
2017

Annual Report

The
SoulFisher
Ministries



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Mission Statement:

The mission of The SoulFisher Ministries is to respond to the needs of youth with incarcerated parents and to promote restorative justice for those currently and formerly incarcerated.

Vision Statement:

The vision of The SoulFisher Ministries is to embrace the world in a network of charity as defined in the Word of God. We desire to see young people educated and empowered to succeed in life and broken lives and homes re-established through education, job training and employment, computer literacy, and transitional housing. Our ultimate goal is to re-empower those formerly incarcerated to be productive influences in their family and community and to help break the cycle of the school-to-prison pipeline.

Greetings From The CEO

Dear Friends,

Thank you for making 2017 yet another remarkable year for The SoulFisher Ministries. This year marked 5 years of service for the organization. Our dedicated staff has done an incredible job at expanding our outreach while strengthening our programs and services. You have been able to increase the value of services. Our ultimate goal is to educate & empower those formally incarcerated to be productive influences in their family & community, breaking the cycle of the school-to-prison pipeline.



2017 Accomplishments for our organization include:

- **Hosting yearly AGAPE Gala and Golf Tournaments fundraisers (over \$28,000 raised in 2017)**
- **Providing over 11,000 meals to Koch Elementary, Westview Elementary and St. Stephen's Church Summer Program**
- **Developing youth and educational programs that promote further education, in an effort to mend poverty**
- **New partnerships with: MO Department of Corrections, Bricks4Kids, Operation Food Search, Riverview Gardens School District, 1st Student Bus Group, Emmerson Family YMCA, St. Louis County Library, St. Louis Zoo, Ferguson-Florissant Parks & Recreations, Ferguson Library**

Our motto is "Restoration is possible, Success is real!" Our 2017 donors, volunteers and staff truly make this possible! We are stronger than ever due to our continually expanding community who comes together to donate time, resources, and talent in support of our important mission. This year alone we worked with Koch Elementary, Westview Elementary and St. Stephen's Church to tutor 129 students and logging over 20,000 volunteer hours. Furthermore, our Board of Directors has helped us dramatically increase our donor base; and our Advisory Board has assisted us in expanding.

Thank you for wholeheartedly being a part of The SoulFisher Ministry movement. We are looking forward to much more in 2018!

Sincerely,

Founder/CEO Shawntelle Fisher

Year in Review

AGAPE Program Pre → Post Release Program

Adult General Academic Program of Education (AGAPE)

Studies show there are:

- **100,940 women currently incarcerated in local jails nation-wide vs 68,100 in 1999. A 48% INCREASE!!**
- **2,145,100 inmates in local jails or prisons as of 2015.**
- **Approximately 7 in 10 incarcerated women have minor children.**

The SoulFisher Ministries provides incarcerated women the opportunity to participate in alternative learning programs through quality and compassionate classroom educational instruction. Life skills, goal setting, relationship restoration, restorative justice opportunities, and access to transitional housing are also available for program participants.

AGAPE offers a pre-release employability course that teaches application & interview skills. Advising participants on good job seeking skills, as well as pointers to help obtain a job without a college degree. HOB (Hands On Banking), a pre-release program, uses Wells Fargo curriculum to enhance life skills by teaching financial literacy & independence.

The Hands On Banking program teaches clients the important areas of financial literacy taught by our experts. Studies show that people who have high financial literacy save twice as much money for retirement. Making Peace with Your Past is a pre-release program that focuses on overcoming personal life obstacles that have led to their incarceration.



The SoulFisher Ministries is in the making of a few post-release programs that include, but are not limited to; Fisher Transitional Housing located @ **1403 Stein Rd. Ferguson, MO**. Another post-release program coming to SoulFisher Ministries is the college associate program that will focus on inmates obtaining an associate degree upon their release.

The goal of AGAPE is to provide women involved in the criminal justice system educational and functional competencies instrumental in reintegrating into society and regaining control of their lives and families. The SoulFisher Ministries helps empower women involved in the criminal justice system to gain self-esteem and the ability to set meaningful goals for their education and integration back into society.

