



Boys Hope Girls Hope

Detroit

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 31, 2020

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BOYS HOPE GIRLS HOPE OF DETROIT PRESENTS “VOICES OF IMPACT: INSPIRING THE LEADERSHIP OF GIRLS OF COLOR”

Boys Hope Girls Hope (BHGH) of Detroit will present their panel discussion “Voices of Impact: Inspiring the Leadership of Girls of Color” on Friday, Aug. 14, 2020 at 6 p.m. The event will be shared across BHGH of Detroit’s social media platforms, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube. The discussion panel will answer questions about leadership and success for girls of color and will reveal the virtual grand opening of the new Hope House.

The Hope House is a residential home for girls who are nurtured and empowered for success. The renovation is a foundational step in BHGH of Detroit’s strategic plan to transform its programming from a traditional residential model into something much broader, more comprehensive and in accord with its mission to support aspiring young leaders who face systemic barriers to become successful in college and beyond.

“For more than 35 years BHGH has served promising young girls and boys who face crushing levels of trauma and systemic barriers like generational poverty that ultimately reinforce institutional gender and racial inequities,” said Dr. Patrice Johnson, executive director of BHGH of Detroit.

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The Hope House, a single-family home located in the Green Acres neighborhood in the city of Detroit, was built in 1936. Before the renovation, the home experienced water infiltration that caused deterioration, mold, and water damage both in the recreational space and learning center. In addition, the home needed modern and technological upgrades in the bathrooms, study lounge, scholar bedrooms, and dining room. These renovations are critically important; however, Dr. Johnson and BHGH of Detroit scholars and staff are even more excited about the transformational programming to accompany the house's reopening, including art therapy; digital learning; physical health, nutrition and wellness classes; and spiritual and social activities.

Dr. Johnson continued, "These programs will directly benefit the young girls of The Hope House, their families, and their networks of peers. We look forward to enhancing gender equality through The Hope House's and BHGH of Detroit's innovation and impact." Indeed, as former Secretary-General of the United Nations Kofi Annan stated, "gender equality is more than a goal in itself, it is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building governance."

The Hope House will reopen in August 2020 with an optimal learning and social environment that will be better able to shape students and greatly influence self-esteem, motivation, and the ability to develop skills needed for a successful life through self-directed and cooperative learning activities, all in a physical environment that is shaped to support those efforts. This program is tailored to address the special needs of Generation Z and help its scholars better strive for and achieve social equity in one comprehensive setting.

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About Boys Hope Girls Hope of Detroit

One of 18 affiliates across the United States and Latin America, Boys Hope Girls Hope of Detroit helps academically capable and motivated children-in-need meet their full potential and become men and women for others by providing value-centered, family-like homes, opportunities and education through college. Since 1984, BHGH of Detroit has been helping scholars rise above disadvantaged backgrounds and become successful in college and beyond. For more information visit bhghdetroit.org.