



Urban League of  
**the State of Arkansas, Inc.**

# March 2023 CEO & PRESIDENT REPORT



# NATIONAL INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS COVID-19 HEALTH DISPARITIES



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**the State of Arkansas, Inc.**

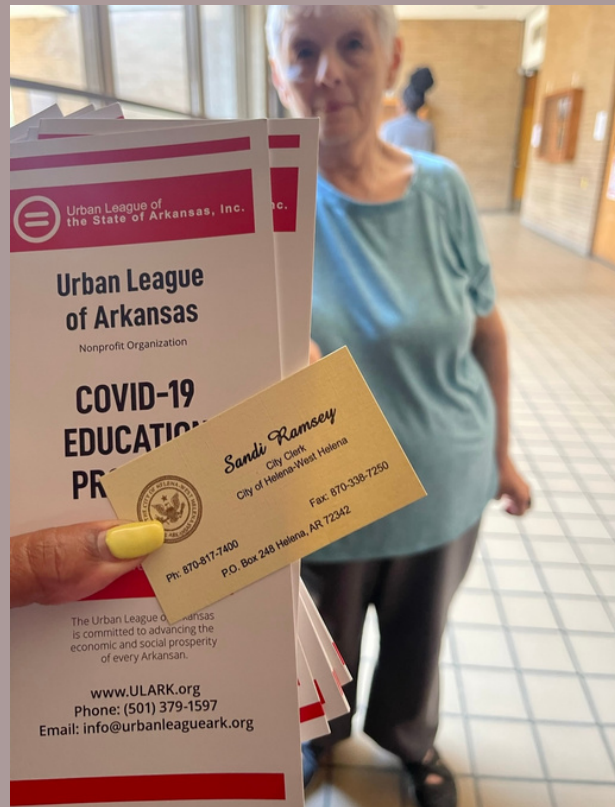
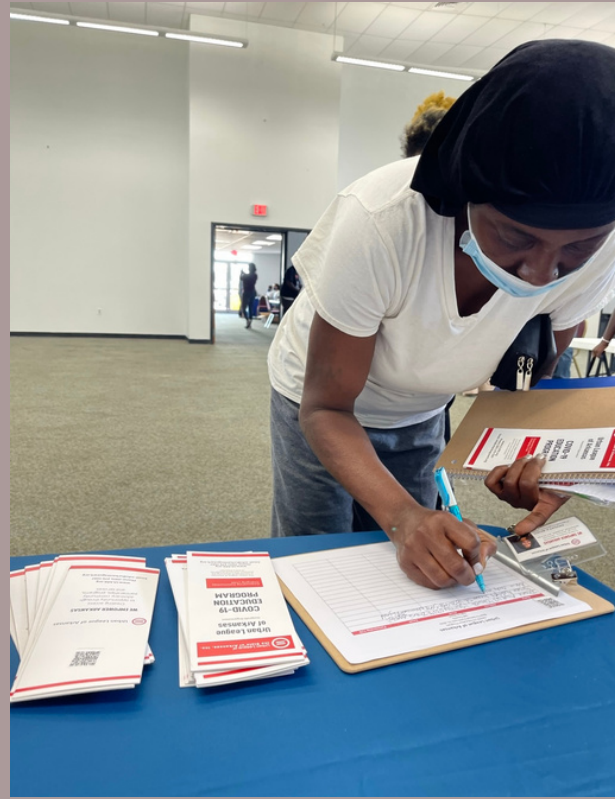


**CENTERS FOR DISEASE  
CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

The Urban League of the State of Arkansas is participating in the National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved, including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities. This is a cross-cutting opportunity for Arkansas to advance health equity through strategies, interventions, and services that have put certain groups at higher risk for diseases like COVID-19.

The Urban League of Arkansas has assigned Regional Community Health Organizers in five (5) regions across Arkansas. These organizers are working across communities to establish partnerships with community organizations in the preparation for future pandemics and combat health racial disparities.

# NATIONAL INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS COVID-19 HEALTH DISPARITIES



# Remix Ideas

## Black Ownership Tour and Black Founders Summit

ULSA is proud to serve as a sponsor of Remix Ideas. The Black Ownership Tour took place September 26 - 28, with the Black Founders Summit taking place September 29. The next tour is scheduled for March 27 - 30.



**Black Founders Summit**  
BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION

### LEVERAGING PROCUREMENT FOR ECONOMIC EQUITY

Join business owners, policymakers, senior executives from large corporate groups, industry specialists, and entrepreneurs for a memorable event.

