

@nywusa News

www.stateyourcase.us | nywusa.com | Editor: Cecil Bundick

Mission Statement:

“The purpose of OMI is to instill resiliency skills through education and developing life skills to “at-risk” youth in hopes that they will become productive members of society.

To provide opportunities that will focus on the entire mind, body, soul and spirit.”

Board of Directors:

President/CEO- Lori Hoff

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Social Media:

Check us out on the following social media platforms:

Facebook- National Youth Week

Instagram- @nywusa

Twitter- @nywusa

Youtube- Check out our new Youtube Channel-[National Youth Week USA](#)



Our Youth Stating Their Case!

I've always had my heart on helping people. When I was little I wanted to be a nurse so that I could check on people and make sure that they were feeling ok. I've grown up being bullied and seen as much less important than the other kids. I became depressed at a very young age and got into a really bad situation with God. Once I received help I've been happier ever since. Being noticed and acknowledged was enough for me. Once I saw my friends going down the same road, I had helped them and I was known as helpful, smart, and a great person for support.

That title made me want to do more. and so I joined National Youth Week and am currently volunteering and posting videos on my social media talking about self love, conflict, self esteem, etc. and I get comments from teens telling me how they feel and teens saying how much they love what I'm doing, and it makes my heart feel so warm, and I have to thank nywusa for that.

-Maddy Pettiford, Georgia

Hello, my name is Zechariah Adams-Duckson. I'm 17 years old and I'm a senior at Gray's Creek high school. I've been part of nywusa since I was a little child. Participating in many different community service activities like food pantries, giving out care packages to the homeless, and volunteering at churches. I'm proud that my family allowed me to do this because these are all humbling experiences. National Youth Week means a lot to me because beyond the



fact that it's addressing that the youth are the future and we have real issues, and that we are crying for answers and help, it's so little on a person's part to give a hand but has such a big impact on the other end. It doesn't take much to help load canned food onto a truck, but it means so much more to families who don't eat three meals a day. I am grateful to be part of something much bigger than I and can't wait to see what the future holds for nywusa.

-Zechariah Adams, North Carolina



Spotlight:

Morgan Lavallais is an 8th grade honor roll student at Lyles Middle School. She participates in Volleyball, Band and Cheer. For Unity Day, she designed her own shirt to bring awareness to stop bullying. She is always willing to volunteer and help other students in need.



Unity Day Impact!

What an amazing day, Oct 23rd. We partnered with Pacer University to celebrate Unity Day. We started the day off with a recording for the traffic jam with Cedric Bailey discussing ways we could help parents deal with bullying and the lasting effects of social media. Next we went to 3535 Studio and talked with Victor McCray on Music with a Message discussing the ways to stop homicide and suicide in our young people by utilizing social and emotional learning.



Note From President:

I have Hope that things will turn around for our youth. The definition of Hope according to the dictionary is "to look forward to with desire and reasonable confidence." I don't just hope aimlessly but I look forward to the day when suicide and homicide will be reduced and I put action to my desire. I would suggest we should all be hope dealers. Reach out to a young person in your community or family and simply ask them are you ok? Can I help you? I am a firm believer that young people will rise to the standard we set them. We just stop setting the standard. Let's believe the best in our youth support their needs and watch things change.



We see the statistics, 1 in every 5 teens, has attempted suicide according to the Centers for Disease Control or CDC. We know suicide rates have tripled in young people ages 10-14 so what are we doing to stop that? I am glad you asked; we have a survey called State Your CASE. We finished the day attending a volleyball game at Lyles Middle School in Garland, Texas where the entire school was taking the survey at www.stateyourcase.us. J.P., the teacher heading up the initiative said, "We were excited to see a nation standing up against bullying. We were so excited to partner in Unity day and have the entire school take the CASE survey because we want to be able to support our students any way we can and this is a great tool to help with self discovery of Conflict Anger and Self Esteem."

- Lori Hoff, President/CEO