THE ORGANIZATION

MISSION

The Family Christian Association of America serves communities and helps its members achieve independence through emphasis on Christian values, Strong families and Self-Determination.

VISION

“We will create an enduring visionary organization that will be recognized as a leader in the areas of Youth Development, Family Services and Health & Wellness/Sports.”

VALUES

FCAA is committed to:
• Respecting the dignity, value and self-worth of each individual;
• Promoting harmony and opportunity for the growth of communities and individuals;
• Self-determination; and
• Conscientious stewardship of the resources entrusted to its care.

OPERATIONAL GOALS

• To implement financial development strategies designed to diversify income, maintain fiscal integrity, build operational reserves, and control assets.

• To continue program planning strategies that strengthen youth and families.

• To utilize aggressive resource development strategies that will provide the necessary human and capital resources to sustain organizational growth.
As we look back on the past year, I am sure all would agree that it was a year like no other, and one we are not likely to forget.

Throughout our 36 year history, FCAA has weathered many storms and, time and time again, it has demonstrated its ability to react quickly in response to unprecedented challenges.

The COVID-19 pandemic took the world by surprise and FCAA was faced with the challenge of continuing to provide assistance to a community in need of services and support. Management and staff had to adjust to the many changes that came with the “new normal.”

Now, more than ever, FCAA continues to ensure that our services improve, change, and grow to meet the changing needs of the people and communities we serve. Our many programs exist to provide a variety of services to meet our mission of serving communities and helping our members achieve independence.

Due to the pandemic, the agency had to cancel and postpone several of its annual fundraising activities. During the Annual Goal Planning Conference, held virtually, board members and staff discussed the major challenges faced during the pandemic and how we will adapt to the challenges. We believe that planning now ensures that we are well prepared for the future.

As you explore these pages you will see a sample of some of the great work FCAA does in this community. You will also catch a glimpse of the children and teens we’re nurturing in our many programs.

I consider it an honor and a privilege to have served as Board Chair for the past three years. It has been a rewarding experience and I am grateful for relationships and opportunities I have made these past years.

We will build on our knowledge, experience, and success to achieve our goals by recognizing that we must always find ways to improve. This would not be possible without the dedication and generosity of our committed Corporate Board of Directors, staff, funders, donors and community partners. Without you, there would be no hope for positive change. Your commitment to and belief in a better tomorrow enables us to change lives.

Phyllis V. Myers
Board Chairman
There was no way of knowing at the end of 2019 what the on-rushing train of 2020 would bring. Yes, there were some signs: systemic racism and the death of too many Black men at the hands of white police officers was already a scourge. Wildfires in the West, hurricanes around the world, and an increasingly volatile climate were already a menace as the overheated Earth continued to run a fever. An unconventional President facing a restive public and a re-election campaign portended partisan rancor and possible electoral upheaval. And then, there was the cluster of cases of a deadly flu-like disease in Wuhan, China that seemed - to Americans at least - to be somebody else’s problem.

What 2020 became was a series of rolling disasters - the killing of George Floyd, the burning of California, an acrimonious political campaign marred by baseless allegations of fraud and illegal voting, and the worst pandemic the world has seen in more than a century. But in the midst of the tragedies, there was courage, there was grace, there was sacrifice, there was hope - there were people faced with the very worst rising up to be their very best. Few will recall the year just ending with anything close to fondness. But it will surely be recalled with no small measure of pride.

At FCAA, 2020 was no different. We began the year focused on a new theme “Faithfully Embracing A New Decade With 2020 Vision.” And boy, was our Faith tested. The year would challenge our resolve but would not break our Faith! The pandemic caused school closures and public shutdowns, leading to job loss and food insecurities, mental and physical deficiencies and yes record high deaths. Families were separated and life as we come to expect it, was put on hold. FCAA was deemed “essential” in order to provide continued services to the neediest in our community. Our continuum of services had to respond to the ever-changing guidelines of the day. We went “Virtual” to continue serving our children and families. We became a food distributor to help feed those in need. We became COVID-19 Testing sites, we aided in ensuring our people were counted in the Census. We maintained our workforce with Zero layoffs of staff during the pandemic in order to keep ALL of our employees (full and part time) employed to ensure they took care of their families.

