



www.hopefromthebottomup.com

February 2021 Newsletter

HOPE SURVEY ABOUT THE FUTURE: Survey Question #1: What would you like to change for the better in your community, school, city, state, country, and the world?

Group Priority Rank

#1 Priority **Family well-Being:** Living Wage, Family Friendly Workplace, Food Security, Affordable Housing, Educational Opportunities

#2 Priority **Racism, Sexism, & Rights:** Civil Rights, Women's Rights, Gender Rights, Immigrant Rights

#3 Priority **The Economy:** More Equitable Distribution of Wealth, New and Better Economic Measuring Systems, Human Growth & Development Economy vs. Consumer Economy

#4 Priority **Health Care:** For All Americans, More Cost-Effective Healthcare System, Public Health Preparedness

#5 Priority **Environment:** Sustainability, Global Warming, Environmental Repair

#6 Priority **Democracy 2.0:** Voting Rights, Voting Turnout, Voter Suppression, Campaign Financing, Civic Education, Foreign Interference in U.S. Elections

#7 Priority **Big Data:** Corporate Knowledge About All Of Us, Untruthful Information; Conspiracy Theories; Cyber Bullying and Attacks

To read more survey results including comments regarding questions #2 and #3 go to:

<https://hopefromthebottomup.com/hope-survey-about-future>

STORIES OF HOPE:

Man gives paycheck to Evanston family devastated by fire.



Jeron Dorsey, program coordinator at Evanston's Fleetwood-Jourdain Center, carries food at a holiday food and toy drive in Evanston on Dec. 16, 2020. (Karie Angell Luc / Pioneer Press)



Mayra Jackson smiles with her son Jordan Jackson, 9, on Dec. 29, 2020, at her sister's home where the Jacksons are staying in Evanston. (Abel Uribe / Chicago Tribune)

To read the full story click on this link: <https://www.chicagotribune.com/columns/heidi-stevens/ct-heidi-stevens-man-donates-paycheck-evanston-family-fire-0104-20210104-s7ojzns4xfbn3ongxadabj4qly-story.html>

Black Men Northwoods Retreat



Love Wisconsin <https://www.lovewi.com/> is doing something a little bit different. We are very excited to partner with James Edward Mills of The Joy Trip Project (<https://joytripproject.com/>). James worked with the National Forest Foundation this past fall to create The Black Men Northwoods Retreat. For the rest of the week, we will be sharing stories from four of the men that were part of the trip to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

Here is what James has to say about the stories in this project: "In the spring of 2020, I received an invitation from the National Forest Foundation to create a series of photographs and interviews about the Black community and its relationship with the natural world...In order to create a worthwhile and socially significant project, I partnered with Aaron Perry, the founder of the Rebalanced Life Wellness Association. Having created a community service organization dedicated to the health and wellness of Black Men in Madison, Wisconsin, he was able to assemble a small cohort of participants who would not only benefit from a two-day visit to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and a hike along the Ice Age National Scenic Hiking Trail, but also share a few words about their experience. The Black Men Northwoods Retreat provided three fathers and their sons the opportunity to escape the ravages of the Covid-19 Pandemic and enjoy the healing benefits of the natural world through the forests of Wisconsin." To read more go to: <https://www.lovewi.com/northwoods-retreat/>

HOPE-FILLED ORGANIZATIONS:



We Plant Possibilities.

Seeds Of Hope is a horticultural and recreational community that brings new growth opportunities to adults with developmental and other disabilities.

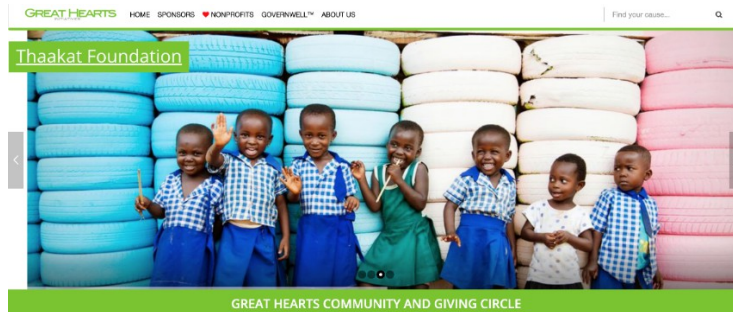
Our participants learn valuable life skills through horticulture, construction, culinary, and recreational activities. We modify individual tasks so that everyone is needed throughout the day. Some can wash pots, some can pull a wagon, others can use a screwdriver, and everyone can have fun throughout the day. Smiles are always an important part of our day, and friendships are sure to grow even if words cannot be spoken.

