

THE FLORIDA COUNCIL ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS ANNUAL RESEARCH AGENDAS



The Council seeks to promote and thereby improve the social status of black men and boys in Florida through the strategic application of knowledge and information gained from the facilitation and pursuit of high quality research; the results of which are used for the responsible influence of public policy, individuals, families, communities, organizations, and other social institutions that can positively impact the overall quality of life in Florida for black men and boys specifically, and the entire state populace, in general.

The Council's Strategic Research Plan recognizes a unique goal, areas of mission, and objectives that are all aligned with the organization's larger mission, by-laws, and most importantly, its strategic plan. The strategic research plan focuses singularly on the Council's duty and dedication to facilitate research and to use the findings from said research to "alleviate and correct the underlying causes of the conditions" affecting black men and boys.

Who We Are

Created by the 2006 Florida Legislature, the Council is charged with conducting a systematic study of the conditions affecting black men and boys, including but not limited to, homicide rates, arrest and incarcerations rates, poverty, violence, drug abuse, death rates, disparate annual income levels, health issues, and school performance. The Council plans to propose measures which could help alleviate and correct the underlying causes of the conditions described above. Some of the measures would require changes to the law, whereas others would simply require systematic changes which could be implemented without legislative action.

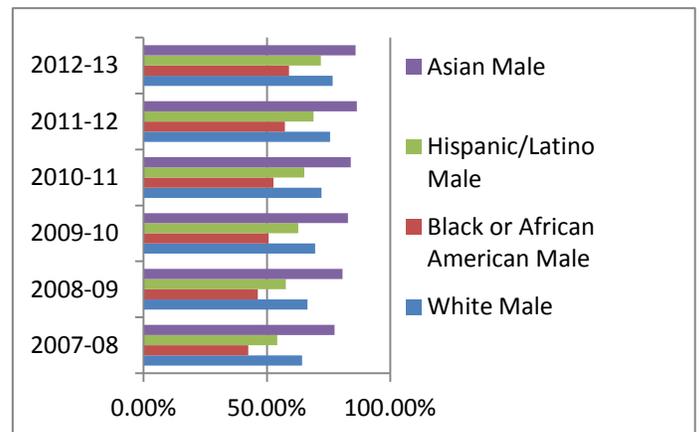
What We Do

The Council's focus will be to develop legislative incentives to encourage more males of color to enter the career field of education, particularly early education (such as housing incentives, monetary incentives, tuition reimbursement). Secondly, organize a meeting of deans of Colleges of Education to brainstorm methods to incentivize more black males entering the education field in the state of Florida. Thirdly, create a mechanism that will enable Superintendents of Schools in Florida's 67 counties to meet in order to share best practices that have produced positive outcomes within their school districts. Fourthly, Encourage the implementation statewide of current programs that have improved key Florida district's ability to effectively engage parents.

Our Purpose

The overarching research goal of the **Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys** (Council) is to position research on the social status of black men and boys as a critical element toward the improvement of quality of life, and the increased understanding of this demographic. The Council seeks to promote and thereby improve the social status of black men and boys in Florida through the strategic application of knowledge and information gained from the facilitation and pursuit of high quality research; the results of which are used for the responsible influence of public policy, individuals, families, communities, organizations, and other social institutions that can positively impact the overall quality of life in Florida for black men and boys specifically, and the entire state populace, in general.

Education
Florida Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity
2007-08 Through 2012-13



Key Objectives

- Conduct, support, coordinate and promote high quality research related to the social status of black men and boys in Florida
- Forge strong linkages with Florida's research community
- Facilitate an effective interface between research and public policy
- Foster a state network of partnerships and other exchanges that will encourage the dissemination and use of research outcomes generated by Council-initiated and Council-supported research
- Conduct periodic review, analysis and evaluation of the factors included in the collective overview regarding the social status of black men and boys in Florida, and identify new critical themes for research or make other adjustments as needed
- Facilitate the publication and dissemination of results from Council-initiated or Council-supported research using a variety of outlets thereby increasing public access to the research results

Accomplishments

- **Day of Dialogue**, Daytona Beach, Florida
Education: This event proved to be an effective method to gather pertinent information related to improving the education experience of students, particularly black males, enrolled in Florida schools
- **Day of Dialogue**, Tampa, Florida
Law Enforcement: This event proved to be an effective method to gather pertinent information related to having favorable encounters with law enforcement
- **Teen Workshop**, Tampa, Florida
"The Cypher: Kicking the Truth to Black Youth"
This event was designed to engage youth in discussion to facilitate their role in facilitating favorable encounters with law enforcement (Questionnaires distributed)
- **Public Forum**, Fort Myers, Florida
The dialogue goal was to engage community leaders, youth and surrounding districts un discussion to share best practices and develop recommendations to improve the outcome for black males. Also, to facilitate the youth role in facilitating favorable encounters with law enforcement (Questionnaires distributed)

*Surveys are distributed to gather information in hopes to prove the need for the development of programs that can be duplicate as a conduit for change throughout the state of Florida.

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