



Mission:

EYEJ drives social justice reform by empowering young people to advocate for change.

Vision:

An equitable and inclusive world.

EYEJ Executive Summary

D Mission & Background

Empowering Youth, Exploring Justice (EYEJ) drives social justice reform by empowering young people to advocate for change. Mai Moore and June Antoine founded EYEJ in 2013 in response to the growing needs of children in Cleveland's underserved communities. Their vision, inspired by the preventable death of Trayvon Martin, remains the same in 2021: to give children a louder voice in resolving issues of social justice. By raising awareness and fostering meaningful connections between young people and local leaders, **EYEJ empowers Changemakers and aspires to create an equitable and inclusive world.**

D Our Work

EYEJ continues to make an enormous difference. Through the devoted work of volunteers, donors, and staff, its keynote programs affect the lives of thousands and create or plant the seeds for change all across the Cleveland community.

- **YODJ: YOUTH ONLINE DISCUSSING JUSTICE:** Through this carefully designed and research-based monthly program, students in grades six through eight from 27 public schools and five recreation centers meet regularly with trained professionals to learn how to set goals, become self-valued social justice leaders, and make decisions that positively impact their communities. Sixty-five percent of students report learning about social justice issues for the first time, and 45 percent have promised to employ that new awareness in their everyday lives. Since 2013, over 1,600 young people have participated in YODJ.
- **EYEJ YOUTH COUNCIL:** First convened in 2017, this group of young people continues to brainstorm solutions to the challenges Cleveland's youth face every day. All 49 participants to date, trained in critical thinking and public speaking, have graduated as changemakers. Notable achievements include holding a live online protest for digital access, completing a \$20,000 fundraising campaign, partnering with US Bank on a letter-writing campaign, attracting local media coverage, and receiving speaking invitations from Ohio politicians and sports figures. During the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, its focus is bridging the "Digital Divide," helping minority families gain access to the high-speed internet needed to attend school and compete on the job market. EYEJ uses policy, social policy, community organizing, research, youth voice and programming as tools to make positive systemic change.
- **EYEJ SPEAKS:** This 10-week speaker series launched on Facebook Live in June 2020, features thought leaders, academic professionals, corporate representatives, and various activists engaging young people in discussions about timely issues of social justice in Cleveland. The series has been viewed more than 20,000 times and generated more than 72,000 social media impressions across three platforms, with viewers in states including New York, California, and Maryland. EYEJ is proud that the series includes young people, thereby giving them a voice in the solutions to problems that affect them.

EYEJ



Youth
Council



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Managing Board

- Board, Chair: Michelle Thomas, Educator at Savannah- Chatham County Public School System
- Board, Vice-Chair: Michael Bokmiller, Supervisor of the Sex Abuse Department of Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services
- Board, Finance: Seku Shabazz, Chairman and CEO of Great Lakes Family of Companies, LLC
- Board, Secretary: Jeff Astrove, IT Project Manager of Progressive Insurance
- Board, Board Emeritus: Mai Moore, Co-Founder and Executive Director of EYEJ: Empowering Youth, Exploring Justice
- Board, At-Large: Kim Hampton, Team Lead for the U.S. Army – Communication Electronics Command (CECOM)

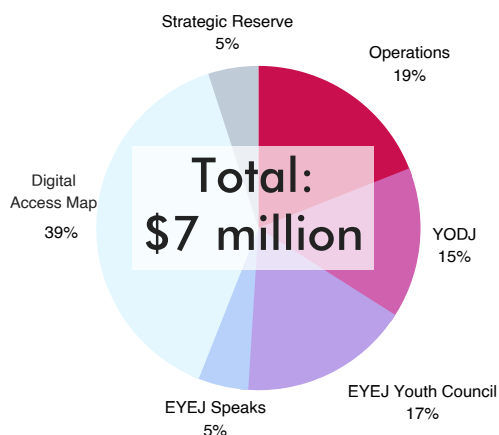
Collective Board

- Mai Moore: Founder, Executive Director, Co-Chair
- Boudu Bingay: Data Lead, Congrgate Setting Investigation, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
- Justin McLoughlin: CEO of AirCFO
- Kenyatta Skyles: Vice President, Partnerships, National Urban League

