

# **Test-Taking Solution**Foundation

# 2023 Annual Report





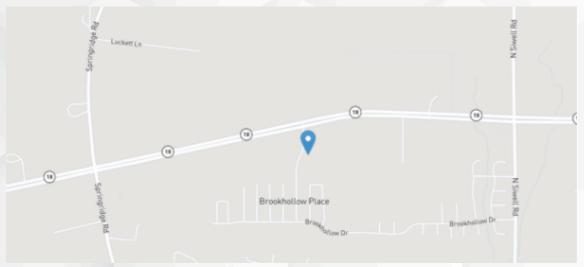


# 2023 Annual Report

Enhancing literacy, Witigating Health Disparities

2104 Thousand Oaks Drive Jackson, Mississippi 39212 www.ttsfoundation.org 601-714-TEST [8378], Ext. 1003 (office)





# Literacy is knowledge, and knowledge is power.

Literacy and teamwork are vital to success and are essential to the health of any community.

Free access to tutorial and test prep services can be life changing.

We believe it, and we are grateful that you do, too.

Your support has helped us to provide free services for underserved, underprivileged children all year long.

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### Our Founder

Kentrell Liddell, M.D., M.B.A.



# **Community Advisors**

Larry Ephfrom (U.S. Marine Corps Veteran)
JoAnna McMurtry, Ed.D. (Education)
Katrina Poe, M.D. (Medicine/Healthcare)
Lyles Tyler (Elementary School)
Ian Walker (Middle School)
Jacoby Wise (High School)
Madolyn Holmes (College)
Sherri Jones (Media/Public Relations)
Bachir Seck (Business Development)
Carol Frazier (Grandparent)

#### **2023 Board of Directors**

Robin Harvey, Ph.D. Educational Psychologist

Oops - looks like we're missing a beautiful pic!

Lillian Lackey Retired Teacher



Diane Ephfrom Retired U.S. Army Sargeant



Kentrell Liddell, M.D., M.B.A.
Public Health Leader



Dean Johnson Entrepreneur/Carpenter



Londra Hunter Public School Teacher



STUDENT MEMBER:

Jayla Ford

(Jackson State University,

Pre-Nursing)



# A Letter From Our Founding President

Equitable access can be life-changing.

Our Foundation is located in the heart of a neighborhood where lowand very low-income families reside, but this is exactly where we want to be, because it's where the greatest needs lie. I started the Test-Taking Solution Foundation because I saw a great need for additional resources for K-12 students who reside in underserved communities. These students tend to be extremely bright, hardworking, and ambitious, and they deserve to have access to educational resources, mentors, and STEM learning opportunities right inside or not far from their neighborhoods. They often face economic constraints and limited access to educational resources. They benefit from afterschool programs and literacy initiatives, aiming to enhance academic performance and test readiness. They seek to overcome educational disparities and pursue higher education and/or jobs that pay liveable wages.

Additionally, I saw a great need for workforce development focused on preparing an AI-enabled workforce for the years ahead. People have gone to school, studied hard, graduated, and in many cases, with significant debt looming over their heads that they still have to pay. No one is really tracking whether or not these students enter careers related to the fields of their college studies. Our Foundation talks to and supports students, and we see a troubling trend: by the time students graduate, new technologies have emerged, and some of them threaten to make some careers obsolete.

Our workforce development program creates a training-to-job pipeline and new on-ramps into desirable careers. Increased attention to reskilling, upskilling and cross-skilling through technical training, apprenticeships and other education and training formats create valuable opportunities for current professionals to advance in their careers or pivot into new pathways or into leadership positions.

I believe that community-based programs, like our Afterschool, Summer Academic Enrichment, Community Engagement, Recreation & Fitness Program, and Workforce Development Programs, are part of the solution to eradicate the health disparities that plague the State of Mississippi. Social determinants of health (SDOH) are a major contributor to these health disparities and operate on a continuum from fundamental structural causes to individual and family circumstances. I will continue to sacrifice a potentially lucrative career to mitigate health disparities and enhance literacy right inside the neighborhoods where experts are needed most.