THURS DAY | SEPT 29 | 09 AM TO 01 PM



**SPEAKERS INCLUDE:** 

 <b>FRANK SCOTT, JR.</b> MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK	 <b>ABDOUL KABAOU</b> DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT FOR THE CLINTON NATIONAL AIRPORT
 <b>ESPERANZA MASSANA</b> DIRECTOR OF MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AT ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION	 <b>GREGORY MODICA</b> FOUNDER OF GOVERNMENT SUPPLY SERVICES

### AGENDA

- WELCOME REMARKS 9AM-9:05AM
- WHY BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES SHOULD GET CERTIFIED 9:05AM-10AM
- ACCESS TO CAPITAL-FINANCING CONTRACTORS 10AM-10:30AM
- BEST PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES 10:30AM-11AM
- HOW TO WIN GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS 11AM-11:30AM
- LET'S TALK PROCUREMENT 11:30AM-12PM
- REMIX IDEAS \$10,000 PITCH COMPETITION 12PM-1PM

Ron Robinson Theater | 100 River Market Ave. Little Rock, AR 72201  
Don't miss this opportunity! Register NOW at: [www.blackfounderssummit.com](http://www.blackfounderssummit.com)

# Arkansas Coalition for Strong Families

ARKANSAS  
COALITION



FOR STRONG  
FAMILIES

## A People-First Economic Vision for Arkansas

We envision an Arkansas where everyone, no matter their age, background, race, gender, disability, or status, has the opportunity to live meaningful, fulfilling lives in strong, thriving communities. Read our Vision Statement [here](#).

[Coalition Members](#)

[Legislative Agenda](#)

- ***Create a state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)***

Arkansas's tax system is regressive, which means that those with lower incomes pay more as a share of their income in state and local taxes than those with higher incomes. We recommend enacting a fully refundable Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) at the state level that would go to Arkansans earning the lowest-incomes to help create a more equitable tax system.

- ***Increase funding for the state's Arkansas Better Chance pre-school program to allow more children to enroll***

Quality early childhood education is critical to the health development of children and it plays an important role in our economy. Increased funding for the Arkansas Better Chance (ABC) program that provides pre-K education for 3 and 4 year olds. The estimated state share needed to reach all low-income Arkansan families with children in this age range is roughly \$100m annually.

- ***Allow online voter registration***

Many Arkansans, especially those with disabilities, experience significant barriers to participating in the voting process. Establishing online voter registration would expand access to the voting process for many.

# 2023 Legislative Session

## SB 71 - A Bill to end Affirmative Action

State of Arkansas  
94th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2023

S2/1/23 S2/9/23 S2/27/23  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 71

By: Senator D. Sullivan  
By: Representative Gonzales

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION OR PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT BY THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND OTHER PUBLIC ENTITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION OR PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT BY THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND OTHER PUBLIC ENTITIES.

TUESDAY  
**MAR 14**  
11:00AM  
Kendall Nugent

**The**  
**RESPONSE**  
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE

I THINK JUSTICE

A TOPIC WORTH DISCUSSING

MR. BRUCE JAMES

REV. DR. DENISE DONNELL

MR. SCOTT HAMILTON

MR. KWAMI ABDUL-BEY

# Dialogue with: Wal-Mart Governor's Office

# ULSA <> City of Little Rock

## Drone Tech Leadership Program



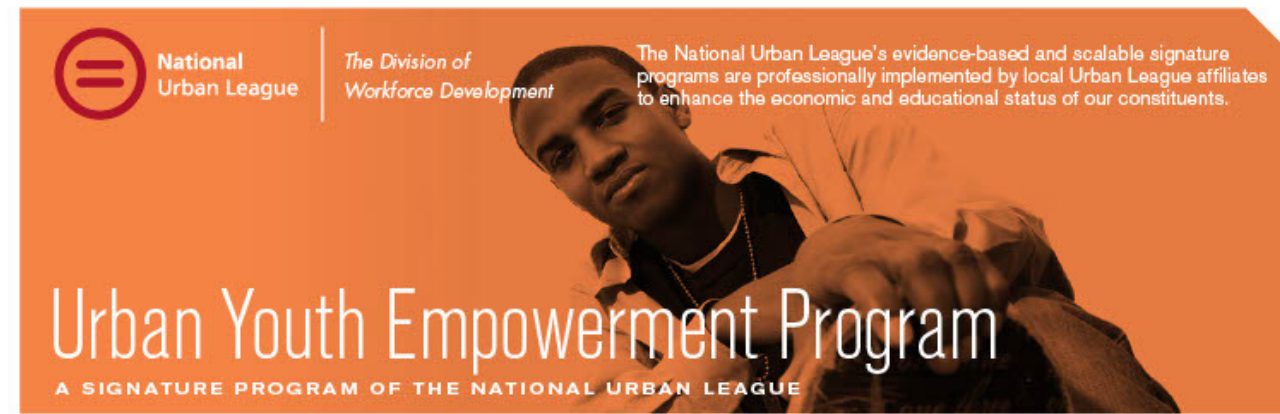
The City of Little Rock is allocating \$1.5 Million of its federal American Rescue Plan funds to curb violence in the City of Little Rock.

