# THE FATHERHOOD CRUX

#### ZΩ FIMC JOURNAL



FATHERS MATTER! Omega Men lead our communities through our collective action. We serve as mentors and role models for our youth. Join the movement and become a Zeta Omega Mentor. Contact Bro. Dr. Jehoshaphat K. Jones or Bro. Ken Kitchen for more information. You may register here: zetaomega-fimc.org > menu >registration forms.

# **NEW HORIZONS**

# Building and Supporting Our Programs

BRO. DR. JEHOSHAPHAT K. JONES 5-96 EPSILON UPSILON

During the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year, the Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee (FIMC) established the Zeta Omega Youth Leadership and Mentoring Academy (YL&MA). This program is a 12-month initiative designed to develop and nurture young men into future leaders.

The YL&MA program is built around the core principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift, offering a structured environment for personal and academic growth. Beginning October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meetings with youth are scheduled the first Saturdays of each month at Daniel E. Morgan Elementary School.

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP AND MENTORING ACADEMY @DANIEL E. MORGAN





















# THE FATHERHOOD CRUX

Co-Chair: Bro. Dr. Jehoshaphat K. Jones Co-Chair: Bro. Kenneth Kitchen

Visit Us Online: ZetaOmega-FIMC.org Email: Info@ZetaOmega-FIMC.org Call/Text: 917-859-1565

## **MANHOOD**

Omega Men at the Forefront

The Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee establishes and fosters a sense of empowerment, equity, and justice through various communitycentered initiatives in underserved communities.

Our central mission for the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year is steadfast: Mobilize Omega Men (and fathers) through our Basileus' strategic initiatives and strengthen our collective impact on the community while generating internal revenue for the Zeta Omega Chapter.

## **SCHOLARSHIP**

Educational Excellence and Achievement

In the spirit of Scholarship, the Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee champions academic activities that illuminate paths of opportunity for young

## 2024 YL&MA DATES

- October 5<sup>TH</sup>
- November 2<sup>ND</sup>
- o December 7<sup>TH</sup>

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# ZETA OMEGA FATHERHOOD CAMPING TRIP

The Brothers of Zeta Omega Chapter participated in the first annual Zeta Omega Fatherhood Camping Trip at Punderson State Park. Attendees included 15 scholars from Daniel E. Morgan (Cleveland Metropolitan School District), Lindsey Elementary, and West Geauga Middle School (West Geauga School District) and five fathers. Activities included campsite setup, tent setup, Night-time Zeta Omega Hike, Zeta Omega Bonfire Discussions, basketball games, and fishing.

## If you missed this Fall 2024 experience, join us in the Summer of 2025!







# **BEST PRACTICES FOR MENTORS**

# **OUR MENTOR GOALS**

- Our group activities will be an essential part of the mentor-mentee connection.
- Our goal is to match each mentor with at least two mentees.
- The structured group activities will help create a dynamic and supportive environment where scholars can grow both personally, socially, and academically.

## **Build Trust and Rapport**

Take time to genuinely get to know your mentees. Ask about their interests, hobbies, and goals. Building a foundation of trust will help them feel comfortable and open to your guidance.

## **Be a Consistent Presence**

Consistency is key in mentorship. Attend scheduled meetings and activities regularly, as this demonstrates your commitment and builds reliability in your relationship with the mentees.

## **Encourage Open Communication**

Foster an environment where your mentees feel safe to express their thoughts, challenges, and aspirations. Ask open-ended questions and actively listen to their concerns.

## **Set Realistic Goals**

Work with your mentees to set achievable, short- and long-term goals. Help them create a roadmap for their personal, academic, and career development.

## Be a Positive Role Model

Demonstrate the values you want your mentees to adopt, such as respect, hard work, perseverance, and integrity.

## **Facilitate Group Engagement**

Group activities are a chance to encourage collaboration and leadership skills among the scholars. Use these sessions to foster teamwork, communication, and a sense of community.

## **Provide Constructive Feedback**

Offer honest, but kind feedback when necessary. Balance constructive criticism with positive reinforcement to help your mentees grow.

## **Celebrate Successes**

Acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of your mentees, no matter how small. This will boost their confidence and encourage them to keep striving for success.

## **Practice Patience and Empathy**

Every mentee's journey is different. Be patient and understanding as they navigate challenges and learn from mistakes. Your empathy will be key to creating a supportive mentorship relationship.

## **PERSEVERANCE**

Moving Forward Despite All Obstacles

We must persevere politically as we approach the critical juncture of the 2024 U.S. presidential and local elections. Voter registration drives are major program activities for the Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee. Omega Men recognize the power of the vote and ensure that every voice in our community can be heard. Through educational campaigns and registration initiatives, we aim to enhance civic engagement and uphold the democratic values vital to our organization.

# **UPLIFT**

Collaboration and Community Engagement

Through our focused social action programs: reclamation programs, community service, scholarship, voter registration, and fundraising—the Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee deepens Zeta Omega's enduring legacy of service and leadership within the greater Cleveland community. Uplifting underserved communities and generating new corporate and private partnerships offer new opportunities for real revenue growth and measured social action.

"Uplift – which puts a man in connection with the community in which he lives and lets him realize that he has a responsibility to those who are less fortunate than himself; that he must also do what he does with the idea of service to the community and to the nation."

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Founder, Edgar A. Love