#### **Our Mission**

We aim to make high-quality tutoring and other educational support services accessible by all students, especially those who live in underserved, low income areas.



We also aim to mitigate health disparities by empowering our community through direct engagement and literacy enhancement.

# **Our Programs**

Afterschool Tutoring Program



Summer Academic Enrichment Program

Community Engagement Program

Workforce Development Program

Recreation & Fitness Program

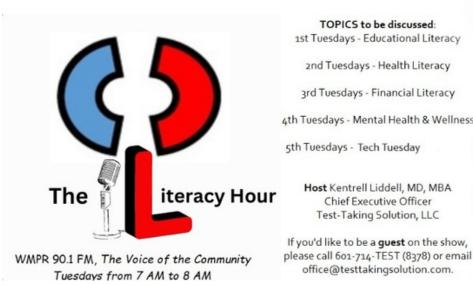
# **Accomplishments**

Community Engagement Program: Served 600 community members in-person and ~ 3,000 via The Literacy Hour on WMPR 90.1 FM.

The Literacy Hour is a weekly radio broadcast developed in 2022 by the Foundation to focus on various literacy-related topics, including health literacy and financial literacy, via radio and social media outlets on Tuesday mornings from 7:00 until 8:00 (CST), considered to be "prime time" when people within the broadcast's listening areas, including policymakers, tend to listen to the radio. While there is significant anecdotal evidence that the Literacy Hour is effective at increasing community engagement, enhancing literacy, and building trust in the healthcare system this year, formal study is needed.

The Literacy Hour serves populations of varying ages, ranging from teenagers and young adults to middle-aged and elderly listeners. This targeted approach ensures that accurate health reporting reaches those who will benefit most from the programming. Each episode aims to empower listeners by providing them with accurate information and trusted resources. For example, the host and guests describe certain procedures, define specific lab values and medical terminology, and discuss clinical research findings in culturally relevant terms. By involving community members in the dialogue, the broadcast builds trust and creates a sustainable framework for community engagement.

The Literacy Hour also streams nationally via YouTube. This multi-pronged dissemination approach ensures that we not only cater to local needs but also contribute to a broader conversation about health literacy on a national scale. Having an early time slot on a weekday allows school-aged children to listen in whilst on their way to school with their parents. We hear from scholars who tell us they listen to the show and learn new information. For this reason, we believe that The Literacy Hour has the potential to impact future generations to lead healthier lives.



#### TOPICS to be discussed: 1st Tuesdays - Educational Literacy 2nd Tuesdays - Health Literacy 3rd Tuesdays - Financial Literacy 4th Tuesdays - Mental Health & Wellness 5th Tuesdays - Tech Tuesday Host Kentrell Liddell, MD, MBA Chief Executive Officer Test-Taking Solution, LLC If you'd like to be a guest on the show,

office@testtakingsolution.com.



# Accomplishments (cont.)

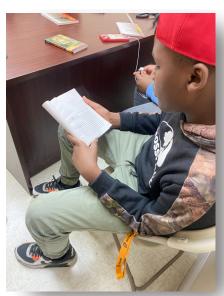
<u>Community Engagement Program</u> (*cont'ed*): Received \$10,000 grant from the City of Jackson to raise awareness about new federal holiday (Juneteenth) and to engage the community with cultural arts.

<u>Afterschool Program</u> - Tutored 212 scholars in grades K-12, and all passed to the next grade level. Assisted 5 college students virtually with test prep for MCAT, NCLEX, and GRE, and all achieved their goal scores.

<u>Summer Academic Enrichment Program</u> - Served 35 scholars with nutritious meals, field trips and scientific-based adventures with a five-day weekly theme of Math Mondays, Field Trip Tuesdays, Wealth-building Wednesdays, Storytelling Thursdays, and ScientiFIC and Food Fridays.







<u>Recreation & Fitness Program</u> – Provided recreation and fitness equipment for 25 scholars. Started a GoFundMe campaign to erect an Activity Center to expand this program, and a suitable property was donated to our Foundation.

