

**MCCRACKEN COUNTY COMMUNITY  
CAREER ENDOWMENT, INC.**

BRINGING COMMUNICATION. COMMUNITY COLLABORATION. COOPERATION & COMMITMENT  
TO WORKFORCE DIVERSITY IN PADUCAH

**Volume 1**

**Issue 10**

**December, 2014**

**CLASS FIVE OF MCCCE  
PAXTONSCHOLARS SELECTED**

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In October 2014, the McCracken County Community Career Endowment, Inc. announced the selection of the following six (6) African American high school juniors currently enrolled in the Paducah Independent and McCracken County School Districts as participants of the PaxtonScholars Program Class V:

(Left to Right CLOCKWISE: ERYCAH EDWARDS (PTHS), THAILANDRIA DANIELS (PTHS), TYANNE DONALD (PTHS), DOMINIQUE PERRY (MCHS), WHITNEY JONES-SHAW (PTHS) AND. TAJA PRIDDY (MCHS).



*“One comes home from an exhausting day at work and then has children who need you to read to them or go over homework. But one must do that. There isn’t an alternative.”*

• Howard University  
President H. Patrick Swygart

The PaxtonScholars Program seeks to enhance student self-esteem, parent or guardian advocacy, peer and mentor interaction, maintenance and improvement of academic performance and preparation for college transition, all of which are unique challenges that African American students face. These six (6) scholars will receive college scholarship funds based on grade-point averages during their Junior and Senior years of high school and through the first two (2) semesters of college. A college suitable laptop computer will be presented to all six (6) scholars upon high graduation in 2016.

**\*\*\*\*We are looking for donations to help purchase the six (6) computers for these scholars in the spring of 2015. Contact us if you wish to be a donor.**

### **MCCCE PARTNERS WITH EIGHT MENTORING/TUTORING PROGRAMS**

At a program/reception on November 18, 2015, the McCracken County Community Career Endowment, Inc. presented 2014-15 Mentoring/Tutoring Partnership Grants totaling \$8,000.00 to the following programs :

1. Ninth Street Tabernacle Ministries, Inc.
2. Broadway United Methodist Church
3. New Greater Love Missionary Baptist Youth Program
4. Paducah Middle School Youth Services Center
5. Oscar Cross Boys and Girls Club-Paducah
6. Luther F. Carson Four Rivers Center
7. Tornado Alley Youth Services Center
8. Grace Episcopal Church

The MCCCE awarded grants from \$500.00 to \$1,100.00 to the eight (8) partnering agencies who strive to help children and teenagers obtain the tutoring and mentoring opportunities they need to succeed throughout school and graduation.



### **MCCCE AFRICAN AMERICAN TEACHER INCENTIVE PAYS OFF AGAIN**

In early 2014, the MCCCE announced the continuance of the offer to grant a \$1,000.00 “signing bonus” to any new African American teacher hired by the McCracken County School System and/or the Paducah Independent School System.

We are proud to announce that two (2) \$1,000.00 “signing bonuses” were presented to Ms. Ruth Faith Cahill and Lynnette Michelle Harris after they were hired in August 2014 at Paducah Middle School. Ms. Cahill is teaching Language Arts and Reading and Ms. Harris is teaching Science..

The Board of Directors of the McCracken County Community Career Endowment, Inc., sincerely welcomes Ms. Cahill and Ms. Harris to our community and wish them the very best as they help teach and mentor the students in the Paducah Independent School System.

