



BUILDING A PATHWAY FROM CRADLE TO COLLEGE & CAREER

MEET OUR PATHWAY COACHES

City of Promise pathway coaches meet with students in school and after school to develop skills for academic and personal success.

Please contact our staff if you know a student who can benefit from our programs and opportunities.



I want to show youth that “community faces change spaces.” I want them to know they can change the spaces that they enter.

Raylaja Waller is a 2020 graduate of Virginia State University where she studied Criminal Justice and Political Science. As a Charlottesville High School graduate, City of Promise alumna, former Avid student, instructional assistant, camp leader for Parks & Recreation, and current Buford cheer coach, Ms. Ray is equipped to assist students in developing the skills they need to reach their promise.

RAYLAJA “Ms. Ray” WALLER
5th-8th Grade Coach
rwaller@cityofpromise.org
434-282-3572
Tues./Thur. at Buford
Wed. at Walker



I want students to know that they matter, and that there is someone advocating for them.

Jermaine Dias has over a decade of experience working with youth in public education. A native of Hackensack, New Jersey, Jermaine is a 2007 graduate of the University of Virginia and an alumnus of the Cavalier football team. He has spent most of his career serving as both a mental health specialist and high school football coach throughout the Charlottesville-Albemarle area.

JERMAINE “Mr. D.” DIAS
9th-12th Grade Coach
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Tue./Wed./Thur. at CHS
Wed. at LMA

ABOUT CITY OF PROMISE

Since 2012, City of Promise has served low-income students and families by providing resources and support for school success. Our mission is to end generational poverty and foster a culture of achievement in which all children graduate from high school, ready for college or career. Learn more at www.cityofpromise.org

PATHWAY COACHING SNAPSHOT

TOOLS FOR RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

Our team can be called upon to support teachers and administrators because we build relationships with students and their parents through:

- College visits, FAFSA support
- Tour of the Town: exposure to new people and places in Charlottesville and beyond
- Enriching Field Trips and Activities
- Tutoring Sessions
- Support for internships and job placement
- Counseling referrals
- Neighborhood events

TOOLS FOR SKILL BUILDING

Academic Mentoring Program for Educational Development, also known as AMPED, offers lessons in the following areas:

- Organization Skills
- Goal setting
- Expository Reading
- Motivation
- Talking to Teachers
- Planning for the Future
- Relaxation

TOOLS FOR ASSESSMENT

In addition to monitoring student grades to help them improve their GPA, we utilize the Survey of Academic & Youth Outcomes. SAYO captures changes in academics and social emotional learning that are likely to occur over a one-year period.

•Program Experiences: Enjoyment/Engagement, Challenge, Choice/Autonomy, Perceptions of Social Environment, Support Relationships, Responsibility and Leadership

•Sense of Competence: Reading, Writing, Math, Science, and Getting Along with Others

•Future Expectations: Future Planning, Expectations and Aspirations