(See image of property on page 12)

<u>Workforce Development Program</u> – Facilitated the training and job placement of 3 adults. Assisted with professional development for 3 corporations and grant writing for 1 nonprofit entity.

#### **Testimonials**

#### Fills the Gaps

"My family can't thank the Test-Taking Solution Foundation enough. for helping our son who lost a lot of ground during the pandemic. The Foundation helped to fill the gaps, and he's now back on track and doing a whole lot better."

DaeQuion Smith



#### Confidence-boosting

"We can't thank the TTS family enough for all that they have done for our 3rd grader, who was struggling to be a fluent reader. In the short time that he has been there he has made amazing progress and we feel he will do well this round of the 3rd grade Gate

Reading Test."

The Tyler Family



#### Accountability

"I love the way Dr. Liddell and her staff holds the kids accountable for getting their homework and book reports and reading fair boards done. We could not have made it without Test-Taking Solution this year."

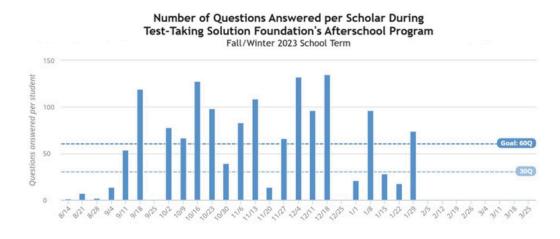
Mother of 2 Middle Schoolers and a High Schooler

#### **Scholar Achievements**

Our Foundation hosted a very successful Spring Break Arts Festival. 15 Scholars participated in the art competition.







#### **One-Year Goals**

- To raise sufficient funds to pay for high-dose tutoring for at least ten (10) scholars for at least one (1) month (cost = \$1,250)
- To expand all five (5) programs to our new property ("The TTSF Harvey Site") located at 523 Mayes Street in Jackson, Mississippi (~ Cost to expand is broken down on next page.)



FRONT VIEW



## One-Year Goals (continued)

#### **TTSF "Harvey Site" EXPANSION PROJECT**

Phase (1) To remove dirt and debris and deep clean the property. (~cost = \$100,000)

Phase (2) To modernize and highly secure the Administrative Building where tutoring, test prep, training, and professional development will take place. (~cost = \$150,000)

Phase (3) To design and implement an outdoor classroom where guest speakers and instructors may present. (~cost = \$15,000)

Phase (4) To design and establish a highly effective butterfly garden where students may study threatened and endangered species and help to mitigate climate change. (~cost = \$12,000)

Phase (5) To establish safe basketball and tennis courts that provide opportunities for increased physical activity and outdoor recreation. (~cost = \$50,000)

Phase (6) To establish a safe and highly secure Activity Center where Afterschool and Summer Academic Enrichment Program participants will have access to exercise equipment and near-peer mentoring. (~cost = \$250,000)



#### **Two-Year Goals**

#### **GRAND OPENING**

#### TTSF "Harvey Site" EXPANSION PROJECT (continued)

Phase (7) To design a state-of-the-art Community Science Lab where junior scientists will learn the basics of how to move about

and conduct themselves in a science lab, white coats and all, in hopes that they might become interested in pursuing a STEM-based research career, or major in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, or a healthcare-related field at one of Mississippi's colleges or universities. (~cost = \$500,000)



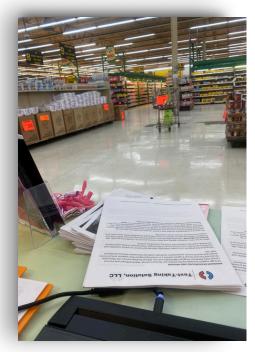


 To raise sufficient funds to purchase a 12-passenger van for field trips to expose students to museums, historic places, and cultural events

 $(\sim cost = $40,000)$ 



 To facilitate cancer screenings and community-clinical linkages for at least fifteen (15) community members (~cost = \$11,250)





- To help at least one (1) community member to obtain safe, affordable housing (~cost = \$2,000)
- To scale The Literacy Hour to at least one additional radio station within the State of Mississippi (~cost = \$12,000)
- To provide nutritious meals to at least twenty (50) community members (i.e., youth ages 6-18, and elders ages 65+) during the summer months (~cost = \$5,000)





**Five-Year Goals** 

- To provide a full one-year tuition scholarship for at least one TTSF scholar to attend an accredited 2-yr or 4-yr college/university or an accredited vocational program anywhere in the State of Mississippi
- To assist at least 20 community members (ages 18-45) with training and workforce development that leads to either dream job placement, entrepreneurship, or a military-based career.





