

NNHVIP/HJA 2016 Youth Scholarship Winners

Christian Harris

In January of 2015 Christian was shot 4 times while waiting in a car for a friend. Since his injury and lengthy rehabilitation, he has committed himself to violence prevention in his community. He works with the V.O.I.C.E. program, addressing youth in middle schools, high schools, United Way programs, Youth Detention Centers, and the Ferris School for adjudicated minors. Christian credits his outreach work for completely changing his life. He plans to return to school to get a college degree and ultimately wants to work with young men and women who need guidance and mentorship from someone who has “been there, done that”. He is an advocate for job creation, and positive after school programs.

Evin Johnson

Evin Johnson is an Intervention Specialist with the Sacramento Violence Intervention Program, working with youth from ages ranging from 14-25 who have been violently injured. He mentors, counsels, and advocates for these young people and facilitates Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) workshops that aim to assist the community in finding alternatives to violence. Having come from a community and life where violence was prevalent, his main focus now is to help young individuals change their mindset and hopefully spark change in their lives. He and his colleague are currently putting together an informative workshop that will aim to be inclusive to the voice of the youth.

Aurivelis Suarez Roque

Born and raised in Milwaukee, WI, Aurivelis just completed her first year at University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, majoring in Social Work and Sociology. As a proud member of Project Ujima, a program that addresses the needs of young victims of violence, she continues to inspire others and work hard to create a safer community. Her motivation behind the incredible work she does comes from her family. As the oldest child of a single parent, she hopes to pave the road for her younger siblings and create a safer environment for them to grow up in. One of her goals includes creating a youth center that would serve as a place for youth in her community to go to feel physically and emotionally safe and develop individual passions.

Rashaw Scott

Rashaw Scott is a Baltimore City native. He joined the Violence Prevention Programs (VPP) in 2013 after a violent incident that gravely impacted his life. He volunteers many hours speaking to youth at schools and medical centers about healthy decision making and the destructive effects of violence. He also shares his story with healthcare professionals to help them gain a better

understanding of inner-city culture and the challenges that young black men continue to face on a daily basis. His motivation behind his work comes from his son “little Rashaw.” Despite living in a destructive environment that beckons him to return to the streets every day, he continues to be resilient and an inspirational young leader.