- In 2017, HOB served **122** clients (nearly doubling from last year) with an overall attendance of over **80%**.
- On average, clients that took the pre-test saw a **16%** increase in their score on their post-test.
- The average pre-test score was **67%** and the clients scored on average an **83%** on the post-test evaluation.



Public safety is established by shifting the organizational culture from a primary focus on risk control to include risk and recidivism reduction through positive change in the lives of women involved in the criminal justice system. Lastly, we identify barriers to successful re-entry and engage collaboration of key shareholders and representatives in the community.

The SoulFisher Ministries seeks to offer combined services through one program: the AGAPE program. Each AGAPE program component is designed to: Encourage completion of academic classes designed to prepare program participants to pursue post-secondary attainment upon release and promote the development of strong personal, interpersonal and professional skills. Missouri Department of Corrections currently recognizes The SoulFisher Ministries and its AGAPE Program as a Re-entry Partner.

Client Testimonials

October 23, 2017

"I have learned how to better myself financially in the future."

October 23, 2017

"I learned about banking and how it will help us in life."

June 16, 2017

"I enjoyed learning about the stocks, bonds, & credit unions. I feel like it will help me in the future."

June 16, 2017

"Thank you for taking your time to teach us new things!"

June 16, 2017

"I like how much energy she has & her positive attitude. It puts me in the right frame of mind to learn and brings a positive environment for everyone."

August 11, 2017

"It taught me a lot about saving & handling money, the ins & outs about money as well. I loved the class!"

ENAL Program

Educate Now to Achieve Later (ENAL) Tutoring Program

The ENAL program consists of three programs: the summer initiative program, a summer program that provides a fun & safe learning environment as well as a school-based tutoring program specifically designed to captivate and improve the academic success of its participating students.

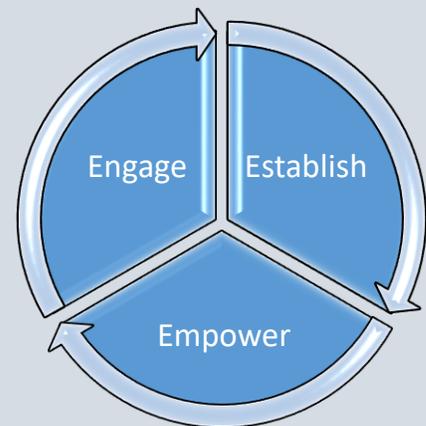


ENAL also offers a robotics team (TSM Robotics), with the help of Missouri AmeriCorps. We teach children principles of science, technology, engineering, and architecture using Legos and robotics. ENAL programming currently operates within two schools in the Riverview Gardens School District, serving students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade:

1. Koch Elementary School
2. Westview Middle School

Our program helps provide a nourishing meal and safe alternative learning environment during the after-school hours for urban-area youth.

Ms. Williams, Assistant Principal – “The After-School Program is great especially for 6th graders who formed a connection with their tutors from elementary school & are transitioning to middle school which can be difficult for them.”



Our organization **engages** parents and community agencies in providing the best possible services needed for program success in the program. Positive adult relationships are **established** with the students. We **empower** our youth to gain self-esteem and the ability to set meaningful goals for their education and career.

The ENAL program model is based on a local university after-school program that has had marked success in improving both test scores and academic attitudes among urban-area youth. University of Missouri – St. Louis’s after-school Bridge program was founded in 1986.

Since its inception, the program remains one of the most widely emulated models, providing unique and comprehensive **year-round pre-collegiate programming for underserved high school students and parents.**



Student participants represent public and private high school institutions throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area. Each Bridge Program component is designed to encourage students to complete high school and pursue post-secondary attainment and promote the development of **strong academic, personal, interpersonal, and professional skills.**

“I’ve been in the program 2 years and I like it because it helps me with my work, but they’re also here if I need personal guidance. The program has already helped me with study skills as well as my shyness” – Keishawn Cramer, 8th grader Westview Elementary

U.S. Youth Educational Facts

American 12th graders rank 19th out of 21 industrialized countries in mathematics achievement and 16th out of 21 nations in science (Source: FreedomWorks.org).