As part of this effort, the City of Little Rock created Neighborhood Safety Program. Targeted Funding Projects include:

- a) Arts and/or Cultural Enrichment
- b) Tutoring, STEM Activities, and/or Academic Enrichment
- c) Parental, Family, and Community Engagement
- d) Social and Emotional Learning
- e) Housing and/or Food Insecurity

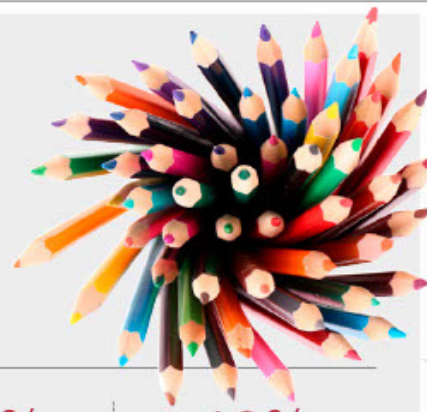
Our Drone Tech Leadership Program has completed programming at the Billie Mitchell and Whetstone Boys and Girls Clubs.

# Urban League: Disconnected Youth



## Accomplishments.

Since 2011, the Urban Youth Empowerment Program (UYEP) has enrolled over 700 individuals.



2 in 3

youth, 18 and older, entered employment

96%

did not return to prison

43%

received a GED, HSD, or industry-recognized credential

### 2025 EMPOWERMENT GOAL

Every American has access to jobs with a living wage and good benefits.

## Our Approach.

UYEP is a successful, evidence-based program with a focus on educational and employment outcomes for youth (16-24). Core program components include: 2-4 week career readiness programming, occupational skills training, case management, educational interventions and support, service learning projects, paid internships (where possible), and mentoring. Although UYEP has focused on serving youth who have had criminal justice system involvement, the program model has its roots in, and is adaptable to, serving disadvantaged youth more broadly.



## National Scope.

UYEP is funded by the United States Department of Labor through its Reentry Employment Opportunities program. In turn, the National Urban League has partnered with the following seven Urban League affiliates to deliver the Urban Youth Empowerment Program:

