff of uplifting and enthusiastic changemakers. I look forward to working hand-in-hand with each of you to *elevate* the impact we can make together. **Thank you for your generous, continued support**, and here's to a month of inspiration, growth, and meaningful connections!

Gratefully,

Carla Austin
Executive Director
Elevate Jacksonville

Honor Your Mentor & Share Your Story

2

?



As we usher in the new year, January holds a special significance for us. It is National Mentoring Month, a time when we celebrate the power of mentorship and its transformative effects on individuals and communities alike. This month provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the invaluable role mentors play in guiding, supporting, and inspiring others to reach their full potential. Elevate Jacksonville has always been committed to fostering mentorship within our community, and this month, we are excited to amplify our efforts.

Join us in celebrating National Mentoring Month! We'd like to invite you to reply back to this email and share your own mentoring stories with us that we may share with our students and online among our rapidly growing social media community.

Your story, simply a line or two of wisdom or life lessons from a mentor who has impacted your success, can greatly inspire others! *Together, we can create a ripple effect of positive change that extends far beyond the boundaries of our immediate community!*

**Be sure to follow along with us on LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram!
@Elevatejacksonville**

Our Stellar Teacher/Mentors

We certainly could not do it without all of you, *our loyal benefactors*. *Our mission would also be impossible without the commitment and dedication of our Teacher-Mentors, whom we always honor*, especially during National Mentoring Month!

Teacher-Mentors are the heart and soul of Elevate Jacksonville, devoting their time year-round, both in the classroom and out. Connecting with students and compassionately supporting them through life's challenges. As you know, our mission is **"to build long-term, life-changing relationships with local urban youth so that they can thrive and contribute to our community"**... and our Teacher-Mentors have truly made a difference!



We want to thank our special Teacher-Mentors team from the bottom of our hearts for the efforts they make each day, providing opportunities and life lessons to our treasured students!

- Marissa Clowers, Site Coordinator (Northside)
- Daterryon Sturghill, Site Coordinator (Westside)
- Luther Menard, Ribault High School
- Desiree Bacon, Ribault Middle School
- Adrian Toney, Ribault Middle School
- Talisha Jones, Westside High School
- Renard Weaver, Westside High School
- Alesia Scott, Westside Middle School
- Brian Armstrong, Westside Middle School

It is the passion and enthusiasm of our Teacher/Mentor's that continues to help change the outcomes for students in our city!

"Mentoring means guiding and helping those who need it. My favorite things about my mentors are that they are there for me, support me in everything I do, listens without judgement, and creates a safe space for us to be ourselves in. Having mentors are important because they bring a support system that I did not have in my hometown."

– Howard R., 9th Grade
Westside High School 2024



A huge thank you to the Jacksonville office of Akerman, LLP, as we announce our newest “Beyond Sponsor”, supporting the needs of the 2024 graduating senior class! As you may know, Elevate Jacksonville assists local students with in-person support, guidance, and financial assistance with college tours and applications, along with cap & gown.

As the Beyond Sponsor, Akerman will also have an opportunity to conduct “Monthly Chill Sessions,” career-driven, inspirational mentoring time with the students, relevant to their expertise in practicing law!

We are so proud to partner with Akerman, LLP and look forward to a long, healthy relationship! Elevate Jacksonville is doing great things for our community, in large part thanks to the generosity of our partners!

akerman

Become a Thousand Lights Club Member!

We created the **Thousand Lights Club** to expand our outreach to serve additional students in our current schools.

We are seeking **1,000 givers** to support **1,000 more students** through a monthly recurring donation of **\$85** or a **one-time donation of \$1,000**.

Will you join us in this crucial mission to support more students in Duval County?

[Sign-Up Here!](#)



You are receiving this email because you are an ***Elevate Champion***.
You are a *giver*, a *supporter* in our united mission to foster *growth in Duval County*,
one **student** at a time.

We are frequently asked, "*How Can I Help?*"
Fundraising is one key component of our non-profit success.
We are actively seeking influential speakers for our classrooms;
corporate sponsors, partners, and ambassadors to help spread the word.

Share our mission with your friends, neighbors, and colleagues!

elevatejacksonville.org

IMPORTANT:

Please note our mailing address
change:



|NPO_NAME|

|NPO_ADDRESS|

Email not displaying correctly?

[View it in your browser](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)