



# THE WOODSONIAN



The official newsletter of the Carter G. Woodson Scholarship & Community Service Foundation, Inc.

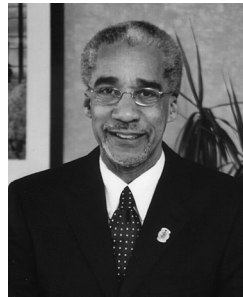
Vol. 16

Winter 2015

## From the President

I am totally honored to have been re-elected as president of the Woodson Foundation, Inc, a 501(c)(3) public charity in Madison. I have pledged to continue the good work of the foundation over the last 22 years in the areas of cultural enrichment, social action through our annual signature Thanksgiving Food Drive, scholarship, and Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) book distributions. The foundation will remain dedicated to improving the lives of youth and families in the Madison area. One of my immediate goals for this year is to expand our mentoring program for African American middle school boys. We

will be moving to a group mentoring model that will focus on four primary components: academic support and career development, cultural enrichment and education, mentoring towards manhood, and community service. On behalf of the Executive Board of Directors, foundation members, volunteers, and donors, I am grateful for your continued support of our efforts in making a difference in the Madison community.



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## Who Is Carter G. Woodson?

Dr. Carter G. Woodson was born to former slave parents on December 19, 1875 in Buckingham County, Virginia. Although his parents were illiterate, Dr. Woodson autodidactically learned to read and write by the time he reached 17 years of age. He earned his high school diploma at the age of 23 in 1897. Dr. Woodson earned a Bachelor of Literature degree from Berea College in 1903, a Master of Arts degree from the University of Chicago in 1908, and a Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1912. On September 9, 1915, he founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH). The purpose of this organization was the documentation and chronicling of

facts and figures about Black history and promoting the study of all aspects of Black life for the betterment thereof. In 1926, he initiated the celebration of Negro History Week. In the 1970's, Negro History Week was expanded from one week in February to span the entire month of February; thus, the celebration was renamed Black History Month. Dr. Woodson's literary compendium consists of 18 books on various aspects of Black life and Black history. Dr. Woodson made his eternal transition on April 3, 1950. His body rests in Lincoln Memorial Cemetery just outside of Washington, DC. Dr. Woodson's legacy is one of perpetual pursuit of knowledge and history of Black people.

### Motto

Education  
+  
Community Uplift  
=  
An Improved Quality of Life

## 2015-16 Scholarship Recipient

Meet Julius Morris. He is the 2015-16 recipient of a \$1,000.00 scholarship from the foundation. Julius Morris graduated from Madison West High School in June of 2015. While attending West High School, he was placed in talented and gifted classes such as algebra honors, English 10 Honors, and Biology 2 and performed well academically and was very involved at his high school. Morris was in Black Student Union where he served as a committee member for two years and the co-president his senior

year. He is also a PEOPLE program scholar and attended the Information Technology Academy where he became certified in Microsoft Power Point and Computer Hardware. Additionally, he helped establish the Minority Achievement Committee (MAC) scholars Program at West High school. This program was designed to help young minority students who need an extra push to achieve through mentoring from a positive peer role model who helps improve the student's confidence in their abilities. Julius attends



Madison Area Technical College to further his education and continues to give back to his community. Congratulations, Julius.

## Thank You, Donors

The foundation could not have enjoyed its tremendous success over the years without the financial assistance from its donors and the hard work of the volunteers. The following are donors since March 1996 and up to the publication of this newsletter: Freddi Adelson, Dr. Sandra Adell, Peter Albert, Ronald and Anna Albrecht, Jane Albright, Alliant Energy Foundation, Fernando & Carla Alvarado, American Family Insurance, Michael Anderson, Associated Bank, Badger Office Supplies, H. John Ball, Vicki Bankston, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Mary and Chuck Belin, Geraldine Bernard, Lamar & Cheryl Billups, Borders Book Store, Peter and Debra Brey, Dr. Anthony Brown, Richard Brown, William Brown, Mattie Brown, Percy & Virginia Brown, Mary Burke, Benjamin & Rosalind Bryant, Angela Byars-Winston, Capital Times Kids Fund, Patricia Cartwright, Denise Carty, Ed Clarke, Clorox, Alphonso Cooper, Frederick B. Crawford, S.M. and Diane J. Crear, Community Pharmacy, Donald Cooper, Copp's Food Center, Felicia and Keith Cornille, Cub Foods, Culver's Frozen Custard, Cuna Mutual Group, Dairy Queen, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Milton and Joan Diehl, Cindy Douglas, Dearborn Edwards, Judith Emmrich, Epsilon Rho Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.,

