

Shelby YPAR: 🎷🎷🎷 Shelby County YPAR Update 7: YPAR went down to the Big Easy & More! 🎷🎷

1 message

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To: shelbyYPARnewsletter <shelbyyparnewsletter@codeforamerica.org>

Due to unexpected issues, there was no Shelby County YPAR update last week. So this week's update is FULL of exciting news about the project. Get access to the YPAR training sessions, read about how our researchers made waves at the William Julius Wilson Institute's national convening and more.

The William Julius Wilson Institute's Power of Place Convening

[The William Julius Wilson Institute](#) is a project that grew out of [the Harlem Children's Zone](#). Led by Geoffrey Canada the Institute works in partnership to deliver comprehensive strategies, support services, and tools that systematically root out poverty and close opportunity gaps in neighborhoods across America. Once a year, the Institute gathers all of its partners for a national convening. This year's took place from October 18th to the 20th in New Orleans, Louisiana. Several community organizations from Memphis were there, including representatives from the Shelby County YPAR Project.

Keuana Cheers, the head of our Local Research Coordinating Organization [Beyond Educating](#), and her husband Raymond got the van all washed up and drove down to the event with four of our researchers: Nicolas Bess, Tanyya Briscoe, Dianna McCrary, and Jessica Langston. We'll let Keuana take it from here:

"The conference was an out-of-this-world experience!!! The confidence that the Youth Researchers expressed was breathtaking to see. The researchers understood what their purpose was for attending this conference and they let everyone who would listen to them know about this exciting project."



On the final day, Nicolas and Dianna gave reflective dialogues about their experiences in front of at least 150 people during the closing session. The conference attendees, including Geoffrey Canada, listened to them and embraced them. In fact, Mr Canada said Dianna's comments made him realize that his work is not complete and there is an improvement that can be made in his program. He'll be visiting Memphis in a few months and wants to spend time with the researchers and learn more about this project!



We met several organizations that want to visit Memphis to follow up on the YPAR research that our team is conducting. We have been invited to Houston, Texas, and Oakland, California to visit local educational agencies' place-based, cradle-to-career strategies that are effective.



The trip showed us all how this YPAR pilot is the base of something that leads to the effectiveness that was displayed by the researchers at this conference.”

We are so proud of how Nicholas, Tanyya, Dianna, and Jessica represented this project and Shelby County.

You can [see all the photos here.](#)

Recordings of NdCAD’s YPAR training are now available

The four two-hour classes that NdCAD ran for our researchers are now available to watch. These are free and open to everyone in your organizations and the greater Shelby County community, so please share. The courses are located at: <https://ndcadu.thinkific.com/courses/memphis-ypar-training>

To take the classes you just have to create a free account using the link on the upper left of the page:



Sign up here

Session Recordings & More

Also, we're going to have an exciting update about NdCAD coming to Memphis to do community training next week.

Research progress update

The YPAR researchers have just kicked off their first research sprint. Over the next three weeks, each of our three research teams will work with their local research coordinator to choose a topic related to Opportunity Youth and conduct some initial research. For example, the team that is being facilitated by The Collective Blueprint will be looking into a topic around employment. This short sprint will then feed into a larger research sprint that will take place in December and January. More details on this will be in the next weekly update.

Information about the YPAR project and more

If you'd like more details on the Shelby County YPAR project, we've created a [1 page PDF you can download here](#). For more information on YPAR (Youth Participatory Action Research), you can [download this 1 page PDF here](#).

We want to hear from you! If you have any questions or comments about how the project is going, please reach out to the Shelby County YPAR Team at shelbyYPAR@codeforamerica.org. We'd also LOVE feedback on how to improve future updates!

If you've missed a past update, [you can download past editions from this directory](#).

If you would like to unsubscribe from this weekly update, please respond with "unsubscribe" in the body of your email.

👁️ Be on the lookout for the next update a week from now! 👁️

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