In conclusion, many of these new endeavors mentioned above are still in place and we will continue to play our “essential” part in helping our community rebound.

It is my prayer that God continues to bestow His blessings upon ALL of you and keep you safe.

Terry Joseph, Jr.
President/CEO
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Resource Development is an important part of FCAA. Board, volunteers, and staff work diligently to raise money and recruit competent staff to accomplish the work of this organization. FCAA uses several special events to raise additional dollars. These annual events included the Annual Meeting, Black Achievers of Excellence Awards Program, Sustaining Membership Campaign, Community of Faith Keepers Golf Tournament and The Miss FCAA Pageant.

During the Annual Meeting, the Corporate Board of Directors was installed by Commissioner Sherelean Bass of the City of Opa-Locka and Ms. Phyllis V. Myers, FCAA Board Chair, presented the 2019 Annual Report, which highlighted the agency’s many accomplishments. FCAA’s volunteers were also recognized for their continued support to make FCAA A Place Where Lives Are Changed. Mr. Gregory Davis was named Board Member of the Year. The Sustaining Campaign was also kicked off with a goal of $100,000. Over 45 Board Members, Staff and Supporters were in attendance.

The National Cupidettes Club, Inc. awarded FCAA with the National Charity Award 2020. The award is presented every year to an organization that expresses charitable values exemplified in the work of Cupidettes Club, Inc. FCAA was presented with a certificate of recognition and monetary donation of Five Hundred Dollars ($500) by members of the Cupidettes Club, Inc.

The Black Achievers of Excellence Program, under the leadership of Honorary Chairman, Dr. Steve Gallon III, Vice Chair, Miami-Dade County Public School Board – District 1, honored 20 Black men and women for their outstanding leadership in the workplace and the community. There were over 125 people in attendance.
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Cassandra Ameena Shaheed (bottom right) 2020 Black Achiever and Guest of Florida Memorial University.

L to R: Phyllis V. Myers, FCAA Board Chairman, Dr. Steve Gallon, II, 2020 Black Achievers Honorary Chairman and Terry Joseph, Jr., FCAA President/CEO.


L to R: Tariro Gatsi, Senior Manager & 2020 Black Achiever and Karen Greaves, Senior Auditor at Anthony Brunson, P.A.

Police Chief Colina (bottom left) and City of Miami Police Officers at 2020 Black Achievers Luncheon.

Ms. Robin Tellez, Human Resources Director (top left) and Baptist Health South Florida 2020 Achievers.
FCAA’s Head Start/Early Head Start Program, funded by Miami-Dade County, serves 460 Head Start, 56 Early Head Start children and 250 parents. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, teachers provided daily activities to students through ChildPlus, ClassDojo and Galileo. A virtual graduation was held at each Head Start site for the 169 children transitioning to kindergarten. Eighty-eight (88) of the 169 transitioning students participated in the Waterford Upstart in-home, Kindergarten readiness summer program. A free laptop and WiFi were also given to the 88 students at the end of the program. During Spring Break, FCAA provided Grab & Go meals to Head Start/Early Head Start families and continued serving daily to the virtual learning students.

The Head Start Extended Care Program was implemented in 2020. The program serves 38 students daily from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The curriculum is STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics or applied mathematics). The program’s aim is to teach Head Start students to think critically, be innovative and use engineering or technology in creative approaches for pre-school students.

The 7th Annual Father-Daughter dance was held in February with over 100 people in attendance. Parents and their children enjoyed an evening of dancing, table activities and arts and crafts. The Annual recruitment fair was also held in February. Vendors included a Health and Dental Van, Jessie Trice Community Health Center, Center for Family and Child Enrichment, Opa-Locka Community Development Corporation (housing) and more.

FCAA Head Start locations also served as free COVID-19 mobile testing sites. The sites served all residents 5 yrs and older. Every Friday, the mobile vans alternate between FCAA locations.
The Elementary Schools Program
After School Care Program provides a secure environment for children during non-school hours. The S.T.A.R.S. program had 527 students at 8 schools during the 2019-2020 school year. Participants in the S.T.A.R.S. Program show improvements in reading and socialization skills, an increase in their physical strength, and are more engaged in the arts.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, After School Care Staff and consultants completed online training with The Children’s Trust/Trust Academy. The training topics included Introduction to Effective Behavior Management; Creating a Welcoming Environment for All Students; Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect, to name a few. Staff was also in constant contact with parents.