In the fourth grade, 77% of children in urban high-poverty schools are reading “below basic” on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (Source: FreedomWorks.org).

Only 57 percent of African American students have access to a full range of math and science courses necessary for college readiness, compared to with 81 percent of Asian American students and 71 percent of white students (Source: UNCF.org).

United States had mediocre high school graduation rates, leading China, Turkey, and Mexico, but lagging behind Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, and the United Kingdom (Source: edweek.org).

Looking Ahead

New Building Location

We are proud to announce that we have just closed on a new office. We are planning to move to the location on June 2018. Our new office location is **7267 Natural Bridge St. Louis, MO 63121** where we will continue to serve our clients in the same friendly manner as before.

Our office number will remain the same:

Phone: 314-381-0401

Our new and larger office space location allows us to function and to service all our clients.

Should you have any questions on the relocation, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to seeing and serving you at the greatly improved office surroundings.



Fisher Transitional Living for Women

Fisher Transitional Living for Women is a Faith-based transitional housing program (more units coming: 2018!!) committed to assisting and empowering women for successful reintegration into their family and the community. This is accomplished through providing self-management, home-management, money-management, goal setting, budgeting, and employment assistance.

Fisher Transitional Living for Women offers free, mandatory educational opportunities for those lacking a high school diploma or GED. Individual, family, and housing counseling are available and highly recommended for all women. If a woman has a substance abuse problem, she will be required to attend outpatient treatment and subsequent substance abuse meetings. Women participating in Fisher Transitional Living for Women program are also be subject to random urinalyses. Psychological and/or psychiatric counseling is also available through referral.

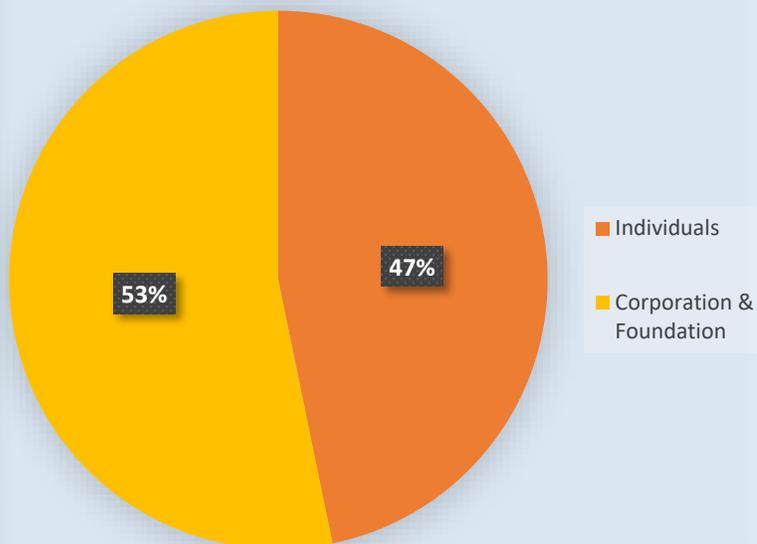


Financials

2016 Revenue

Revenue Type	Amount
Individual	\$53,553
Corporation, Government & Foundation	\$60,954
Total Revenue	\$203,293

