

Young
Adult
Action

THEME: "Unity in Our Community"

SLOGAN: "Yesterday Was Too Late--
Time is Running Out
Fast"

Group
Inc.

"A Unique Experiment

IN
SELF DEVELOPMENT"

SIGNIFICANT NOTES

1. YAAG - Young Adult Action Group - Ages 15-30
2. YAAG - A brainchild of Mr. Heckstall and his associates.
3. YAAG - A young adult group dedicated to non-violent militant action.
4. YAAG - Interested in community development.
5. YAAG - Dedicated to a program of rehabilitation and crime prevention.
6. YAAG - Interested in the promotion of a life of decency, respect, and worth.
7. YAAG - Interested in bridging the generation gap for action and development.
8. YAAG - Desires a strong and active Board of Directors who will provide the expertise for action and development.
9. YAAG - Plans to develop projects in education, business, social action, and pleasure.
10. YAAG - Wants action and action NOW - Yesterday was too late.

- YAAG - Citizenship through Involvement
- YAAG - Strength and Togetherness
- YAAG - Economic Strength through Saving, Lending, Investing
- YAAG - Spiritual Growth through Group Dynamics
- YAAG - Growth through Bootstrap Efforts
- YAAG - Sharing Expertise through Board Action

FOREWORD

The operational function of YAAG is designed to lift up those who can not help themselves. Operational emphases will be placed on deprived people, especially those in blighted communities.

YAAG is dedicated to the building of character and to salvaging humanity. The program is designed to promote all of this through involvement--that is, involvement that will lead to the goals aforementioned.

INTRODUCTION

Many organizations have appeared on the national scene designed to provide help for the helpless. Some of these organizations are secular and some are religious. Some are church oriented while others are government oriented.

Some of the familiar ones have a collection of alphabet generally known to most American citizens. The NAACP, CORE, SCLC, etc. are well-known and certainly have done much to meet the needs of a deprived group.

YAAG, however, is unique in that it is perhaps the first effort on the part of young adults, who formerly were derelicts, hoodlums, and drop-outs who joined hands with college and high school students, all between the ages of 15 and 30, to organize the Young Adult Action Group, for the purpose of "lifting themselves by their own bootstraps."

Splinter efforts have been attempted here and there, but this is the first time, perhaps, an organization of this type has gone its distance.

On the surface, perhaps, the program suggested herewith seems rather broad--maybe too broad by a casual onlooker. But these young black men and women have looked across the spectrum of our society and have spotted the weaknesses and maybe the causes of its maladies.

These young people seem to have come to grips with their own condition and the situation in the black community. They seem to recognize the high homicide, morbidity, and mortality rate in their community. They are conscious of the breakdown in family relations and seem to realize the problems involved.

These and many other problems in blighted communities, along with other problems in general facing black people of America are their concern. Not only are they concerned with these problems, but they have committed themselves to finding solutions to them through involvement in projects that they hope will lift them from the quagmire of ghetto living. Another publication--"Profiles in Ghet-upness" will reveal case histories of some members of YAAG who have gotten up from the "dung infested" life of their community through their own organizational efforts and who are today providing meaningful experiences to the "ghet-upness" of their "soul" brothers and sisters.

YAAG feels that this can best be done through bridging the generation and racial gaps that appear to be gaping holes that seem to be killing the American society. YAAG says that "Yesterday was too late to start a meaningful program in America among young adults."

The bridging process includes the following activities:

1. A Board of Directors composed of older persons from various walks of life along with members of YAAG. The function of the Board will be chiefly advisory.

Members of the Board will provide the expertise needed for the development of many of the organization's projects.

2. Boosters clubs, composed of people of various racial groups, will hopefully, provide funds, inspiration, and information for the development of various projects.

3. Organizations, outstanding persons, churches and church groups hopefully, will provide funds for the promotion of YAAG efforts.

YAAG subscribes to a non-violent, militant approach to the solution of problems facing black Americans.

YAAG abhors the destruction of property and lives as a means of getting its message across the gaps forementioned. In seeking funds for its causes, the organization will make appeals for such. In seeking social justice, equality and manhood for all blacks, YAAG will join hands with other forces in non-violent protest until justice is realized.

YAAG believes that energy utilized in the destruction of lives and property can be channeled into useful purposes and at the same time, put meaning into certain lives to the end that we and society might be enriched.

This pamphlet presents the organizational structure of YAAG indicating how it plans to expend its energy.