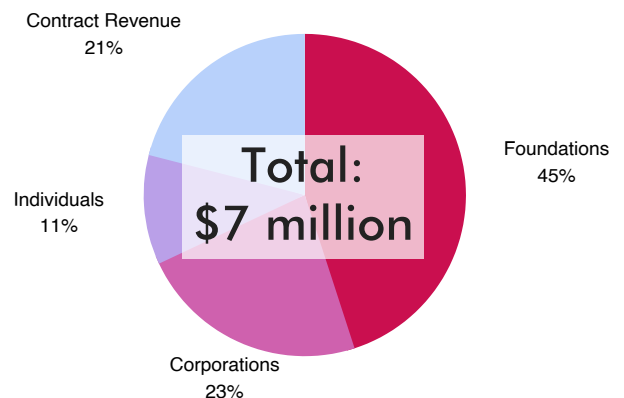
Resource Development

- Zachary McClearly: Lead, KeyBank
- Mai Moore: Lead
- Dick Michel: Former Lawyer
- Stacey McKinely: Cleveland Clinic
- Hank Doll: Foundation Executive
- Symone McClain: Former Foundation Exec.
- Peter Chmiel: CWRU
- Karyn Pistone: Pistone Wealth Advisors
- Maranda Priah: EYEJ Youth Council

Expenses for next 5 years



Funding Sources



EYEJ



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EMPOWERING YOUTH, EXPLORING JUSTICE



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Impact



65% of students in YODJ: Youth Online Discussing Justice learned about social justice topics for the first time, want to learn more, and value helping others.



93% of young people from the youth discussion series have been identified as a self-valued leader and potential changemaker.



The EYEJ Youth Council executed a campaign that raised \$20,000 (one fifth of the overall EYEJ campaign) over one weekend involving 400+ donors.

49

EYEJ has had 49 EYEJ Youth Council members who are all changemakers. The members are high school and college age students impacted by racial injustice.

216

EYEJ and the EYEJ Youth Council engaged 216 high-level attendees in a virtual town hall focused on the digital divide in August 2020.

600

EYEJ developed a contact list including more than 600 names and email addresses of relevant government officials and media to raise awareness of the digital divide.

Partners

- Central Promise Neighborhood
- Case Western Reserve University
- EYEJ Millennial Task Force
- Tremont/Metro-West/MyCom
- Faith Movement
- Hathaway Brown
- Minorities Together Movement
- P-16/MyCom
- Naach Di Cleveland
- ConnectedNEO
- NewONESHaker
- Samasana
- Teach for America
- The Catalyst
- Undergraduate Indian Student Association - CWRU
- Venture for America
- Youth Opportunities Unlimited
- Mt. Pleasant Monthly MyCom
- STANCE Cleveland
- Business Volunteers Unlimited
- City of Cleveland
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District
- Cleveland Police
- The Creating Communities of Care Network
- United Church of Christ
- Women's Business Centers for Ohio
- Recover
- Cleveland Pandemic Response
- Pi Beta Phi
- Case Western Reserve University, CCEL
- Cleveland Institute of Art
- City of Cleveland
- Plymouth Church, UCC
- PWC
- OhioX
- WWNGUP
- National Network for Justice
- Serve the Moment
- Cleveland Repair
- Cuyahoga Community College
- Neighborhood Connections
- WKYC

Funders

- Chase Bank
- Andrew Family Foundation
- Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- Third Federal Foundation
- United Church of Christ, Neighbors in Need
- Plymouth Church, UCC Shaker Heights
- Harvard Social Club
- St. Paul's Church
- #EMPOWER Individual Giving Donors
- Third Federal Savings & Loan
- Amazon
- Macy's
- Vistra/Dynegy
- Samasana
- City of Cleveland
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District
- Nurenborg Paris
- Hyland Software
- Neighborhood Connections
- FutureHeights
- Frantz Ward Law Firm
- Wal-Mart
- South Euclid School District
- Cuyahoga Community College

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