



## Program Description

The Union's S.W.A.G. is a holistic prevention program offered primarily to middle school students but available to high school students as well. As an acronym for Students With Awareness and Goals, the aim is to equip and empower youth to make healthy life choices that will enable them to confidently navigate through obstacles and challenges. Encompassing abstinence from sex, violence, alcohol and drugs, this 12-week prevention program feature 90-minute interactive sessions on topics such as self-esteem, communication skills, decision-making, goal setting, conflict resolution, relationships and adolescent development among others. This program includes:

- 36 hours of intensive prevention and life skills training
- One (1) male and one (1) female onsite facilitator (Life Guide)
- Music and artistic development training
- Participant snacks
- One (1) professionally recorded song and/or one (1) recorded music video
- One (1) field trip, including dinner and transportation (if permitted by partner site)
- Students will participate in a community service learning activity/project
- Award ceremony for program completion

## Anticipated Results:

- Improved academic performance and spatial intelligence
- Improved relationships and social behavior with parents, teachers and classmates
- Improved self-esteem, sense of purpose and community responsibility
- Increased confidence in being uniquely creative
- Increased understanding of the purpose of music and how to use it for positive change





## Program Description

PURE is a 12-week program designed to encourage young women to discover the beauty of their purpose and celebrate the uniqueness of their identity. PURE is designed to reinforce to its participants their value and the value of their gender in such a way that influences them to view themselves and their counterparts in a positive light. PURE deconstructs society's shallow perspective of women, while rebuilding their worth and encouraging young women to make life decisions that catapult them into their greatness, and steer them away from being "at-risk". This program includes:

- 36 hours of intensive prevention and life skills training
- One female onsite facilitator (Life Guide)
- Snacks
- One (1) field trip, including dinner and transportation (if permitted by partner site)
- Students will participate in a community service learning activity/project
- Award ceremony for program completion

## Anticipated Results:

- Improved self-esteem and sense of purpose
- Improved skills in decision making as it relates to healthy boundaries and relationships
- Improved academic performance and spatial intelligence
- Improved social behavior with parents, teachers and classmates
- Increased understanding of the importance of personal and community responsibility



## Program Description

Standing In The Gap is a 6-week program designed to encourage young women to discover the beauty of their purpose and celebrate the uniqueness of their identity. Standing in the Gap (S.I.G.) is a culturally relevant and unique approach to providing African American women and girls programming related to Life Skills and Prevention. The intervention also assists women with making knowledgeable decisions and choices about their overall health and well-being, which includes stress-reduction techniques, exercising, and healthy eating.

### This program includes:

- 12 hours of intensive prevention and life skills training
- One to Two female on-site facilitator(s) (Life Guide)
- Snacks
- One (1) Spa/Pamper day, including dinner (if permitted by partner site)
- Award ceremony for program completion

### Anticipated Results:

- Improved self-esteem and sense of purpose
- Improved skills in decision making as it relates to healthy boundaries and relationships
- Improved academic performance and spatial intelligence
- Improved social behavior with parents, teachers and classmates
- Increased understanding of the importance of personal and community responsibility



## Program Description

The Yunion's *Check & Connect* initiative is an intensive, research-based model for students who are disconnected or at risk of disconnecting from school and learning. The Yunion has chosen *Check & Connect* as part of its commitment to develop a replicable, intensive school-based delivery model in targeted Detroit area schools. Developed by the University of Minnesota in 1990, *Check & Connect* is the only dropout prevention intervention listed on the U.S. Department of Education's "What Works Clearinghouse" found to have positive effects on staying in school.

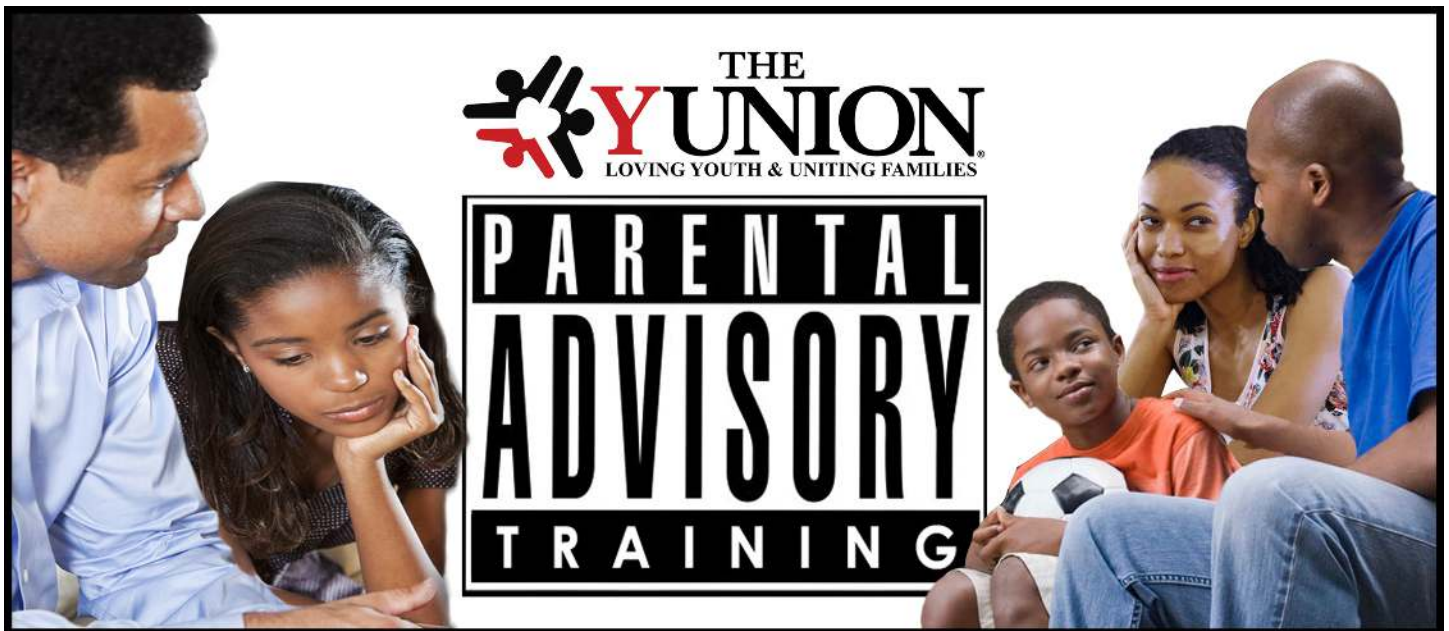
At the core of *Check & Connect* is a trusting relationship between referred students and a caring, trained mentor who advocates for and challenges the student to keep education salient. Students are referred to *Check & Connect* when they show warning signs of disengaging from school, such as poor attendance, behavioral issues, low credit accrual, and / or low grades. The *Check & Connect* program includes:

- The "**Check**" component where our trained mentors spend roughly 15 to 20 hours per week systematically monitoring student performance variables (e.g., absences, tardies, behavioral referrals, grades)
- The "**Connect**" component where our trained mentors provide personalized, timely interventions to help students solve problems, build skills, and enhance competence
- Once-per-week Restorative Practices group sessions which empower *Check & Connect*-referred students to resolve conflicts through inclusion, bringing affected parties together, making amends, and reintegrating students into the classroom
- Weekly engagement with parents / guardians to build constructive family-school relationships

### Anticipated Results:

- Decreases in behavioral referrals, school suspensions and expulsions
- Increased credit accrual and school completion sexual activity and/or contracting an STD
- Decreases in truancies, tardies, and dropout rates





## Training Description

Our Parental Advisory Training is a 90-minute interactive, multi-media session that exposes the negative effect that the mass media is having on our children. Through powerful imagery, video and engaging discussions, we address the root cause of adolescent risk behaviors such as substance abuse, violence, teen pregnancy, fatherlessness, bullying and underage drinking. Parents, teachers, youth workers and community leaders leave this training encouraged and equipped with the tools needed to not only effectively communicate with their children, but also counter the potentially deadly influence that music, movies, mainstream and social media has on our children. This training includes:

- One (1) 90 minute interactive and engaging presentation
- Free Raffle
- Handouts and Resources
- Evaluation

## Anticipated Results:

- Participants will have a better understanding of the Hip Hop and entertainment culture
- Participants will learn the purpose of subliminal messages/advertising and how it negatively effects youth
- Participants will know what to look and listen for in music, videos, movies and advertisement
- Participants will learn how to effectively fight against the “power” of radio and the mass media
- Participants will gain the information and confidence needed to wisely relate to their children’s problems
- Participants will gain the information needed to engage their children in critical thinking conversations
- Participants will gain the information needed to reduce the risks of their children participating in premature sexual activity and/or contracting an STD.





## Workforce Development Program Description

The Yunion’s DESC partnership works to provide WIOA eligible, in-school Detroit youth programming to address chronic absenteeism, lack of student motivation, and many other risk factors. All programs listed below are offered free of charge to students aged 14-18, schools, and communities.

Through our partnerships, we offer an evidenced based life skills curriculum, skills-trade training, financial literacy, STEM Drone classes, career coaching, case management, academic tutoring, SAT/ACT tutoring, college preparation facilitation, and trainings for parents. Each designed to encourage, educate and empower youth to achieve not only a high school diploma but to give students more options post-graduation. In addition, parents are equipped to support youth who choose abstinence through the Yunion’s “Parental Advisory” seminar and other parent trainings.

### Program Partners

<b>The Yunion</b>	<b>Life Skills, Academic Tutoring, GDYT Summer Employment, Case Management, Parent Trainings</b>
<b>Neighborhood Legal Services</b>	<b>STEM Drone</b>
<b>Abayomi CDC</b>	<b>Strive, Up Next, Building The Future</b>
<b>Workforce Development Solutions, LLC</b>	<b>Financial Literacy</b>

### Anticipated Results

<b>Improved Academic Performance</b>	<b>Improved Relationships and Social Behaviors</b>
<b>Improved Self Esteem, Sense of Purpose</b>	<b>Increased Confidence in being creative</b>
<b>Increased Self-Regulatory Skills</b>	<b>Improved Teamwork Skills and Self Discipline</b>

### Staff

Programs will be staffed with trained and certified facilitators. Facilitators also have their DPSCD Volunteer Clearance.

### In-School Programming (for Life Skills)

The State of Michigan requires the approval of any sex education curriculum by the schools appointed sex education advisory board. The Yunion will make readily available its’ sex education curriculum for prior approval before implementation. The Yunion requires a minimum of 15 contact hours for its program participants.

### Parent Trainings

Through our partnership with the Detroit Public School Community District, The Yunion is approved to deliver Trauma-Informed Parenting and Mental Health Awareness Training workshops to parents/caregivers with children enrolled in the district. These workshops are facilitated by Master Degreed staff who also hold Mental Health certifications. The training seek to educate and inform adult participants on the impacts of trauma on the development and behavior of children, while also ensuring that families know how to access timely, quality, and effective trauma-focused interventions and resources which support resilience, long-term healing and recovery.

### What The Yunion Provides

- Staff: Facilitators
- Program enrollment & promotional materials
- Program Materials: Curricula handouts, activities, laptop, projector, drones, flight software, etc.
- Incentives: Snacks, SWAG Bucks, field trip (1 per cycle)
- Parental Advisory Training (1 per cycle)

**For more info, contact:**

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