

Nomination and Selection of Carl Dunn for local Champion of Change for Fatherhood Award

An initiative of President Obama's Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative

Ceremony held December 13, 2011, at DC Citywide Conference Center, Judiciary Square Building

Hosted by Senior White House Staff Members

Joshua Dubois, Special Assistant to the President, Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

Michael Strautmanis, Deputy Assistant to the President and Counselor for Strategic Engagement to the Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett.

Thanks to Mrs. Addie Richburg, President and Co-founder of the National Alliance of Faith and Justice (NAFJ), founder of the Pen or Pencil Movement, and member of ASALH, for nominating Carl for this prestigious award.

Congratulations Carl -- you are more than deserving of this honor. Your words of wisdom spoken on the panel were profound. Your voice is needed in the discussion on fatherhood and mentoring as you have served in this capacity the majority of your life. We all honor your service to the community and to the many youth who are most vulnerable that you have served and continue to serve.

Short BIO for Carl M Dunn:

Carl M. Dunn is a retired computer programmer, and a retired US Navy Cryptographic Chief with 24 years of service to his country; he has purposely transitioned from his occupation to his vocation (passion) which focuses on the empowerment of our youth in today's society.

Mr. Dunn acknowledges that his values were instilled in him by his mother (a divorced school teacher), and his church family in a small West Texas community that invested in the welfare of their children through youth activities and sports. Mr. Dunn's strong spiritual belief teaches him the importance of Fatherhood and man's responsibility to himself and others. Mr. Dunn's marriage of 43 years has blessed him with two biological sons, and an opportunity to raise his niece as a daughter and support the rearing of her three brothers after the death of their mother and incarceration of their father.

Mr. Dunn is honored to be an Ordained Deacon for 14 years, and serves diligently as a Senior high school Sunday School teacher and youth advisor in his home church for over 15 years. His oldest son has first-hand experience of the stigma of penal life; his son has overcome and embarked on a mission as an Elder in the church to help those less fortunate than himself. Mr. Dunn and his wife support their son and his wife who decided to raise a child whose parents are incarcerated.

Carl serves as volunteer/mentor/Youth Advisor for the following non-profit/civic organizations:

- ASALH (Association for Study of African American Life and History, Inc Washington DC);
- KIAMSHA Youth Empowerment Organization Prince Georges County MD;
- NAFJ (National Alliance of Faith and Justice), Pen or Pencil Movement\
Washington DC;
- Powell House Project, Inc. Washington DC;
- KAPSF (Katreena A Pendergrass Scholarship Fund) Prince Georges County MD
- Maple Springs Baptist Church, Prince Georges County MD
- Triple Four Youth Movement (Neighborhood), Prince Georges County MD
- Metropolitan Saturday Academy Science and Technology Program, Washington DC