Thanks to the Children’s Trust, 45 students were able to attend a free Summer Camp. Following the established CDC guidelines, which included wearing a face mask, social distancing and proper hand washing, campers participated in table games, STEM/Literacy/Reading tutorials, Group Family Enrichment/Life Skills, and outdoor activities.

The After School Program began assisting students virtually in August and later moved to in-person services in October. Staff also provided hands-on assistance to the elementary schools as needed.

FCAA collaborated with the Opa-Locka CDC to assist with the 2020 Census. Census workers conducted four (4) Census events that were open to anyone who had not completed their Census. The event was a huge success with over 150 people participating.
The Youth Development Department Teen Club began the year by attending the Annual Black Achievers of Excellence Luncheon. There were 40 club members in attendance and several students served as program participants.

The Youth Development Department embraced the use of technology and innovation in response to the unprecedented COVID-19 impact. The Annual College tours were held virtually and the Class of 2020 graduates were celebrated with a virtual parade. Our students received over 200 college acceptance letters and ultimately have chosen to pursue the right school for them.

The Online Summer Youth Employment Program gave 25 students an opportunity to learn and refine their skills in graphic design, social media marketing, website development and creation, digital event planning. Through partnership with Free to Live Management Services, some of the students also participated in an entrepreneurship institute that taught them the skills needed to start their own profitable businesses. The department is quite pleased to have received $30,000 from community partners in support of the students having this online learning experience.

The Annual Thanksgiving Drive provided over 100 turkeys and meals to families from Norland Elementary, Myrtle Grove K-8 Center, JFK Middle, Norland Middle, Norland Senior High, Turner Tech Senior High as well as FCAA’s Head Start Program. We were happy to partner with Empowerment, Fly Supply, Evangel Church International and Joshua’s Heart and many more.

A Thanksgiving Potluck was also provided to students from schools in the surrounding area. Students heard a short message, played games, and ate a delicious meal. Over 40 students were served while practicing social distancing guidelines and strict mask enforcement.
The Health and Wellness/Sports program kicked off the year with its Annual Ray Thornton Basketball League with 18 teams and over 200 players; but due to the pandemic, the season was cut short.

In spite of the pandemic, the Health & Wellness/Sports department was hard at work assisting FCAA’s other programs.

During the months of March thru May staff provided the Head Start, Youth Development and Afterschool Care Departments with exercises and health materials through ClassDojo and other social media outlets.

They assisted the After School Care program during the Summer by helping implement and enforce the new CDC guidelines and provided daily exercise and outdoor activities to the students.

The Health & Wellness Staff also provided health related materials to students, parents and coaches. The health materials included how to prepare a healthy plate, exercises, and healthy eating suggestions.

During the school year, After School Care students were provided, via Zoom, SPARKS program exercises which consisted of push-ups, jumping jacks, squats and running in place.

Thanks to a partnership with the Miami Dolphins, every Thursday, FCAA provided over 100 prepared meals to program participants and their families. FCAA also collaborated with neighboring schools by assisting with food giveaways and community outreach projects.
During a year where our organization experienced numerous changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we continued to successfully utilize our valuable and cherished resources to serve the community. With the excellent performance of our financial systems, we consistently provided management, our governing board and other stakeholders with up-to-date and timely data to monitor our results.

FCAA prides itself with operating under sound fiscal controls and high standards. Our annual external audit attests to the fact that generally accepted accounting principles are routinely practiced throughout our account systems. A set of well thought out and annually reviewed policies and procedures ensure that our operations are in compliance and meeting the expectations of all our funding sources and the community we serve.
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* Deceased

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Eddie Loyd, Health & Wellness/Sports Director
Catherine Hall-Brown, Head Start/Early Head Start Director
Thank you to all of our supporters, including our members, sponsors, volunteers, staff and general public for your continued support of our programs and services.
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"FCAA...A Place Where Lives Are Changed!"