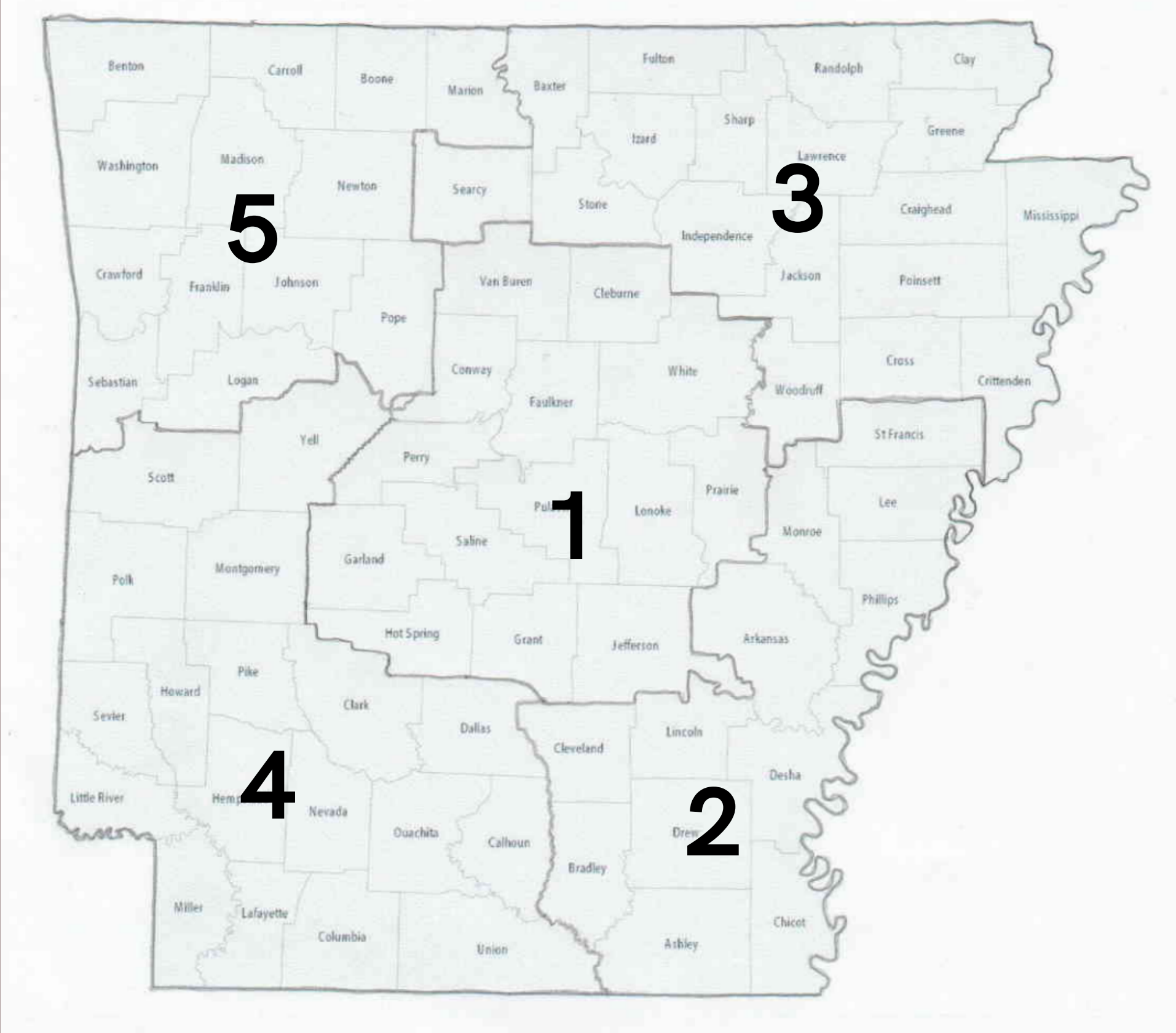
- SPRINGFIELD URBAN LEAGUE (IL)
- TRI-COUNTY URBAN LEAGUE (IL)
- URBAN LEAGUE OF GREATER ATLANTA (GA)
- URBAN LEAGUE OF CENTRAL CAROLINAS (NC)
- URBAN LEAGUE OF GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY (OK)
- URBAN LEAGUE OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA (TN)
- URBAN LEAGUE OF LOUISIANA

The Urban Youth Empowerment Program uses a holistic approach to prepare Opportunity Youth for pathways to economic stability through a comprehensive set of services, including:

- Career readiness and placement
- Educational offerings,
- Mentorship
- Restorative justice projects/ service learning projects
- Community-wide efforts to reduce activities of violence
- Access to support services.



# Board / Committee Member Recruitment



# UAMS MID-SOUTH BLACK EXPO - February 25

THE 19TH ANNUAL

# UAMS MIDSOUTH BLACK EXPO

2023

Powered By: Team Summit

OUR HEALTH  
OUR WEALTH  
OUR CULTURE

SAVE THE DATE

## FEBRUARY 25, 2023

9AM - 3PM | THE VENUE AT WESTWIND

FEATURING: 100 BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES • ASK A DOCTOR •  
FOOD TRUCKS • LIVE PERFORMANCES • HEALTH SCREENINGS & MORE