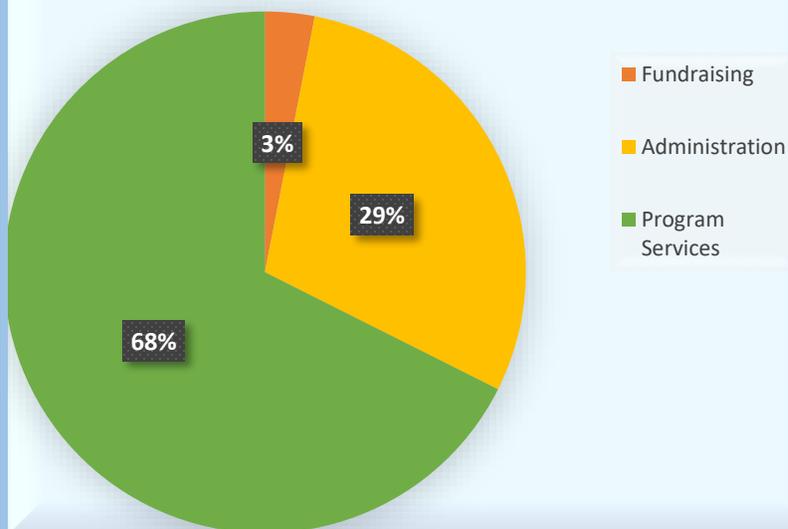
2016 Revenue



2016 Expenses

Expense Type	Amount
Fundraising	\$5,000
Administration	\$47,790
Program Services	\$110,109
Total Expenses	\$188,039

2016 Expenses



Donors (Thank You!)

