

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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August 20, 2018

Dear Community:

1425 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233  
412-973-9524  
[www.educatingteens.org](http://www.educatingteens.org)

The killing of young African-American males is an epidemic. The health and wellness of our communities are at risk. Opioids are taking the lives of our young people too frequently. We must find some solutions to stop opioid use and gun violence. Your involvement is needed. Please join Educating Teens Inc., for **Reclaiming Our Youth through Community Connections XI: Focus on Young Men and Boys Symposium: OPIOIDS & VIOLENCE PREVENTION, October 18, 2018**. The Symposium will be held at the University Club, located at 123 University Place Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

The Symposium is designed to develop a comprehensive approach to assist this region's boys and young men in finding paths to safe and productive lives. Your participation will help to highlight the connected issues of various disparities, injustice, violence, education, and drug & alcohol abuse, and move us toward developing solutions. The goals of the Symposium are:

1. Dialogue about various solutions to improve the quality of life for boys and young men.
2. Explore long term strategies for addressing opioid and violence prevention and health maintenance.
3. Encourage the communities to Listen and Hear what our boys are telling us.

### **The underlying themes are:**

The Role of Parents and Schools in Reclaiming Our Youth: To stop the use of Opioids and Gun Violence

The Role of Churches and Communities in Reclaiming Our Youth to Stop the Violence and Opioid use

The Role of Businesses in Reclaiming Our Youth to Stop the Violence and Opioid use

The Role of Government, local, state, and federal, in Reclaiming Our Youth to Stop the Violence and Opioid use.

The state of boys and young men impact all of us. Reality and the statistics are telling us that the problems are becoming more severe. It is up to the community to make a difference in the lives of our boys and young men. We must ask ourselves, **what can we do to guide our boys to embrace non-violence and avoid other risky behaviors? It is up to us to address the challenges facing our boys and young men.**

We are asking for your support and your participation. Questions: Call 412-973-9524 or Email [agraham-ellison@educatingteens.org](mailto:agraham-ellison@educatingteens.org). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Albertha Graham-Ellison, Ph.D.  
Vice President and Program Director

***Celebrating 18 Years!***

**Reclaiming Our Youth through Community Connections XI: Focus on Boys  
and Young Men Symposium: Opioids and Violence Prevention  
October 18, 2018**

**Draft Preliminary Program**

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- 8:30 AM Registration/Continental Breakfast**
- 9:00 AM Plenary Session I: Equity: Addressing the Structural Association  
with Opioids and Violence**
- 10:00 AM Challenges in the Lives of our Youth**
- 10:30 AM Manhood, Self Esteem, Peer Pressure, and Relationships.  
Solutions to the Challenges**
- 12:00 Noon Eleventh Annual Reclaiming Our Youth Luncheon**
- 1:30 PM Parents who have lost their Sons to Opioids and Violence**
- 2:15 PM Plenary Session II: Identifying Solutions to Opioids and Violence**
- 2:45 PM Lessons Learned, Evaluation, and Next Steps**
- 3:00 PM Reception**

**Educating Teens Inc. Celebrating Eighteen Years, is a Supporter of President  
Obama's My Brother's Keeper Initiative.**

## **Educating Teens Inc. Registration**

**Reclaiming Our Youth through Community Connections XI: Focus on Boys and Young Men Symposium: "Opioids and Violence Prevention"**

**Registration fee is \$45.00 (Breakfast and Luncheon) Free for students, and teachers accompanying students. Donations are welcomed.**

I/we will attend: Number attending\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Organization/School\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of adults\_\_\_\_\_ Number of students\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please enclose a list of participants with your registration, and photo permission. Please note: Schools that cancel reservations after **October 15, 2018** will be billed for the cost of meals. *Please register by October 10, 2018.***

*Please make check payable and mail to: Educating Teens, Inc. 1425 Pennsylvania Avenue: Pittsburgh, PA 15233.*

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