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# 21st Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive



Photo: Pat Schneider, Capital Times

On November 21, 2015, the Woodson Foundation held its Thanksgiving Food Drive at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in South Madison. Three hundred Thanksgiving baskets were given out to families and individuals primarily from the South Madison community. There were also set-aside turkeys for a homeless meal. This year, our partners were Mt. Zion Baptist Church Food Pantry, Odyssey Program, Latino Youth Enrichment Group, James C. Wright Middle School, and the African

American Council of Churches. All Thanksgiving baskets were reserved. Much gratitude is offered to the major sponsors of the food drive: Madison Rotary Foundation, South Madison Rotary, M. G. & E., Walmart Foundation, CUNA Mutual Foundation, American Family Insurance, Herbert H. Kohl Foundation, Guaranty Bank, Mt. Zion Church, and the PanHellenic Greek Council.



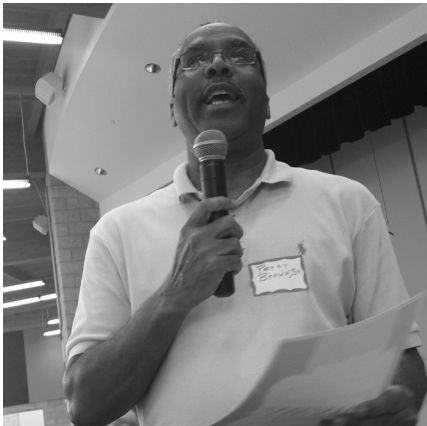


## The Mentoring Program; Early Results Favorable

In November 2014, the foundation entered into a partnership with Kromrey Middle School Mentoring Program. Initially, the foundation had targeted serving 15 boys in a one-on-one mentoring relationship. We actually served nine boys. Mentors underwent training, met with the mentees one on one for one hour during the school year at the school, and attended the year end celebration. The focus of the mentoring program was on relationship building and helping to close the academic achievement gap among African American middle school boys. The program was centered on 8 major themes including motivation and attitude, goal setting, trust, strengths and weaknesses, dealing with stress/frustration, feelings about school, peer

pressure, organization and evaluation/end of year celebration. There was also latitude for mentors to infuse other relevant themes depending on the needs of the mentees. The end of year celebration was well attended with some 60-75 attendees including mentees, parents, school officials, and mentors. Early results of the first year were favorable. No students received suspensions during the time with the mentors. All students improved either their attendance and/or grades by .5 point to one full point. Several students improved quarterly or semester grades between one and three letter grades. Only one student remained stagnant in classes or went down one letter grade. On a scale of 1 – 10, when asked, “How would

you rate your time with your mentor this year?” Students average answer was 9. When asked, “Would you recommend the Kromrey Mentor Program to one of your friends?” The response was 100% YES. Finally, 92% of the mentees said they would like to work with their mentors again next school year. In order to serve more boys, the foundation is now preparing to launch a new group mentoring model at Jefferson Middle School for semester 2, 2016. The Mentoring Program will have 4 major activities: parent orientation/meet & greet, monthly workshops/large group activities, cultural enrichment/historical field trip, and an end of year recognition and awards celebration.



### Donor Pledge Select a Category

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- Sustaining Endowment Donor: \$600 minimum installment
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- Gold Donor: \$501—999
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Thank you.