

# Growing & Supporting Youth Entrepreneurs in Communities

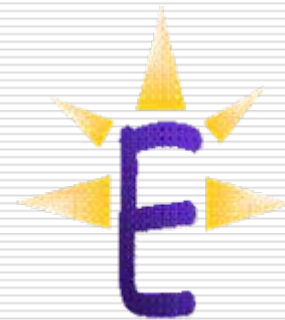
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Lawyers for Neighborhoods



Entrepreneurial  
Development &  
Assistance Center



E.Y.E. for Change, Inc

Engaging Youth  
Entrepreneurs for Change



*Reisterstown Park Heights  
Southern Team, Inc.*

# Mentoring Entrepreneurship Education Legal Education & Advice Development within the Community

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# Youth Entrepreneurship Collaboration

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## ❑ Roles

- ❑ Community Law Center, Inc.
    - ❑ Provide legal education, legal advice, and assistance with business development
    - ❑ Coordinate the collaboration
  - ❑ EYE for Change, Inc.
    - ❑ Provide the model for entrepreneurship education, financial literacy, and leadership development
    - ❑ Develop and execute entrepreneurship curriculum
  - ❑ EDAC
    - ❑ Offer individualized technical assistance with business planning & execution
    - ❑ Provide a strong network of small business owners
  - ❑ The Southern Team
    - ❑ Represent the community's interests in the collaboration
    - ❑ Ensure community engagement and support in all stages of the planning and implementation
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# Reisterstown-Park Heights Southern Team, Inc. (Southern Team)

Oscar R. Cobbs,  
President

Mark E. Hughes,  
Community Organizer



# History and Members

- The Southern Team evolved from a crime prevention effort in the late 1990's (Maryland HotSpots Program) that involved collaboration between governmental agencies and the community.
- Members of the Southern Team include neighborhood associations, churches and service providers in Park Heights, a community in northwestern section of Baltimore, Maryland.

# Mission and Purpose

- The mission of the Southern Team is to leverage the strengths of member organizations and to promote programs and activities for the well-being of Park Heights.
- The Southern Team primarily works through its community organizer to empower community residents to: take action and solve their problems, gain leadership skills and make decisions to improve Park Heights.

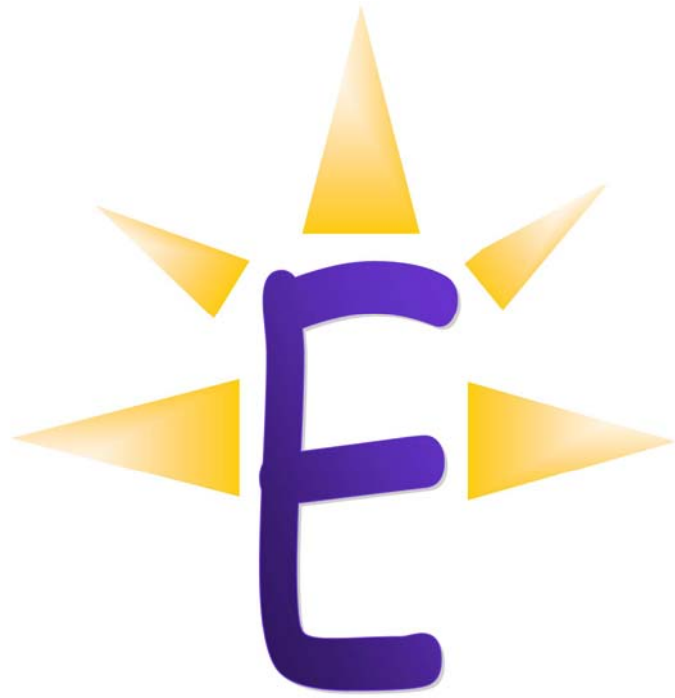
# Community Initiatives and Accomplishments

## Initiatives

- Park Heights C-SAFE Program
- College Trips
- Youth/Judiciary Forum
- National Night out Celebration
- Kwanzaa Celebration
- Quarterly Newsletter

## Accomplishments

- Supported a mentoring program for youth in schools.
- Helped to prevent a new liquor license in the community.
- Raised funds for recreation centers in Park Heights.
- Job fair for ex-offenders.



**EYE for Change, Inc**  
*Engaging Youth Entrepreneurs for Change*  
[www.eyeforchange.org](http://www.eyeforchange.org)