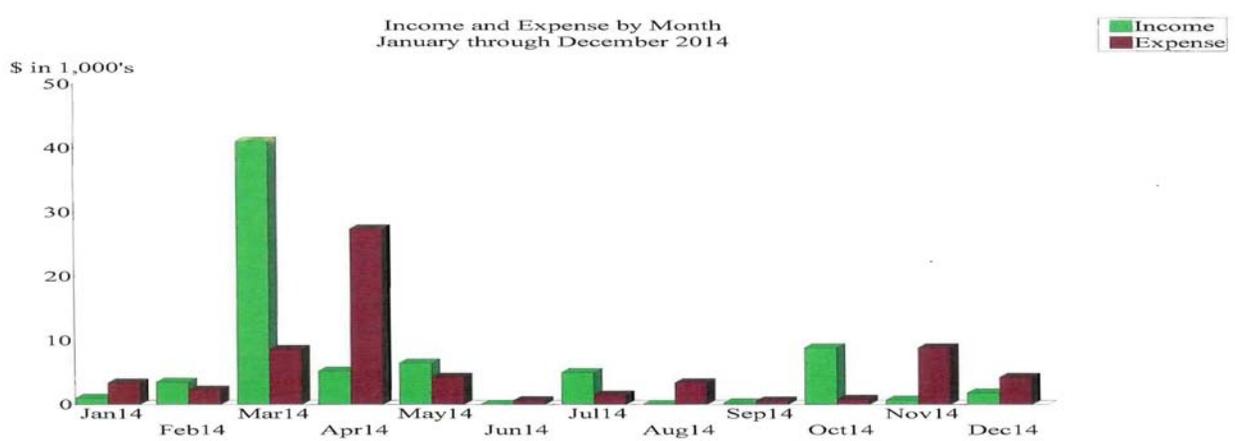
Lynnette Harris and Charles Hamilton

Ruth Cahill and Charles Hamilton



MCCCE wishes to give a special “THANKS” the Paducah Middle School Principal, Mr. Stacey Overlin, and the entire staff at PMS for being helpful in mentoring and encouraging both of these new teachers. Adjusting to a new school and the students can be tough and challenging for any teacher and the support of fellow members of the PMS TEAM has been extremely helpful. By working together, we can all perform better as we strive to help those around us become what they want to be.





Expense Summary  
January through December 2014

Awards and Grants	%62.00
Contract Services	17.89
Other Types of Expenses	11.73
Facilities and Equipment	5.06
Operations	3.29
Business Expenses	0.02
Total	\$65,967.92



By Account

*“Most people don’t realize the role they play in the education of their children.”*  
James P. Comer, M.D. Yale University Child Study Center

## 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles Hamilton-President  
 Fredericka Hargrove, Secretary  
 Danny Fugate, Treasurer  
 Carol Young  
 Kerri Eads  
 Anita Williams  
 J.W. Cleary

Lonnie Crowdus  
 B.A. Hamilton  
 Earlie Fugate  
 Dr. Belinda Dalton-Russell  
 Dr. David Floyd  
 David Frost  
 Don Mitchell, Director

\*\*\*\*\*EARNEST JEROME HAMILTON FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE\*\*\*\*\*

The McCracken County Community Career Endowment Inc. (MCCCE) granted the second round of payments to the three (3) area organizations for the Earnest Jerome Hamilton Fatherhood Initiative. The organizations that received grants of \$1000 for 2014 were: **Tornado Alley YSC, Oscar Cross Boys and Girls Club of Paducah and Ninth Street Tabernacle Ministries "Holy Cadets".**

Earnest Jerome Hamilton was the son of Earnest (JoAnne) Hamilton Jr. & Betty L. Davis Hamilton of Paducah. He was a Veteran of the United States Army, served during Operation Iraqi Freedom and received the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal and Honorary Lifetime Membership with the 18<sup>th</sup> Military Police Brigade. Jerome passed away on February 16, 2012 at 24 years of age while attending Western Kentucky University in pursuit of a Bachelor of Science Degree. MCCCE hereby dedicates the Fatherhood Initiative program in honor of Earnest Jerome Hamilton and in recognition of his father's (Earnest Hamilton Jr.) charitable contributions to the Paducah/McCracken County community. In addition, MCCCE also acknowledges contributions by United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC), C-Plant Credit Union and United Steelworkers (USW) Local 550.

**The Earnest Jerome Hamilton Fatherhood Initiative is designed to encourage involvement of fathers and father figures to African American school aged youth in Paducah/McCracken County.**

**\*\*\*WE ARE CURRENTLY NEEDING DONATIONS TO CONTINUE THIS PROGRAM-CALL US TO DONATE.**

Examples of increased involvement could include (but not limited) to the following:



**MCCRACKEN COUNTY COMMUNITY CAREER ENDOWMENT, INC.**

**JOIN THE FRIENDS OF MCCCE**

Enclosed is my gift of:

\$50.00 \_\_\_                      \$100.00 \_\_\_                      \$250.00 \_\_\_