The objectives of YAAG are as follows:

1. To provide opportunities for young adult leadership development.
2. To provide opportunities for young adults and youths to gain experience in decision-making.
3. To provide expertise to young adults in their quest for community improvement.
4. To provide a program of enrichment for youths and young adults that will make for personal improvement.
5. To provide opportunities for economic well-being among young adults.

HISTORY

There must have been something sacred about the walk that Joseph Heckstall made down Martin Street in Raleigh, North Carolina, on the night February 5, 1969, for on that night, he met Cato Saunders and Johnnie Williams who seemed to have fallen out of nowhere onto the street.

Joseph must have had some premonition of this meeting because his concern for black people caused him to dream of some ways to help his people. Cato and Johnnie soon began talking of a brawl Cato had encountered with Alphonso Brown.

Cato's recovery from serious cut wounds did not blot out the ugly memory of the encounter the two gangs had experienced in South Side, a horrible ghetto of Raleigh.

During the conversation, Joseph said, "Look man, why do you cats continue to cut each other up? Why don't you guys utilize your energies and talents for useful purposes?"

Pondering the answer to the questions put Johnnie and Cato to thinking. This is when Joseph suggested an organization in which rechanneling efforts could best be done.

They suggested a meeting time and place. Cato found Alphonso, his would-be murderer, and brought him to the meeting. The leaders of both gangs met and joined in a moment of truce and pledged to work together to construct human lives.

Today, over 100 young men and women are struggling together in an attempt to create a better climate for black people in Raleigh, North Carolina.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is composed of eight members of YAAG along with men and women from the community who have committed themselves to the promotion of the organization.

The Board of Directors is an advisory unit.

MEMBERS

<u>Names</u>	<u>Occupations</u>
Mr. O. A. Dupree, Chairman	Director of Personnel Shaw University
Dr. Prezell R. Robinson	President Saint Augustine's College
Mrs. Willie H. High	English Instructor Shaw University
Mr. Paul Walker	Director of Career Placement Shaw University
Mr. Ralph Campbell	Manager Southgate Kwik-Pik Supermarket
Mr. John Williams	Laborer
Dr. Dorothy Williams	Associate Professor of Sociology North Carolina State University
Mr. Robert Powell	University Counselor Shaw University
Mrs. Dorothy Allen	Social Worker Wake Opportunities, Inc.
Dr. W. A. Gaines	Director of Human Relations Center Saint Augustine's College
Dr. F. W. Jones	Chairman, Division of Education Saint Augustine's College
Miss Gloria Johnson	Director of Placement Saint Augustine's College

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Cont.)

<u>Names</u>	<u>Occupations</u>
Mr. Julius Nimmons	History Instructor Saint Augustine's College
Mr. Richard Mizelle	Director of Guidance and Testing Saint Augustine's College
Mr. William Holden	Laborer
Mr. Michael Ridley	Laborer
Mr. John Birdsong	Laborer
Mr. John Otis Jones	Laborer
Mrs. Arletta Tillman	Field Analyst, Extension Education Shaw University
Mrs. Ann E. Woods	Family Relations Counselor Wake County Domestic Court
Mr. Michael Dublin	Laborer
Mr. Alphonso Brown	Laborer
Mr. James Dickens	Laborer
Mr. Luke Williams	Laborer
Mr. Arthur Debnam	Laborer
Mr. Raymond Gilmore	President of the Student Government Saint Augustine's College
Mr. Elmer Haymon	Student Shaw University
Miss Maurice Barnes	Student Shaw University
Miss Doris Jones	Secretary Shaw University
Mr. John W. Winters	Realtor
Mrs. George Debnam	Housewife
Dr. King V. Cheek	President, Shaw Shaw University
Mr. Romallus Murphy	Attorney
Mr. Alonza Stevens	Director of Publications Shaw University

OVERALL OBJECTIVES

1. To provide opportunities for young adult leadership development.
2. To provide opportunities for young adults and youths to gain experience in decision-making.
3. To provide expertise to young adults in their quest for community improvement.
4. To provide programs of cultural and educational enrichment for youths and young adults that will make for personal and community improvement.
5. To provide opportunities for the development of economic well-being among young adults.

SPECIFICS

- I. To provide assistance for unwed mothers.
 - A. To provide psychological and social counseling services that will motivate unwed mothers to assume responsibilities.
 - B. To assist unwed mothers in the preparation for prenatal and postnatal care.
 - C. To provide financial aid for medicinal purposes during prenatal and postnatal care
 - D. To direct unwed mothers into educational and vocational programs with financial aid if needed.
 - E. To attempt to bridge the gap between the parents, community and the unwed mother.
- II. To provide drama and other cultural experiences needed for developing talent.
 - A. To teach practical skills of the stage.
 - B. To provide practical experiences for the improvement of speech.
 - C. To provide practical experience in acting, dancing, modeling, and charm.