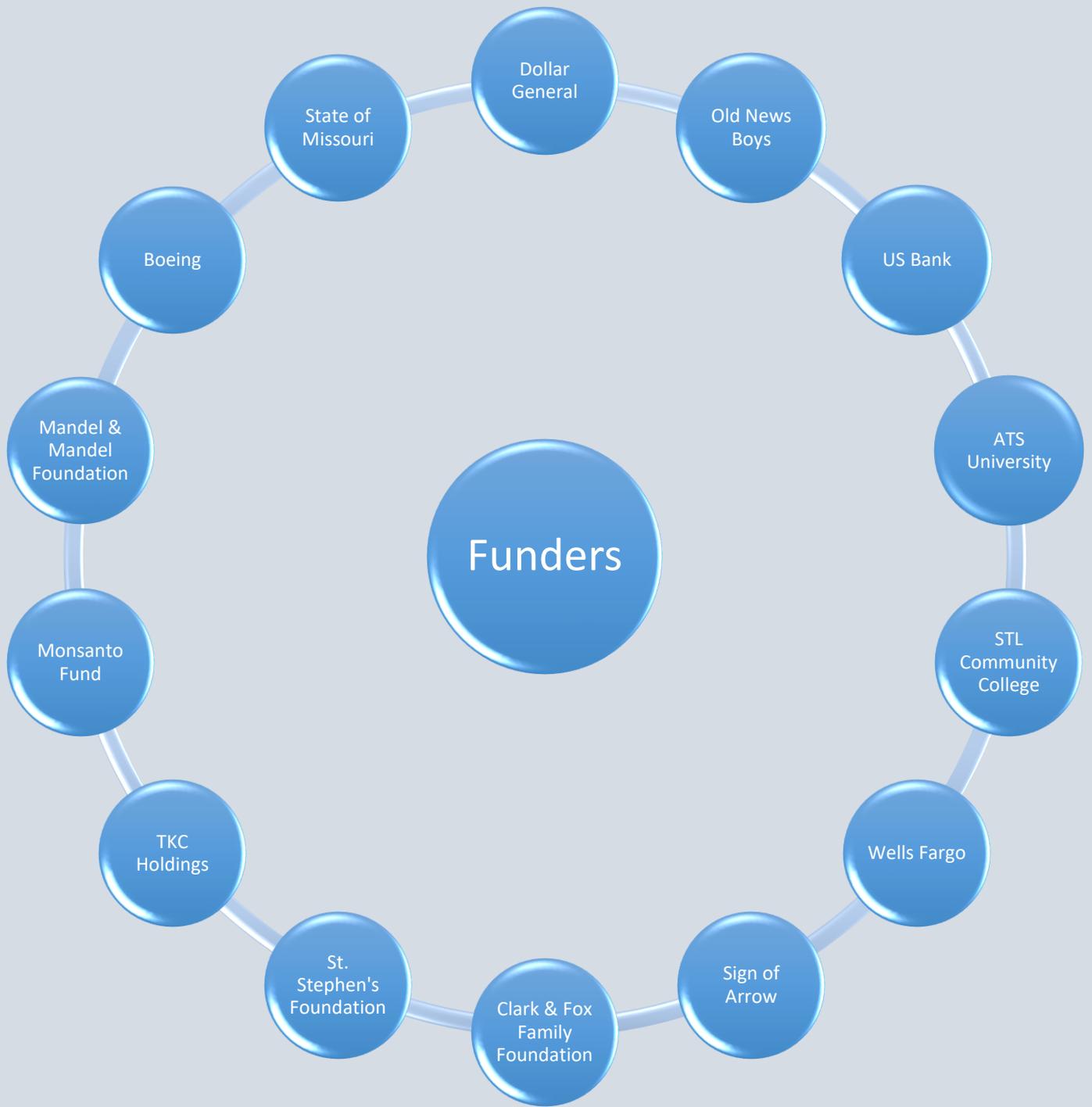
Individual Donors

- Amy Garrison
- Anishika Ward
- Elizabeth Schmidt
- Eric'el Johnson
- Herman Powell
- Jacqueline Womack
- Judy DeMarco
- Leslie & Tony Corey
- Linda Bailey
- Madelyn Marks
- Mary Schoolman
- Nancy McCarthy
- Rodger Liggins
- Senator Walsh
- Shawntelle Fisher
- Sheri Mistretta
- Sheryl Fikes
- Stacy Easterling
- Sue Rector
- Tim & Cora Walker
- Victoria Harris
- Wesley Bell
- William Danforth

Grand Total Donors - 23

Grand Total Donations - \$53,553

Corporate, Government & Foundation Donors



Board of Directors

Members

Shawntelle L. Fisher - Founder/CEO

Elder Shawntelle L. Fisher is a highly anointed and very influential leader, speaker, teacher, and dancer who serves with excellence and integrity. She holds both a Bachelor in Educational Studies and a B.S. in Media Studies from the University of Missouri St. Louis and is currently a double Master candidate at Washington University and Eden Theological Seminary. She is the founder and CEO of a non-profit, The SoulFisher Ministries and has a passion to see lives transformed and restored. Through her own struggles and pitfalls in life she was guided by caring members in the community to a path of restoration and possibilities. Through The SoulFisher Ministries she is spreading hope and empowering youth and those formerly incarcerated, to be positive productive, and socially responsible members in the community.



Jacqueline Womack, President – Assistant Vice President & Branch Manager, US Bank

As a financial services professional, Jacqueline Womack enjoys using her talents and skills to help people realize their financial goals. With more than 15 years of experience, Jacqueline has developed and executed award-winning sales and service strategies to help her team achieve business goals. Her work has been recognized by US Bank with a Quarterly Pinnacle Award. Jacqueline has also volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, St Louis Public Schools, Ferguson-Florissant School District and Jennings Head Start Pre-School. Jacqueline received her bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri - St. Louis School of Business Administration.



Victoria Harris, Secretary – Career Specialist, St. Louis Community College – Florissant Valley

Since 2011, Ms. Harris has held the position of a Career Specialist with experience in interviewing techniques, resume writing and job searching techniques. She also holds a background in Human Resources; in areas of recruiting, benefits and employee relations. Ms. Harris is also an emerging civic leader, serving on the Annie Malone Young Professionals board of Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center, currently serving 7 years as a mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri, and a Student Advisor of the Black Student Association at St. Louis Community College. Ms. Harris is also involved with Regional Business Council-Young Professionals group and the United Way-Charmaine Chapman Leadership Society.



Lee Snyder, Treasurer – CPA, Hochschild, Bloom & Company

Lee Snyder is the current manager of both the tax and payroll departments at Hochschild, Bloom & Company. She has over 25 years of accounting experiences and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants (MSCPA). She served as Vice President of Finance for Sign of the Arrow, a not-for-profit gift shop that donates all of its profits to various St. Louis charities. She was formerly a member of the Finance Committee of Cornerstone Youth Organization and sat on its Advisory Board. Mrs. Snyder is currently serving as the Treasurer of the West County Chamber of Commerce and is on the Executive Board.