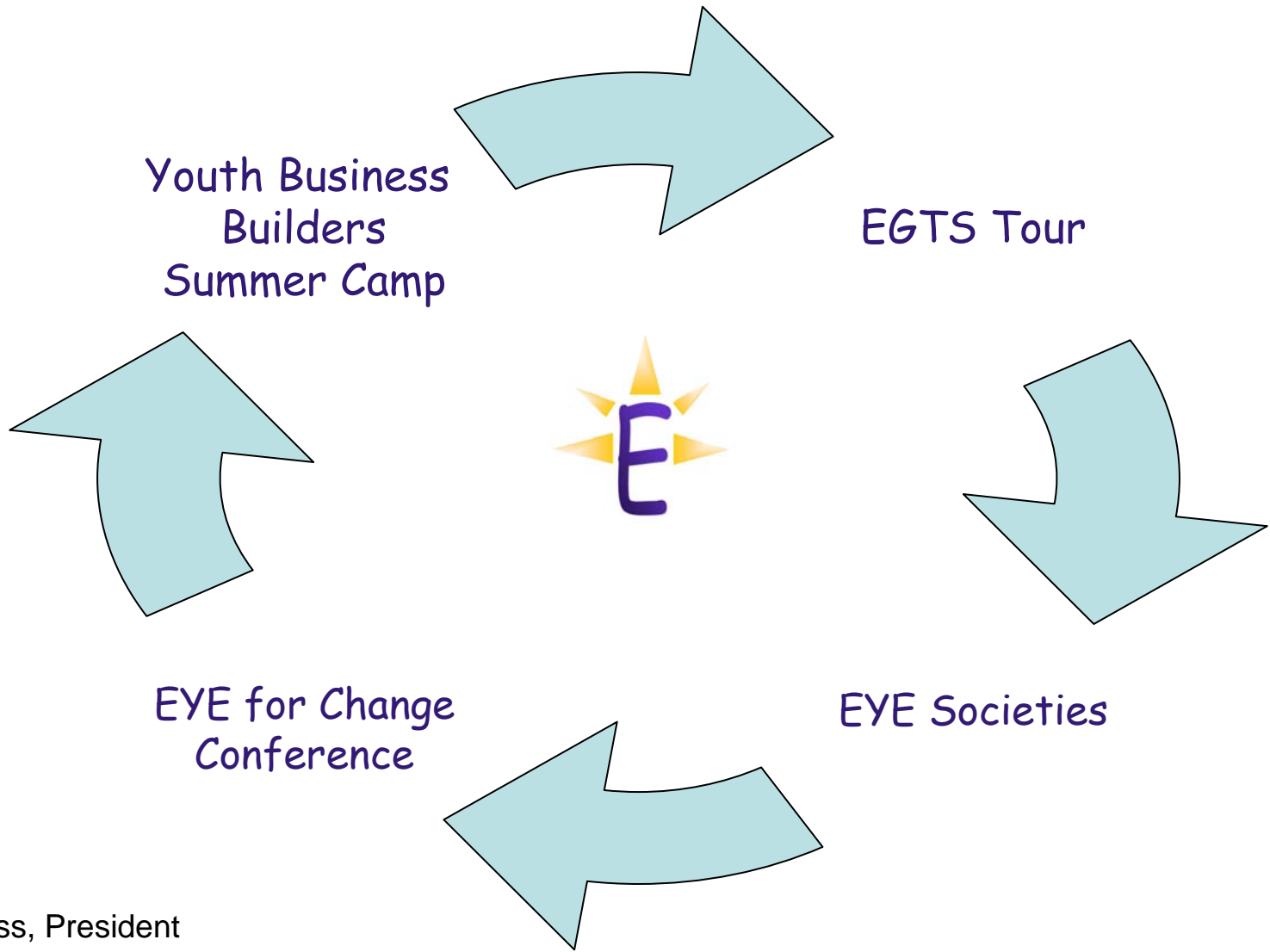
# Mission

- *To empower youth to become agents of change through entrepreneurial skill building.*

# Services

- EGTS Tour
- EYE Societies
- EYE for Change Conference
- Youth Business Builders Summer Camp
- EYE See the Future

# EYE Model



Natasha Cross, President  
EYE for Change, Inc.

# Outcomes

- Increased interest in entrepreneurship as a career option
- Improved knowledge of basic financial concepts
- Heightened awareness of current events related to business
- Increased interest to further education and career training
- Personal Financial Plan, Design Plan, and business plan
- Understands the importance of a business plan
- Learns where and how to invest money
- Improved confidence to follow dreams
- Increased desire to start own business



*There is Power in Youth Entrepreneurship!*

**Natasha Cross**  
President  
EYE for Change, Inc.  
[www.eyeforchange.org](http://www.eyeforchange.org)



# *Entrepreneurial Development & Assistance Center (EDAC)*



# Mantra!

- Helping Small Businesses Improve & Progress!

# Initiatives

## Business Development

- Business Plan Writing Course
- W.O.M.E.N.
- Access to Capital
- Global Entrepreneurship

# Initiatives Cont'd

## Youth Entrepreneurship

- Engaging Youth Entrepreneurs for Change Conference
- Entrepreneurs Go to School Tours
- Entrepreneurial Societies

# Initiatives Cont'd

## Technology/Innovation

- DOD Mentor Protege
- Technology Transfer & Commercialization
- STEM Initiatives

# Community Law Center, Inc.

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Lawyers for Neighborhoods

Small Business Legal Services Project &  
Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative

Dorcas R. Gilmore, Esq.



# Mission

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The Community Law Center provides legal services and technical assistance to grassroots organizations, nonprofits, and small businesses to improve the quality of life and economic viability of communities.

We accomplish our mission through the operation of six interrelated programs.

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- ❑ The Community Legal Services Project
- ❑ The Environmental Justice Project
- ❑ The Pro Bono Project
- ❑ The Project to End Predatory and Deceptive Real Estate Practices
- ❑ The Real Estate Services Project
- ❑ Small Business Legal Services Project & Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative

# Small Business Legal Services Project & Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative

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The Small Business Legal Services Project & Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative address the specific needs of youth, ages 13 to 25, living in distressed communities in Baltimore City who are or aspire to be entrepreneurs. We provide youth with the following:

- ❑ **Legal education** for creating strong businesses
- ❑ **Legal advice**
- ❑ **Assistance** with business development



# Small Business Legal Services Project & Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative

## Role

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- **Why is legal assistance important for small business development, and especially for youth businesses?**

Small businesses, like big businesses, benefit from establishing a strong legal foundation and having a thorough understanding of relevant local, state, and federal regulations and laws. Also, youth have special opportunities for and challenges to business development that deserve attention.





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