- III. To provide an official organ that will interpret ideas, feeling, experiences and concepts of the various communities.
 - A. To provide opportunities for creative and expository writing.
 - B. To provide opportunities for the development of careers in journalism.
- IV. To set up a speaking bureau designed to bridge the gap between the racial and other groups.
 - A. To provide practical experiences that will develop speakers that can communicate with people of all racial groups.
 - B. To provide means and materials for communications with religious and secular organizations.
- V. To serve as liaison between establishments and job seekers.
 - A. To provide on-the-job training in vocational skills.
 - B. To provide opportunities for youth and young adults to receive training in vocational skills.
- VI. To provide opportunities for the development of businesses operated and collectively owned by young adults.
 - A. To assist in the organization of business enterprises.
 - B. To assist in the upbuilding of established sagging businesses.
- VII. To provide educational opportunities for drop-outs, derelicts, potential criminals and convicted parolees and others interested in educational pursuits.
 - A. To provide remedial experiences for drop-outs.
 - B. To provide financial aid for the participants who need to attend prep school and remedial programs and colleges.
- VIII. To provide opportunities for wholesome recreation and field trip experiences.

- A. To organize trips for youths and young adults that will lead to cultural development.
- B. To provide experiences in the social graces.
- IX. To provide enrichment opportunities for pre-schoolers.
 - A. To provide wholesome atmospheres for children while their parents are participating in YAAG programs.
 - B. To provide opportunities for parents to be employed and seek additional training.
 - C. To provide opportunities for cultural enrichment for children of early ages.
- X. To provide training in family budgeting for young married adults.
 - A. To set up classes in planned parent-hood.
 - B. To assist young adults in marital and family problems.
- XI. To provide opportunities for economic well-being.

Boosters Clubs

The term "Boosters Club" is utilized loosely here to denote any organization that will help YAAG financially and in other capacities.

Several churches and organizations have committed themselves to be boosters.

Much of the organizational efforts will go into setting up boosters clubs and soliciting boosters.

YAAG through its efforts, will attempt to organize boosters clubs in various communities of Raleigh.

Headquarters

YAAG can best perform its many functions through a well-organized unit referred to as YAAG's headquarters.

The headquarters will serve the following purposes:

1. To serve as a place of meeting for the Board of Directors.
2. To provide office space needed to carry out its many functions and duties.
3. To serve as a counseling unit in the development of its various programs.

The following stations are needed:

1. Office for the Executive Secretary
2. Space for clerical duties and responsibilities
3. Room for Board of Directors
4. Kitchenette for lunch breaks, and other programs that may need its facilities.
5. Office space for subsidiary personnel.

Dept.
of
Business
Promotion

Dept.
of
Social Act-
ion

Dept.
of
Fund raising

Board of Directors
Executive Sec.,
Asst. to the Executive
Sec.

Dept.
of
Credit Union
promotion

Dept.
of
Promotion

Dept.
of
Administ-
ration

Dept.
of
Drama, Speech

Dept.
of
Education
+
Training

Dept.
of
Public
Relations

Some Suggested Activities -

1. To produce an official organ for the organization.
2. Make public releases to the public.
3. Investigate ideas to other organizations.
4. Produce the official YAAG brochure.

Department of Administration

Function - To provide opportunities for the Board of Directors and Executive Officers to supervise the overall function and operation of the organization.

Duties and Responsibilities -

1. To keep an accurate account of progress being made.
2. To supervise and advise subsidiary personnel.
3. To provide expertise for various functions as needed.

Some Suggested Activities -

1. Periodic Board Meetings
2. Periodic Staff Meetings
3. Personal counseling of subsidiary officers.
4. Employment of staff and other personnel.
5. In-service training of personnel
6. Reporting and receiving reports of all activities
7. Provide accountant and auditing services for the organization.

3. Matches, track meets, swimming contests, ball games, various types of tournaments, week-end camping trips, etc.

Department of Credit Union Promotion

Function - To promote a sound financial program of lending and borrowing.

Duties and Responsibilities -

1. To organize a credit-union for YAAG and other personnel.
2. To set up a system for the transaction of credit union fund.

Some Suggested Activities -

1. Credit union promotion meetings.
2. Annual stock-holders' meeting.

Department of Education and Training

Function - To provide opportunities for individuals who have been deprived and who possibly have neglected their educational opportunities.