Within our supportive community, caregivers and parents receive as much support as those with developmental and other disabilities. Our learning social center is a little bit of Heaven on Earth.

To read more click on: <https://seedsofhopewi.org/>

GREAT HEARTS

INITIATIVES™



Act with impact. Every day. Your way. Together.

Great Hearts is a community that connects people with opportunities to be a force of good. Join us to get inspired, to share causes you care about, and to make a positive difference.

Great Hearts Initiatives® celebrates and supports the people and organizations that are doing good in the world. Our story is really the collective stories of many people coming together to make a difference. Great Hearts Initiatives® is an innovator in fostering people engagement. We are also a performance accelerator helping those who are doing good to do more, better.

To learn more go to <https://www.greathearts.community/index.html>



There are a lot of smart people out there with all the answers. I'm not one of them.



Me? I've got nothing but questions. The Joy Trip Project is my ongoing search to find the answers and discover how to lead a harmonious life in balance with the natural world and the rest of humanity.

As a journalist I ask questions. I connect with knowledgeable people who have come up with some kind of a solution. In some cases I just come up with more questions, but they make us think. And hopefully these questions lead us a little further along on the journey.

Every day is a daring adventure, a trip into the joyful pursuit of our full human potential. Along this path we try, and often fail. But we persevere. We persist. Only then do we succeed. It's an ongoing process without end. Come join me.

Objective: The Joy Trip Project is a newsgathering and reporting organization that covers outdoor recreation, environmental conservation, acts of charitable giving and practices of sustainable living. To read more go to:

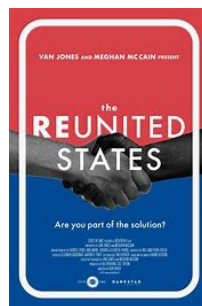
<https://joytripproject.com/>



The Millennial Action Project has an audacious mission: activate young leaders to bridge the partisan divide and transform American politics.

<https://www.millennialaction.org>

The Millennial Action Project is featured in the documentary film “The Reunited States.”



Click here to see a 2 minute trailer of the film: https://www.imdb.com/video/vi3104489753?playlistId=tt10299780&ref_=tt_ov_vi

THE FUTURE: Starting in the March Newsletter, I will be presenting some ideas regarding topics covered by the Survey which many of you took in January, the summary of which is at the beginning of this Newsletter. The highest priority of those who took the survey is:

Family Well-Being:

Living Wage, Family Friendly Workplace, Food Security, Affordable Housing, Educational Opportunities

Once I propose some ideas, I hope that you will share your thoughts with me and the rest of the Hope From the Bottom Up participants.

THE ARTS:

Need healing for the new year? A new Philly hotline offers poems of hope.

[by Brandon T. Harden](#), Posted: January 6, 2021



Philadelphia poet laureate Trapeta B. Mayson on Monday launched the Healing Verse Philly Poetry Line (1-855-763-6792), a toll-free telephone line that offers callers a 90-second poem by a Philadelphia-connected poet. A new poem will be featured each Monday throughout 2021.

In the context of a pandemic, a presidential election, and a racial reckoning, Healing Verse “offers a glimmer of hope because all those things impact us spiritually, mentally.” Mayson said in an interview Tuesday. “And now, more than ever, we need spaces to process.” To read more go to:

<https://www.inquirer.com/entertainment/philadelphia-poetry-hotline-healing-verse-trapeta-b-mayson-poet-laureate-20210106.html#:~:text=Mayson%20on%20Monday%20launched%20the,featured%20each%20Monday%20throughout%202021>.

“Lean on Me” music video.



<https://youtu.be/XRhruv6Wp2U> Submitted by a Wisconsin Man.

My youngest cousin went to college at the U of West Virginia, on a full music scholarship. After graduating he joined the Navy, instead of going to grad school. He joined the Navy Band. He is playing the electronic piano in this video and can be seen in the very first scene. Very proud of him. May the US Navy Band/Choir “Lean on Me” touch your soul. It has mine.

Share this Newsletter!

If you find this Newsletter to be a positive contribution to promote Hope and positive changes for now and in the future, please consider forwarding this Newsletter to people you think would enjoy it and who may want to share their hopeful stories and programs for future Newsletters.

Thank You