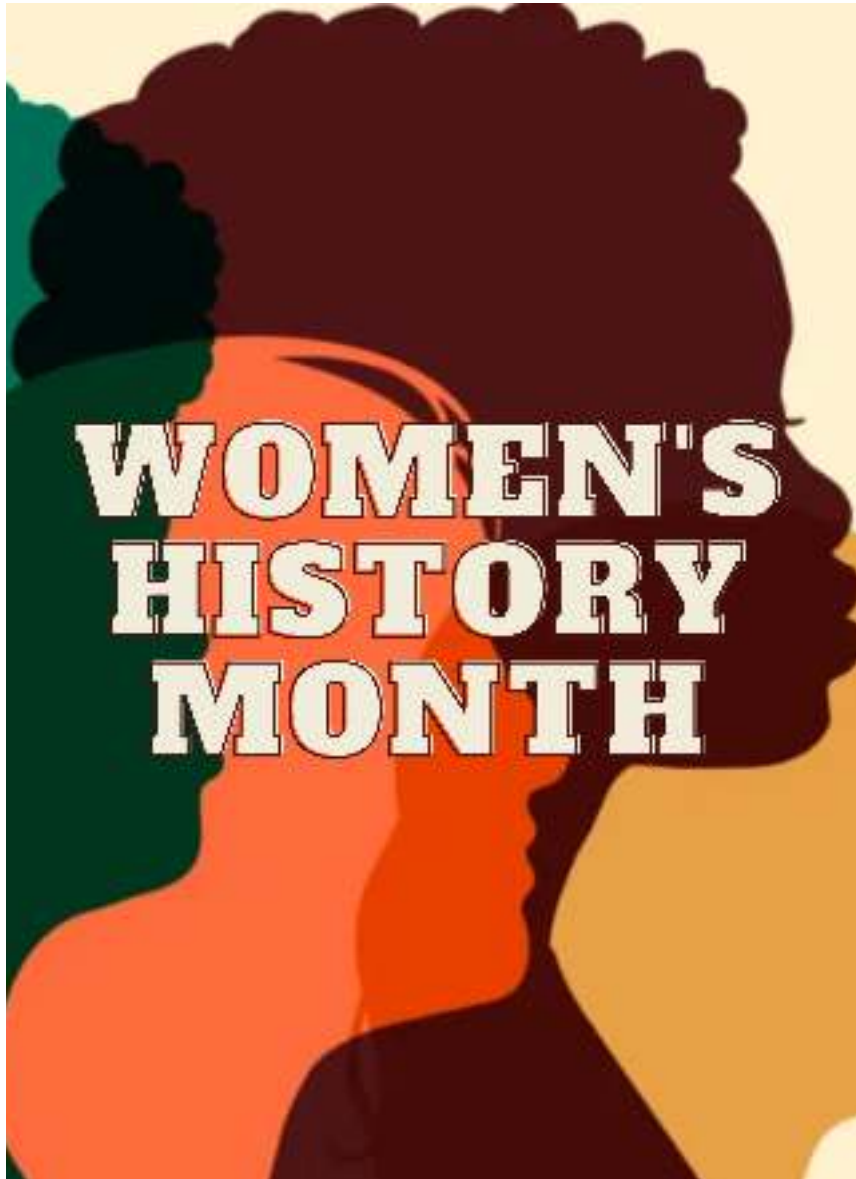




WORLD CHANGERS

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

March 2021



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Community Empowerment Association

Community Empowerment Association (CEA), Inc. was organized by community activist T. Rashad Byrdsong in 1993 in an effort to reduce and prevent violence in the Homewood-Brushton area of Pittsburgh. CEA's mission is to restore, reclaim and transform distressed communities through strategic planning, collaboration, advocacy, education and mobilization. CEA seeks to develop the knowledge, skill, leadership and influence that will enable its participants, families, and the community to live healthy secure, fruitful, and productive lives. Since its inception in 1993, CEA has been tirelessly serving thousands of disadvantaged and minority families throughout the Greater Pittsburgh area and has served over 25,000 individuals, youth and families residing in 48 neighborhoods, enrolled in 74 schools and 9 school districts within Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.