Duties and Responsibilities -

1. To provide opportunities for school drop-outs to continue their education.
2. To provide educational opportunities for unwed mothers.
3. To provide counseling services for students to seek financial aid for college and technical schools.
4. To provide opportunities for educational tours.
5. To provide a program of sex education.
6. To provide opportunities for training in constructive and non-violent approaches to civic responsibility.
7. To provide opportunities for wholesome companionship and parental image for children who have been denied such.
8. To provide a program of educational and cultural experiences for prisoners.
9. To provide a program of rehabilitation for young offenders and parolees.
10. To assist with the Forensic Activities Project at Shaw University.
11. To assist with Saint Augustine's Crown & Scepter Club and Student Government.

Some suggested Activities -

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Forums | 5. Big Buddies Club |
| 2. Workshops | 6. Programs for Prisoners |
| 3. Clinics | 7. On-The-Job Training Programs |
| 4. Educational Tours | |

Department of Drama, Speech, and Dancing

Function - To provide opportunities for teaching in art of drama and speech.

Duties and Responsibilities -

1. To provide training in techniques of the stage including costuming, stage management, make up, lighting, speech, designing, and acting.
2. To develop an appreciation for drama and speech.
3. To provide opportunities for training experiences in dancing.
4. To train personnel to speak to various secular and religious groups.

Some Suggested Activities -

1. Drama Class
2. Play Production
3. Workshops in Speech Therapy
4. Speaking Agency
5. Forensic Activities in Various Communities
6. Dance Festivals
7. Dance Contests

Department of Public Relations

Function - To provide information for public relations.

Duties and Responsibilities -

1. To inform the public of the progress of the organization.
2. To provide reliable information concerning the organization to the news media.
3. To solicit volunteer aid for promotional purposes.
4. To provide opportunities to bridge the gap between YAAG and other organizations.

Some Suggested Activities -

1. Workshops in businesses promotion.
2. Provide consultants for sagging and new business enterprises.
3. Provide on-the-job training for business and job personnel.

Department of Fund-Raising

Function - To establish a program of fund-raising that should finance the entire operation.

Duties and Responsibilities -

1. Solicit funds from any potential donor to keep the program financially sound.
2. Plan and execute local, state and national fund-raising programs.

Some suggested activities -

1. Fund-raising activities.

Department of Recreation

Function - To develop wholesome recreational programs that are cultural and enriching.

Duties and Responsibilities -

1. Plan and execute recreation activities for YAAG and the community.
2. Plan and execute cultural and enriching activities for YAAG and the community.

Some Suggested Activities:

1. Trips to cultural centers throughout the nation.
2. Cookouts, picnics, beach parties and other similar activities.

PROPOSED BUDGET

PROLOGUE: The following budget is a two-year projection. It is designed to do two things, namely:

1. To upgrade YAAG members by providing whatever professional personnel needed to give competent service.
2. To provide meaningful jobs for the deprived in an effort to make them worthy of good citizenship and gainful employment.

The budget reflects the implementation of the program and minimum requirements necessary for its promotion.

The special budget is set aside from the regular budget for the purpose of projecting a program that will provide meaningful experiences for unwed mothers and high school drop-outs.

SECOND YEAR

Executive Secretary	\$ 9,500
Assistant	8,000
Fund-Raising Director	7,500
Clerk-Typist	3,700
Clerk-Typist	3,700
Recreation Director	6,000
Counseling Services	15,000

Out of Town Projections

Program Directors (5 at \$,000@)	35,000
Clerk-Typists (5 at \$3,700@)	18,500
Supplies	1,000
Utilities (\$1,000@ for 5 centers)	5,000
Travel	36,000
Miscellaneous	3,000
Public Relations Director	6,500
Assistants (2 at \$5,000@)	10,000
Business Consultant	7,500
Accountant	7,500
2 Drama Instructors (Part-Time)	6,000
Deputy (one to service all centers)	7,500
Equipment	2,000
Speaking Bureau Supervisor	8,000
Traveling Speakers (\$6,000@ for 3)	18,000
Teachers	8,000
Tutors	4,000
Pre-School Attendants	7,000
Driver-Janitor	5,000
Recruiters (5 centers @\$5,000 each)	25,000
Janitorial Services (\$2,000@ for 5 centers)	10,000
Special Action Specialist	7,000
Credit Union Promotor	7,000
Clerk-Typist	3,700
High School Activities Coordinator	7,500
Clerk-Typist	3,700
Supplies	4,000
Consultant Fee	3,000
Rent	6,000
Postage	2,000
Telephone	1,000
Newspaper	15,000
Reporter	6,500
Photographer	6,500
Furniture	1,000

