

ANTHONY'S VENTURE - YOUTH ACTION TEAM



Anthony speaking at their annual Youth Summit.

“Anybody can be great, because anybody can serve” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Inspired by these words, the members of Philadelphia's Youth Action a Youth Venture team that began under the guidance of the Tavis Smiley Foundation has gracefully served the Philadelphia community for the past three years. Youth Action began during the summer of 2003 at Tavis Smiley's National Youth to Leaders summit in Washington D.C. It was at this summit that five African American teenagers aspiring for change in their community formed a non-profit.

As a non-profit, Youth Action provides services for youth in the Philadelphia community. Every year Youth Action organizes a large community service project that focuses on raising awareness about an issue of concern to young people in the city of Philadelphia. Members of Youth Action strongly believe that by organizing captivating youth oriented events such as plays, dances, variety shows, concerts, sporting events, etc they can educate youth in the community to take a stand against a particular issue, while also influencing their peers to live moral and humane productive citizen lifestyles.

The method of “A different approach to facing the many challenges among teens” has been proven to be effective. The number of participants has continued to grow since their first Youth Summit in 2004. While the group is busy planning the annual Youth Summit, the members continue to volunteer with other various service projects throughout the year. Youth Action was the 2005 recipient of the Tavis Smiley's foundation “Youth in Action” award and a 2006 recipient of outstanding service award from Mt. Airy Church of God in Christ in Philadelphia.

HIS IDEA

- Raise awareness of issues concerning young people in the Philadelphia area
- Provide education through various types of entertainment to youth
- Advocate for youth issues

HIS IMPACT

- Held 2 Youth Summits with an average of 350 participants
- Raised \$10,000 independently for the organization
- Serves over 5,000 youth a year with their 30 youth volunteers

“COMPASSION for service, **SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS**, a **BELIEF** that young people can **IMPACT** their communities, and a **DESIRE** to take steps to make **JUSTICE**, fairness and **EQUALITY** a reality for all, is the **BOND** that keeps Youth Action members bonded”

