

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

### **KOOL BOIZ FOUNDATION**

4495 Market Street, Suite 400, Youngstown, OH 44512 www.KoolBoizFoundation.org
Serving Youngstown, Ohio



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# **DEAR KOOL BOIZ FOUNDATION PARTNERS**

Thanks for your support. Here are a few highlights from 2024.

### **Strategic Highlights**

2024 proved to be a record year for the Kool Boiz Foundation. We increased our fundraising efforts and made significant changes in our program execution. Our Promising Men Mentoring program expand again with over 40 mentees at Youngstown Community School and Rayan Early College Middle School. Our Empowerment Series Mentoring Program was held at our new Academic Enrichment Center and at Youngstown State University with over 150 participants. Our Scholarship Program continues to help young men through both the \$4,000 college scholarship and the new \$2,000 trade school scholarship.

### **Financial Highlights**

The Kool Boiz Foundation had record fundraising efforts in 2024. We successfully raised \$134,445 towards our programs and expenses. In addition to the monies raised, we secured several new funding and program partnerships that will allow us to continue our impact.

### **Event Highlights**

The Kool Boiz Foundation Empowerment Golf Outing had 72 golfers and over 30 sponsors raising over \$8,300. Our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Party with a Purpose was also well attended with nearly 150 people in attendance raising over \$5,200 for our programs.

### **Looking Ahead**

The Kool Boiz Foundation will be celebrating our 10-year anniversary in 2025. We are launching a new chapter in Columbus, Ohio which will begin programs in Spring 2025

We sincerely thank you for your continued support and partnership.

**Bruce Rushton** 

Founder, President and CEO

December 31, 2024

## **OUR MISSION AND HISTORY**

### Mission

The Kool Boiz Foundation is dedicated to providing educational, financial, and emotional support for boys and young men of color. We are a leading advocate for these youths and a catalyst for empowerment and change. Through our college scholarships, mentoring programs, and youth empowerment conferences, we are building future leaders and entrepreneurs.

### **History**

The Kool Boiz Foundation was founded in 2015. The organization's Board of Directors consists of current and former residents of Youngstown, Ohio who decided to form an organization with the sole purpose of giving back to the community that helped make them successful. The Kool Boiz Foundation is a 501c3 charitable organization that operates with integrity and complete transparency. Due to our commitment to transparency, we have been awarded the 2025 Platinum Seal of Transparency by Candid. Our impact in the community has been consistently growing since the execution of our first scholarship awarded in 2016, and our first mentoring program in 2016. We are the proud recipients of the United Way of Youngstown and Mahoning Valley Community Impact Award and the 2024 Youngstown City Schools Superintendent's Volunteer Service Award.



# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### 2023 Statement of Activities Summary

- Beginning net Assets \$71,516.52
- Income \$84,778.80
- Expenses \$119,313.82
- Profits/Loss (\$34,535.02)
- Ending net Assets \$36,981.50
  - General Operating Account \$14,900.34
  - Mentoring Program Fund \$4,466.67
  - New Building Fund \$1,924.49
  - Scholarship Fund Future Payments \$14,690.00

### 2024 Statement of Activities Summary

- Beginning net Assets \$36,981.50
- Income \$137,444.79
- Expenses \$124,793.70
- Profits/Loss \$12,651.09
- Ending net Assets \$49,632.59
  - General Operating Account \$8,945.03
  - Mentoring Program Fund \$21,269.92
  - Empowerment Series Fund \$3,417.64
  - Scholarship Fund Future Payments \$16,000.00

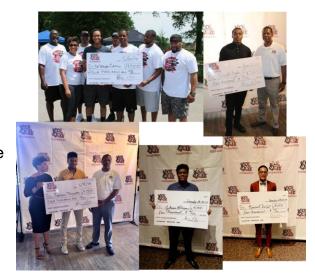
### **2024 Statement of Activities**

	Kool Boiz Foundation					
	Statement of Activities					
	Year Ended December 31, 2024					
Loans	İ		\$	-		
_						
Revenue						
	Sales		_			
	- :	Event / Merchandise Sales	\$	21,130.00		
	Total Sales		\$	21,130.00		
	Donations		_	10.007.00		
	0 1 10	General Donations	\$	12,907.00		
	Grants / Corporate Donations / Sponsorships		\$	103,407.79		
	<b>Total Donations</b>		\$	116,314.79		
	T. I. I. D			427 444 70		
_	Total Revenue		\$	137,444.79		
Expenses	<b>.</b>					
	Operating Expenses			70 74 4 65		
		General Operating Expense	\$	79,714.65		
	T-1-1 01' F	Credit Card Processing	\$	45.22		
	Total Operating Expenses		\$	79,759.87		
	Fundraising Expenses			42,000,02		
	Program Expenses		\$	42,008.83		
	Total Program Expenses		\$	42,008.83		
	Cahalarahin Evnana		<u>ر</u>	2 000 00		
	Scholarship Expense  Total Scholarship Expense		\$ <b>\$</b>	3,000.00 <b>3,000.00</b>		
		Dense	Ş	3,000.00		
	Taxes	Dolawaro Stato Tayos	Ċ	25.00		
		Delaware State Taxes Federal Taxes	\$	25.00		
	Total Tax Expenses	Teueral raxes	\$ \$	25.00		
	Total Tax Expenses		Ą	25.00		
	Total Expenses		\$	124,793.70		
	Total Expelises		Y	124,/33./0		
Change in Net Assets			\$	12,651.09		
Beginning Net Assets			\$	36,981.50		
Ending Net Assets			\$ \$	49,632.59		
Litaling Net Assets			Y	79,032.33		