#### **Our Donors**

# Thank you to our wonderful supporters.

The Test-Taking Solution Foundation only exists because of the generosity of you, our amazing supporters. We cannot adequately express our heartfelt gratitude for your support in 2023.

#### The Miracle Developers (\$100,000+) - Enhancing access

-The Harvey Family (Lucian, Jeraldine, Sylvia, Robin)

The Literacy Society (\$25,000 - \$99,999) - Helping to inform -Kentrell Liddell, M.D., M.B.A.

#### The Reading Circle (\$5,000 - \$24,999) - Filling in gaps

-The City of Jackson

-Dean Johnson

-Test-Taking Solution LLC

#### The Scholars (\$1,000 - \$4,999) - Encouraging future leaders

- Diane Ephfrom
- Eric Robinson
- Jackson State University Office of Community Engagement
  - Leon Jones
  - Lillian Lackey
  - Londra Hunter
  - Robin Harvey, Ph.D.
  - Sam's Club Pearl
    - Sherri Jones
    - Tiger Smith

#### The Researchers (\$100 - \$999) - Making a way

- Canva Pro
- BankFirst Financial Services
  - Brad Franklin, D.M.D
- Brookhollow Place Neighborhood Association
  - Carol Frazier
  - Dame MBaye



- Nancy Gaynor
- Rhonda Chisolm

# **2023 Year-End Financial Summary**

#### Statement of Financial Position

# Test-Taking Solution Foundation As of December 31, 2023

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Cash	4,100.4
In-Kind Clearing	
PayPal Bank	50.0
SMALL BUSINESS CHECK (1751) - 1	95.3
Square Acct	
Total for Bank Accounts	\$4,245.8
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
Total for Accounts Receivable	
Other Current Assets	
Inventory Asset	1,884.0
Payments to deposit	1,00 110
Total for Other Current Assets	\$1,884.0
Total for Current Assets	\$6,129.8
Fixed Assets	
Computers	1,300.0
Furniture & fixtures	4,880.0
Other Tools Equipment	58.7
Property - "Harvey Site"	152,000.0
Total for Fixed Assets	\$158,238.7
Other Assets	
Total for Assets	\$164,368.54
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	-750.00
Total for Accounts Payable	-\$750.00
Credit Cards	
Other Current Liabilities	
Mississippi Department of Revenue Payable	
Out Of Scope Agency Payable	
Total for Other Current Liabilities	(
Total for Current Liabilities	-\$750.00
Long-term Liabilities	
Total for Liabilities	-\$750.00
Equity	
Retained Earnings	
Net Income	156,939.04
Opening balance equity	8,179.50
	\$165,118.54
Total for Equity	\$105,110.54

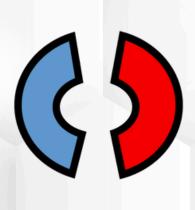


### Tutoring should be free for all students.

If you or your organization is interested in donating to the TTS Foundation, please complete the pledge form below.

A member of our team will follow up to discuss your donation.

NAME			
ADDRES	s		
CITY		STATE	ZIP
PHONE			
EMAIL			
<b>\$20</b>	TO PURCHASE SCH	HOOL SUPPLIES & SN	NACKS
<b>\$125</b>	(1 MONTH FREE TU	JTORING FOR ONE C	HILD)
\$250	(1 MONTH FREE TU	JTORING FOR TWO)	100
O <u>\$</u>			
custo	M AMOUNT		
	ndation.org 3, ext. 1003		



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