\$500.00 \_\_\_                      \$1,000.00 \_\_\_                      OTHER \_\_\_

**PLEASE MAIL TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO:**

**MCCCE, INC.**

**P.O. BOX 357                      PADUCAH, KENTUCKY 42002-0357**

*“My parents didn’t have a clue about what to do. They thought if you didn’t have the money in the bank that was it, no college. It was such a helpless and hopeless feeling,”*

Nathan McCall, Author

## IMPROVE YOUR ACT IMPROVE YOUR CHOICES

The McCracken County Community Career Endowment, Inc. (MCCCE) is continuing its partnership with the Paducah Independent Schools system to conduct eight (8) one hour (1 ) ACT Prep seminars (total of 8 hours of instruction per student) and provide funds for an additional ACT test for up to 120 Junior and Senior African American/First Generation College students in the Paducah Independent School System. McCracken County School System was omitted this year as they are performing a similar training at McCracken County High School and stated they did not need our assistance this year.

The MCCCE became aware of a nationwide testing gap four years ago and the urgent need for additional preparation by a large number of local African American students to improve their ACT test scores. The goal of this program is to give the students another tool to improve their ACT scores which “...means more minority students will gain eligibility for more student grants, college acceptance and/or other factors that predict success in post secondary options for our African American students and future decision makers,” as stated by Dr. Randy Greene, former Superintendent of Paducah Independent Schools.

Paducah Tilghman High School will be used for the eight sessions beginning in January 2015. Students will be trained in critical thinking skills, test-taking strategies and decision making as it relates to the student’s life experiences, to help them become independent learners and increase their ability to make informed, responsible choices, which should increase their ACT scores.

Paducah Tilghman teachers have also agreed to teach general subject matter contained on the ACT test to assist the students as they prepare to actually answer the test questions.

This specialized training program is being funded partially by donations from **Ray Black and Son, Inc., A&K Construction, Inc. and Computer Services, Inc., and Harper Industries, Inc** Additional tax deductible donations can be mailed to: MCCCE, Inc. at P.O. Box 357, Paducah, Kentucky 42002-0357.

*“Really seeking to understand another person is probably one of the most important deposits you can make, and it is the key to every other deposit.”*

THE 7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PEOPLE

*“Almost all the jobs that pay enough to support a family now require higher levels of literacy, language fluency and technical training.”*

Project GRAD (Graduation Really Achieves Dreams)

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**We are on  
the Web  
[mccce.org](http://mccce.org)**

***P.O. Box 357  
Paducah,  
Kentucky  
42002-0357***

## MISSION STATEMENT

The McCracken County Community Career Endowment, Inc. (MCCCE), a tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization, was incorporated on January 31, 2006 in the Commonwealth of Kentucky after a donor directed endowment had been established by the late Fred & wife Peggy Paxton who placed their monetary contribution of one million dollars in the Community Foundation of West Kentucky in December 2005. The donor directed endowment proceeds from the earnings are distributed to the MCCCE, Inc. annually from the Community Foundation of West Kentucky who administrates the investment portfolio.

The agency's mission is to improve the diversity of the community's workforce by developing and conducting activities designed to increase employment opportunities for African Americans. We are working to improve the economic success of unemployed or underemployed individuals in our community by partnering with businesses, employment agencies, and educational training institutions to assist area residents in acquiring and maintaining suitable employment. Our goal is to improve the community by assisting low-income individuals and /or unemployed individuals to find gainful employment. We encourage furtherance of their education, assist in development of occupational skills, and strive to help them improve their job readiness status. We are working to provide youth intervention services that promote success in their educational and career pursuits and assist and encourage area employers to connect with and diversify their workforce.

We are designing policies, programs and services that establish goals and prepare individuals for jobs that offer much needed sustainable wages and benefits.

We are currently located in the Paducah Area Commerce Center and continue to initiate programs and services that meet the following objectives:

- Create an effective Job Bank
- Provide scholarships for post-secondary aspirations of students/ returning adults
- Conduct community training on Workforce Diversity and Job Acquisition (soft) Skills
- Coordinate and/or conduct Mentoring and Tutoring
- Market and generate the necessary funding to support planned programs and services

Sincerely,

*Don Mitchell*

Don Mitchell, Director

Phone

270-444-6962

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Website Address

[mccce.org](http://mccce.org)