# KBF COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

### Kool Boiz Foundation \$4,000 College Scholarship Award

The Kool Boiz Foundation College Scholarships are awarded to African American males who plan to attend an accredited 2- or 4-year college or university. To apply, applicants must be a resident of Youngstown, be a graduating high school senior, and have a minimum 3.0 GPA. The Kool Boiz Foundation College Scholarship is a \$1,000 4-year renewable scholarship (total award is \$4,000). Award recipients must maintain a 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale and be enrolled as a full-time



student at an accredited 2- or 4-year college or university. Scholarship funds are paid directly to the college or university on the student's behalf and are paid in two installments.

In 2024, the Kool Boiz Foundation awarded two new college scholarship, our tenth and eleventh scholarships awarded. Jayden Brown and Jordan Brown, graduates of East High School were both awarded a \$4,000 college scholarship. Jayden and Jordan are now attending Central State University.

### Kool Boiz Foundation \$2,000 Trade School/Non-Credit Scholarship Award

New for 2022, the Kool Boiz Foundation awarded a \$2,000 scholarship to an African American male planning to enroll in a skilled trade or credential program. The criteria for this scholarship is the same as our College Scholarship. This scholarship is for students who plan to earn a skilled trade or credential program (for example, barber school, welding, manufacturing, IT coding, etc.). The scholarship is a one-time award, up to \$2,000 not to exceed the cost of the program, including exam, fees, and credentialing.

We did not award a scholarship in 2024 due to a lack of applicants. The 2024 scholarship will be rolled over to 2025.

## KBF PROMISING MEN MENTORING

### 2024 Promising Men Mentoring Details



The Kool Boiz Foundation in partnership with the United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley continues to empower boys and young men of color through our Promising Men Mentoring Program. The program is designed to help young men increase their educational skills, social skills, and leadership skills. In 2024, we continued our in-person 6th, 7th and 8th grade mentoring sessions with 20 mentees at

Youngstown Community School and 20 mentees at Rayen Early College Middle School.

### Mentoring Makes a Difference

Our mentoring program aims to change the mindsets and behaviors of the young men we serve and help them achieve success in all aspects of their lives. Research shows that youth who have high levels of developmental assistance achieve more and are involved in fewer high-risk behaviors. According to the National Cares Mentoring



Movement, when young people are mentored well, 98% stay in school; 98% do not become teen parents; 85% do not use drugs; and 98% avoid gang participation.

# KBF YOUNG MEN'S EMPOWERMENT SERIES MENTORING PROGRAM

### 2024 Young Men's Empowerment Conference and Series Details



Our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Kool Boiz Foundation Young Men's Empowerment Conference was held Saturday, November 9, 2024, at Youngstown State University in Youngstown, Ohio. This conference was designed for boys and young men of color in grades 7 through 12 with a goal of exploring long-term success through education, leadership, life skills, and hard work. The conference gave young men an opportunity to hear about and reflect on "What's Possible" through thought-provoking interactive discussions and workshops. Over 100 participants

attended this free conference which ran from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm and included breakfast, lunch, and snacks for all participants.

The Kool Boiz Foundation's Young Men's Empowerment Conference Series changed to in-person workshops in 2024. This series is a 1.5-hour empowerment miniconference held at our Academic Enrichment Center on the fourth Saturday of each month. These conferences started in February 2019 and has proven to be a



powerful tool in helping the young men we serve. The conferences are free for participants and incorporate a point system that rewards participates based on their monthly attendance and engagement. In 2024, the monthly Empowerment workshops averaged 15 registered participants per month.

# KBF COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING EVENTS



# 2024 Kool Boiz Foundation Empowerment Golf Outing

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kool Boiz Foundation Empowerment Golf Outing was held Saturday, May 18, 2024 at Knoll Run Golf Course, 1421 Struthers Coitsville Road, Lowellville, OH 44436. Over 30 sponsors and 72 golfers made the event a huge success. This year's event was presented by OG Club and New Beginnings Residential Treatment Center. Thanks to all of our sponsors and donors, we raised \$8,340 for our programs.

