

For Immediate Release: November 25, 2022

Growing Kings Receives \$15,000 Grant

<u>Birmingham-based Mentoring Program Receives Grant</u> From the Charles and Estelle Campbell Foundation

Birmingham, AL – November 25, 2022 –Growing Kings, an organization that provides mentoring programs to underserved males in public schools throughout the Birmingham region, is pleased to announce it has received a \$15,000 grant from the Charles and Estelle Campbell Foundation. This grant was awarded as part of the Campbell Foundation's commitment to improving educational opportunities and outcomes for at-risk youth.

Growing Kings, founded in 2009, targets many of the issues plaguing today's underserved male youth through its schoolbased enrichment and mentoring program series, Journey of a King. The program has been able to engage over 1,500 boys and young men through its innovative, culturally relevant programming, and has also recorded long-term impact with 100% of the students who have been involved with the Journey of a King program for at least three years. "Mentoring and Programming are just small pieces to the much larger impact Growing Kings makes. We are so grateful to have The Charles and Estelle Campbell Foundation as a partner, investing in our vision as we continue to change the narrative." said Executive Director, Marcus D. Carson

Journey of a King mentoring program engages five hundred, 4th-12th grade boys and young men every week of the school year, who participate in 1,000 hours of comprehensive mentoring and enrichment sessions. This grant directly supports programming that has been proven to increase academic performance, decrease negative behavioral occurrences, and increase school attendance. Growing Kings' approach to eradicating disparity gaps in academic achievement and social development skills provide participants with constant encouragement, positive mentoring, and high-quality enrichment.

"Our foundation prides itself on making sure to support organizations that take care of people and Growing Kings has gone above and beyond. As our mission states, we join and aid families in their efforts to find hope, healing, happiness and growth, regardless of obstacles placed before them," Stated Director of Marketing, Stephanie Langford.

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About Growing Kings:

Growing Kings is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization that operates with a mission to encourage and facilitate the critical thinking and positive attitudes of underserved male youth through systemic and targeted enrichment, research, and advocacy.