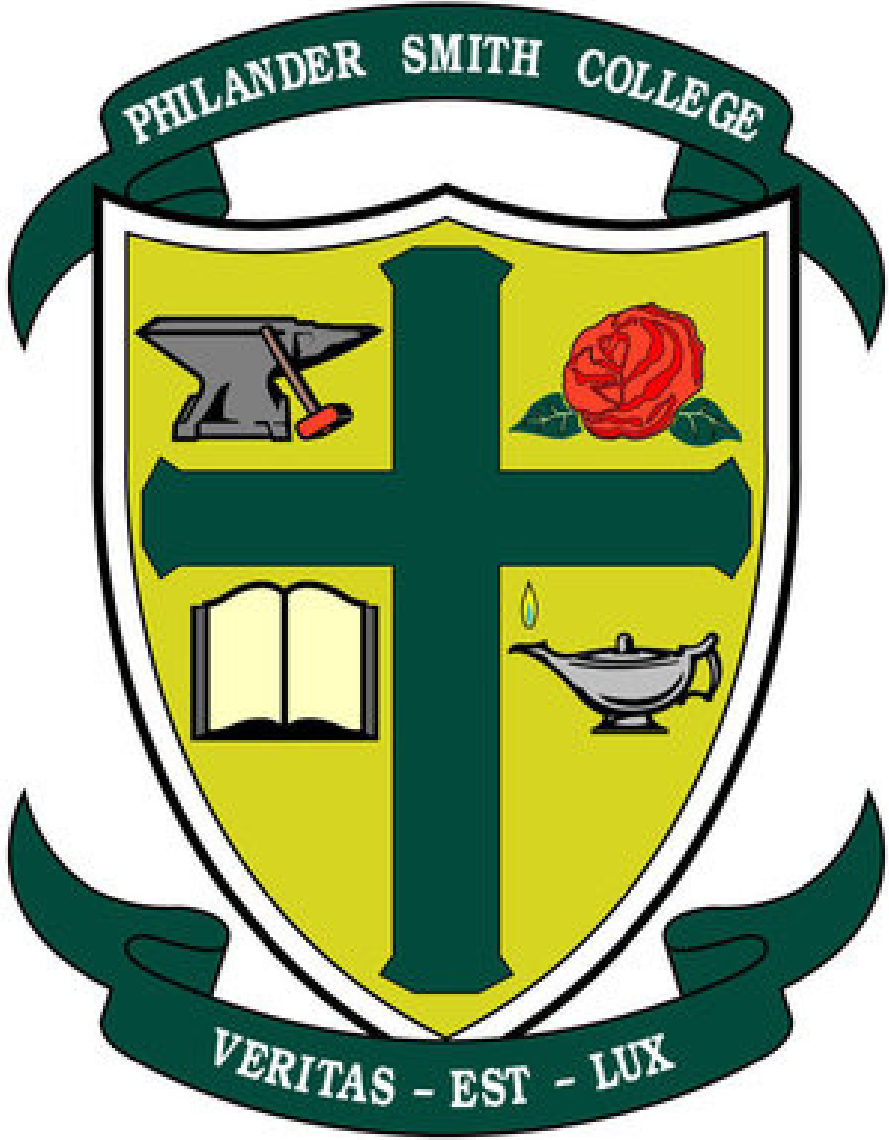
For Vendor Booths, Sponsorships & More Information Visit:  
[WWW.MIDSOUTHBLACKEXPO.COM](http://WWW.MIDSOUTHBLACKEXPO.COM)



The 19th Annual Midsouth Summit Black Expo, presented by UAMS, is a showcase of black excellence, highlighting businesses, talent, and experts thriving in the black community.



# Strategic Engagement



# National Office Information



Thurman Green III, MPA, MPS • 1st  
Community Engagement Champion | Community Schools Advocate | NULYP So...  
6h • Edited •

While attending the [National Urban League](#) Legislative Policy Conference, a group of Urban Leaguers ([National Urban League Young Professionals](#) and [National Council of Urban League Guilds](#)) and I had the privilege to listen to President Joe Biden! Talk about a surreal moment when a country boy from Pine Bluff, AR is within two feet of the 46th President of the United States of America!!

#POTUS #Policy #Education #PublicService #NUL #NULYP  
#LegislativePolicyConference2023



**National Urban League  
Legislative Policy Conference**

**REGISTER TODAY!**

**NATIONAL  
URBAN  
LEAGUE  
CONFERENCE  
2023**

**HOUSTON**  
*July 26-29*

Join us in Houston for a four-day,  
power-packed experience.

**REGISTER NOW**

# NUL National Conference

# Young Professionals Report

Updates/Recaps:

## 2023 Join Week

The YP chapter pulled off another successful join week with events spanning both Central/NW. While we continue working with the affiliate on final join week counts, both regions report engagement from both existing and prospective members alike and are looking forward to the year ahead. \*Pics included -

[2023JWCentral/NWA\\*](#)

## Affiliate Support - 2023 Midsouth Black Expo

\*Pics included - [MWSouthExpo\\*](#)

## NWA Mixer

Networking event held in partnership with the newly formed ERG council made up of ULSAYP, JBHunt, Tyson, NABA, and Walmart. Future events will be planned for the spring/summer to include volunteer events, community awareness campaigns, and more. \*Pic included - [NWAERGMixer\\*](#)

# **Young Professionals Report**

## **Upcoming:**

### **March Chapter Meeting**

**First chapter meeting in 2023. Expected to kick-off year strong and resume monthly cadence with guest speakers, relevant topics, and engaging agendas.**

### **Membership Process Improvement**

**Work continues in partnership with Affiliate to build out pressing items such as member list cleanup, and development of welcome packets.**

### **National Convention (July 2023 - Houston)**

**YPs are excited about the National Convention and I would like to formally request affiliate financial support in sending a delegation to Houston, TX for the duration of the conference meeting.**

## **Notable Efforts:**

**YP Bylaw Review - have begun process of performing initial review of 2015 document before meeting with affiliate for further edits and next steps.**