TOTAL \$ 357,800

Miscellaneous Pre-School Expenses	\$ 4,000
Driver-Janitor	4,500
Recruiter for Each Center (\$4,000@ for 5)	20,000
Janitorial Services \$2,000@ for 5)	10,000
Social Action Specialist	6,000
Credit Union Promoter	6,000
Clerk-Typist	3,500
High School Activities Coordinator	7,000
Clerk-Typist	3,500
Consultants	2,000
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TOTAL	\$ 337,780

SPECIAL BUDGET

100 Unwed Mothers and Pregnant Girls in Raleigh	
\$4.00 per week during training	
\$4,000 per Quarter	\$12,000 per year
25 Unwed Mothers and Pregnant Girls in 5 Centers	
\$4.00 per week during training	
\$4,000 per Quarter	16,000 per year
50 High School Dropouts in Raleigh	
\$4.00 per week	
\$2,000 per Quarter	8,000 per year
15 High School Dropouts in 5 Centers	
\$4.00 per week	
\$3,000 per Quarter	12,000 per year
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TOTAL	\$48,000 per year

SOME ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PROGRESS OF YAAG

Michael Dublin, YAAG's former Secretary was encouraged by the Young Adult Action Group to enter college. He did so and had many financial burdens. YAAG interceded in securing a loan to help solve his problems and also helped in finding Michael a part-time job at K. & W. Cafeteria in Cameron Village, Raleigh, N. C.

Miss Stella Horton of Pittsboro, N.C. has been employed as Executive Secretary of YAAG. She is a former teacher in the public schools of the state of N.C. She comes to the organization well qualified and with enthusiasm to make YAAG grow.

The Young Adult Action Group has visited Camp Polk, one N.C. State Prison and has helped to secure parole for youngsters deserving parole. One parolee is in college at Shaw University in Raleigh, and one will begin college this quarter. YAAG is working with six other student parolees in an effort to rehabilitate their lives, and with another female committed youthful offender at Raleigh's Correctional Center for Women.

Twenty-nine children, most of whom live in the Southside ghetto area of Raleigh, are receiving special attention from YAAG. YAAG is working with the Innovation in Learning Organization of Shaw University to help provide tutoring services for these children.

YAAG has assisted in the securing of twelve part-time jobs for students and student-drop outs. This is just a beginning.

YAAG helped, along with many other individuals and organizations, to provide assistance to residents of Southside in the coldness of

winter. YAAG provided six coal and oil heaters, one and one half tons of coal and some clothing and blankets for these individuals.

Mayor Seby Jones of Raleigh, along with the Presidents of colleges and Universities in this area and members of the Board of Directors of YAAG, proclaimed Sunday, December 21, 1969 as "Involvement Sunday for YAAG". The Raleigh and Wake County communities were asked to give their support to enable continuing progress of YAAG. Many churches, organizations and individuals pledged their support.

Mrs. Ruth Miles, Social Worker for the Raleigh Redevelopment Commission has volunteered her professional services to the Young Adult Action Group in assisting young people. She has also indicated her desire to help plan meaningful youthful activities in Raleigh.

Miss Oedieths Williams, Co-ordinator of the Youth Program with the Wake County Opportunities Program is assisting YAAG in finding semi-skilled jobs for the Raleigh youth.

A part of YAAG's program is to provide psychological and social counseling services that will motivate unwed mothers to assume responsibilities. We have begun this by creating discussions and assistance to unwed mothers in the preparation for prenatal and postnatal care. We have also begun to direct unwed mothers into educational and vocational programs.

To provide opportunities for the development of business operated and collectively owned by Blacks, YAAG has assisted in the organization of business enterprises by presenting a series of workshops to enhance their business promotion. YAAG has operated and instituted a "Support Black Business Campaign" to direct finances, funds and support into these establishments.

YAAG is launching a campaign against drugs and drug addiction. A film depicting the dangers of marijuana use was shown to young adults in February to help initiate our program. Workshops at Shaw University and St. Augustine's College in Raleigh will be held and the use of professional personnel will be used.

As another part of YAAG's cultural enrichment program and also assistance program, we have secured six bands in the Raleigh and Durham area to conduct benefit musical concerts at Shaw University and St. Augustine's College. All proceeds will go toward the development of YAAG and the Southside ghetto residential area.

Many African and foreign students have expressed the stark coldness and indifference of students on the college and university campuses in Raleigh. YAAG has taken the responsibility of linking the association between the two. YAAG will be the medium for mutual exchange of ideas and cultural experience to the advantage of both the organization, and Afric-American students and our African brothers and sisters.