Women's History Month

Women's History month provides us the opportunity to celebrate and uplift Women making a difference. This month we would like to celebrate and uplift some amazing women doing the work at Community Empowerment Association.

Our organization works to empower and serve our Pittsburgh community through various programming, These include: Youth Intervention and Prevention, Workforce Development, Mental Health Services, Cultural Engagement, and Community Activism.

- World Changers Youth



Women's History Month Messages from Youth

I really appreciate Sister Amargie and all of the things she's done for the communities youth over the years. She is not only a business owner but an African American woman business owner. She is what motivates me to continue the start up of my organization for the youth because of the big impact she has on each child that attends CEA.

-Marchét

Dear Sister Amagie,

Thank you for always working so hard to provide a place for the youth of the community to stay safe and pursue a better living style than what they have now. Also trying your hardest to provide a safe place for the youth to express themselves openly.

- Sani

Thank you for being a positive influence in everyone's lives. You have been an inspiration for me and many others.

- Anonymous

Dear Sister Amargie,

I thank you for letting me work here and for teaching me new things it has been an honor to be apart of Community Empowerment Association. You helped me a lot and you motivated me a lot to do a lot of things with my life. You've done so many awesome things for the community and you are a very good person. I appreciate you.

P.S. I am so sorry for your loss and I hope you will feel better and recover from this terrible issue. ☹️☹️

- Mayhim

Women's History Month Messages from Youth

Dear Sister Amargie,

You make me feel like family even though I didn't know you in the beginning, but I always felt safe from the start. I would say you're like my second mom and for Ms. Angie she's always been the sweet lady I've met. I want to thank both for just being themselves I really appreciate Sister Amargie Thank you.

- Kameron

Dear Grandma,

You are the most powerful, lovable, caring, beautiful, and strongest woman I've ever met. You take care of everyone and everything to make sure that you and your family are ok. I just want to wish you a happy women's history month and want to tell you that I love you and will always have your back through any and everything. It's really good to see that you can still do what you've been doing after a really loved family member passed away. Love spending good and quality time with you and just keep doing what you're doing

- From your loving grandson, Triston Pezzelle

Dear Sister Jennah and Sister Amargie,

First I would like to thank Sister Jennah for helping me become the young lady that I am today. For giving me this opportunity to learn the things that I'm learning today that I've never known in school. I appreciate you a lot for not giving up on me, and still being there when times were rough. There were days when I didn't feel like waking up, or doing something, or even putting the time in effort to get things done. You still had faith in me. I enjoy helping the younger youth with Kwanza and other events throughout the year. I just want to let you know that I will not stop coming to Community Empowerment Association, and I will always continue to help you out always. Every day I say to myself when I'm alone that I'm grateful for even asking my grandma Angela DeVan that I wanted to be apart of this organization when I was younger. Thank you so much for everything that you've done.

- Nyah DeVan

Honoring Ja'far Brooks

Our hearts still mourn the loss of one of our friends and students. We will continue to keep his legacy alive through advocacy, engagement, and education within the community.

- World Changers Youth



Women's History Month

Violence that Black Women face today?

Healthcare discrepancies, microaggressions, colorism, negative stereotypes in the media, and more.

What can we do about it?

We must continue discussing these topics amongst ourselves, our social circles, and advocate for change.

Our discussion....

This month we gathered as a group to discuss these very issues of violence that still impact our Black Women. All though we have made progress throughout the years, we are no where near where we should be. Our Black Women, Black Community, and Black Youth deserve better.



World Changers Anti-Violence Campaign

What is it?

World Changers is a youth driven social and interpersonal anti-violence campaign striving to empower our youth, families, and communities to awaken their consciousness and be the change our world needs.

February and March Highlights

Our youth engaged in a podcast episode around gun violence dedicated to our lost youth Jafar Brooks. We also held a round table discussion focused on different topics of violence that impact our young Black women.

Upcoming Workshops

Our youth will use the month of April to prepare for a panel discussion for our local political leaders.





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