Wesley Bell - Council Member, City of Ferguson

Councilman Wesley Bell is the Program Coordinator and Professor of Legal Studies and Criminal Justice at St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley campus. Mr. Bell also serves as Prosecutor for the Village of Riverview and former-Municipal Court Judge for Velda City. Dedicated to serving the community, he is a Board Member for the Ferguson Youth Initiative and co-founder of the See Justice Student Club at Florissant Valley. Mr. Bell is a proud alumnus of Lindenwood University and the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law. Last year, Mr. Bell was elected to serve the City of Ferguson as a Councilman in Ward 3.



Blake Lawrence - Attorney/Political Consultant, Missouri Health Advocacy Alliance

Blake Lawrence is a civil rights attorney specializing in criminal justice reform, education policy, and healthcare disparities. As a Missouri Senate staffer, he helped to draft legislation concerning municipal court reform, voting rights, and police-community relations. His advocacy work now centers around healthcare disparities at the state and federal levels of policymaking. During the campaign season, Blake is a Principal at BML Consulting, a private firm focusing on messaging and community engagement around state and local government. Blake appears as a recurring contributor for several local TV and radio podcasts concerning Missouri politics.



Eric'el Johnson – Electrical Engineer, Boeing

Eric'el Johnson, a STEM enthusiast, graduated from the University of Missouri – St. Louis with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. She made it her mission to promote STEM wherever she goes. Whether she's helping elementary school students with robotics or running a mentoring program for engineering students, helping the community energizes her. This desire began at a young age and continues to flourish now. That is why she eagerly accepted the invitation to join The SoulFisher Ministries. Her technical background and network proved to be instrumental when introducing FIRST Robotics to the ENAL program during the 2017-2018 school year. Johnson uses her enthusiasm for STEM, experience running programs, and her network to contribute to the mission of The SoulFisher Ministries.



Sheryl Fikes – Education Coordinator, AllStar Sparks

Her name is Sheryl Fikes. She's a mother of two boys. She has been a part of the Health Care field for about 20 years. She was a part of Service Employee International Union (SEIU) for 16 years. She was a union steward for 13 years and a Board Member for 2 years. She's a part of the AllStar Sparks as an Education Coordinator and as a Board Member of The SoulFisher Ministries. Her life has always been about serving others and being a mom to her boys. She believes that if people offer a hand and support one another then we would never need anything.



AmeriCorps Teams

AmeriCorps VISTA

David Peterson

David Peterson is currently serving as an AmeriCorps VISTA for The SoulFisher Ministries doing Data Collection and Management. David received his Bachelors of Science from the University of Central Missouri as a Political Science Major. Recently, he graduated from Webster University successfully completing his Master's Degree program in Non-Profit Management. Before joining The SoulFisher Ministries team, he worked for Voices For Children as their intern doing grant writing and database management. He also worked on the campaign trail as a canvasser and strategist for the Missouri Democratic Party for 3 years.



AmeriCorps Missouri

Ivory Clark

Ivory Clark is the lead coach for both FIRST LEGO League JR teams. He recently graduated with his BA in art history and aspires to work in the education department of a museum.

Candace Cannon

Candace Cannon is lead coach of the SoulFisher Ministries FIRST Tech Challenge robotics team. She is an independent filmmaker and currently pursuing her degree in human services and aspires to open a juice bar in the future.



Tremont Davis

Tremont Davis is the lead coach for FIRST LEGO League. He is a former football player for Missouri Baptist University. He is a coach and mentor through Next Level Sports Institute and wishes to work in the psychology field and education.

AmeriCorps NCCC



The SoulFisher Ministries

Staff Members

Ashley Maynez

Barbara Rieder

Candace Cannon

Chorsie Martin

Delra Johnson

Diamond Herron

Erica Johnson

Gregory Thompson

Ilijana Burnett

Ivory Clark

Juana Collins

Kayla Johnson

Kirby Sample

Lailah Burnett

Laura Brinkoetter

Makayla Abernathy

Rachel Hart

Rayven Herron

Shawntelle Fisher

Tremont Davis