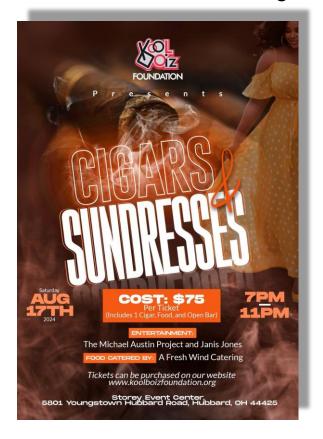








### 2024 Kool Boiz Foundation Cigars and Sundresses Fundraiser



The 2024 Annual Cigars and Sundresses Fundraiser was held Saturday, August 17,2024 at The Storey Event Center. The goal of this event is to continue raising money for our mentoring programs, scholarship fund, and empowerment conference. Over 120 people participated in the event, raising a gross amount of \$5,876. The event featured live entertainment by The Michael Austin Project and was presented in partnership with The Havana House, and A&C Beverage. Participants networked, enjoyed a few drinks & cigars, and received an update of the progress of the foundation. In addition to regular ticket prices, partnership opportunities were offered at the following levels: Friends of The Foundation

\$100, Advocate for Young Men \$250, Leaders of the Community \$400, and Champions for the Kids \$800.





### 2024 Kool Boiz Foundation Holiday Party with a Purpose



The 8<sup>th</sup> annual Kool Boiz Foundation Holiday
Party With A Purpose was held Saturday,
December 28, 2024 at the DeBartolo Stadium
Club (Inside the Youngstown State University
Football Stadium), 577 5th Ave, Youngstown,
OH 44502 from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm. This
year's event featured live music by DJ Getit
along with dinner and an open bar. Nearly 160
people attended the party raising \$5,230 for our
programs supporting boys and young men of
color.

In addition to a fundraiser, the annual party gives us an opportunity to celebrate our volunteers and Board members. Kenny Boone received the Board Member of The Year Award

and Marva Jones received the <u>Ambassador of The Year Award</u>. We congratulate these individuals and thank them for the work that they do to impact the youth of our community.



# 2024 SPONSORS PARTNERS AND DONORS

2024 Event Sponsors and Partners















**Cruise the Creek** 























Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.



































### KBF Young Men's Empowerment Conference and Series Sponsors

### **Monthly Presenting Sponsors:**

People Places and Dreams

Townsend's Tax Network

### **Gold Sponsor:**

The Raymond J Wean Foundation

### Silver Sponsor:

Cruise The Creek

Melvin Leary

YoGo Bike Share

### **Bronze Sponsors:**

Kelan Bilal

**PWI** Insurance

The Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County

### **KBF Cigars and Sundresses Sponsors**

### **Gift Basket Donors:**

Diane's Sweets and Treats

Kelan Bilal Excalibur Barber Grooming Lounge

Stacey Grant Dvyne Beauty Supply

Steve Jones State Farm Agency

Townsend's Tax Network

### KBF Holiday Party With A Purpose Fundraiser and Celebration Sponsors

### Gift Basket Donors:

Diane's Sweets and Treats

Kelan Bilal Excalibur Barber Grooming Lounge

Stacey Grant Dvyne Beauty Supply

Townsend's Tax Network

### 2024 Major Donors (\$250 and over)

#### Individuals:

Christopher DeAngelo

Jennifer Taylor Dorris

Angela Johnson

Steve Jones

Melvin Leary

Stacey Monroe

Tia Moore

**Bruce Rushton** 

Dwayne Townsend

**Scott Washington** 

### Companies:

America Online

Cruise The Creek

Foundation For Appalachian Ohio

Full Circle Homecare

LPL Financial

New Beginnings Residential Treatment Center

OG Club

People Places and Dreams

**PNC Charitable Trust** 

**PWI Insurance** 

The Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley

The Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County

The Raymond J Wean Foundation

The Yo to The Bus

The Youngstown Foundation

Townsend's Tax Network

Trustmark United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley

Yogo Bike Share

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF**

### 2024 Board of Directors

**President** 

Bruce Rushton

Kaeser Compressors

Vice-President

Scott Washington

Allstate Insurance Company

Secretary

Angela Johnson

Cuyahoga Community College

Treasurer

Dwayne Townsend

Townsend's Tax Center

Kenneth Boone

Inspiring Minds

Melissa Brown

Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services

Brian Clinkscale

City of Youngstown

Ronnell Elkins

Acura of Boardman / Boardman Mitsubishi

Steve Jones

Steve C. Jones State Farm Agency

Marteece Waters

Case Preparatory Academy

### **2024 Staff**

Bruce Rushton, CEO

### 2024 Ambassadors (Volunteers)

Justin Bryant Tonya Harris

Marva Jones Seleana Mahdee

Doug Parker Joanna Parker

Terrence Pegram Angie Stanford

Ashley Stanford Shawn Stanford

Christina Townsend



# www.KoolBoizFoundation.org Serving Youngstown, Ohio

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**Kool Boiz Foundation** 

4495 Market Street, Suite 400

Youngstown, OH 44512

755 Kentucky Circle

Marysville, OH 43040

614-404-2396