

NAME THE NEWSLETTER CONTEST

Over the past two years, I have taken great pleasure in writing and preparing this newsletter for you. My desire has been to keep our donors and supporters informed about ACH and its activities and progress. It has been a journey interviewing and getting to know so many individuals who are vital to the health and growth of the organization. Now I need your help! Each newsletter has had a different name on its masthead. It's time for a change! As we grow in all other areas, I would like our newsletter to meet the same standards of our organization—that of excellence! I called this newsletter **OUR newsletter** because you, the readers, are the reason that we publish. I have tried to think about what you, the reader, is interested in. Do you want to hear about the children and families we serve from their perspective? Do you want to see how your donations are used for the benefit of the community? Do you want to know how you can participate in events or in the organization itself? These are the questions that I have tried to answer. Perhaps there are other issues that you would like to see addressed.

This "Name The Newsletter Contest" is your opportunity to collaborate with ACH in the publication of this newsletter. Please take a few minutes and think about what you would like to see in these newsletters. Based on those thoughts, what should the newsletter be named? The new name will be used for every publication; it is important that the name reflect its purpose. Please submit your suggestion for the new name and submit a short article of why you chose that particular name. With your permission, we will publish the winning name and the article in our next newsletter. Perhaps you don't have a suggestion for the name, but you may have suggestions of what you would like to see in upcoming articles. We welcome your participation. Please submit your suggestions and/or the name for the newsletter to your editor and publisher:

Annie Grice, Executive Administrative Assistant at:
 admin@achclearpathways.org or hard mail to
 ACH Clear Pathways, 510 Heldman Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
The deadline for submissions is May 15, 2020



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

ACH Clear Pathways recognizes that we are in the midst of trying times; many of you may feel overwhelmed. It is because of those feelings that we thought we would share some uplifting stories from our families and ACH. Our children are our greatest asset and we want to make sure that those assets are continually nurtured. In this edition, we are also challenging you and your family members to participate in the "Name The Newsletter" contest. By participating in this contest, you will become a part of the new visions of ACH Clear Pathways.

PRESENTS

NEW VISIONS

Meet the gentleman—Ezra T. Harris!



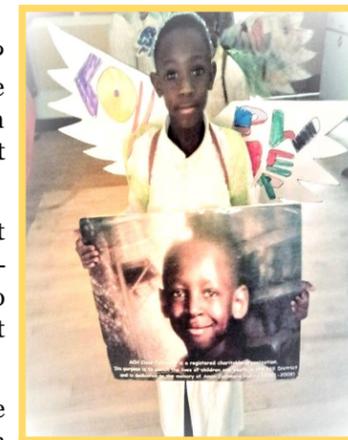
Ezra T. Harris is the 8 year old son of Tyian Battle, Executive Director of ACH Clear Pathways. The ACH Organization was born before Ezra, but it has become an integral part of his life. When interviewing an 8 year old, you're often surprised by the responses to questions. This article was meant to distinguish Ezra from ACH; however, Ezra's vision incorporates all the things that ACH has nurtured in him and taught him. Ezra wants to make a lot of money when he grows up. When asked "what would you do with the money?" he quickly answered he would "help the homeless!" Wow! He stated that the homeless need food and a place to live. He also said he would make sure that each person had a cell phone. They need to be able to contact other people so they can get help from charities or a place to stay. That caring about others is a part of the nurturing that he has received, not just at home from his mother, but also from the relationships that he has developed at ACH. Right now, he likes to help his mom cook and he wants to make sure everyone else has the food they need. Generosity towards others is an integral part of who Ezra is. He wants to make sure that ACH is still around to help gifted children do art and learn. Ezra has a deeper insight than many 8 year old children because when asked, what about children who are not gifted, he said, "that's why they should come to ACH so that they can get help to learn how to draw and do art." Ezra would like to see an increase in the usage of computers at ACH.

He wants to learn how to create robots and learn more about science using computers. Science? Yes, he wants to learn more about habitats, like the Arctic and the oceans. Ezra is gifted in more ways than one. He attends Pittsburgh Dilworth school and loves math. He values education because you need an education to be a mature grown up. Ezra's definition of "mature" is that you learn from making mistakes! How many adults are mature based on this definition?

Ezra, like other children, loves basketball and Kobe Bryant was his favorite player. He spends time playing video games and likes to play with others. His favorite thing to do is to travel and swim and go to beaches. His favorite vacation spot is Myrtle Beach because of the water parks and the beach.

Ezra's birthday, on March 29, 2020, came in the midst of the "stay at home" order this year. Although he didn't have a regular birthday party, he enjoyed his day by celebrating with two of his favorite people—Mr. Andrew and Mr. DeOndre, who are his mentors and staff at ACH.

The ACH Vision will continue and grow with Ezra.



Ezra holds the picture of the brother he never knew, Amon. Ezra is a part of the vision that his mother, Tyian Battle had for beginning ACH Clear Pathways. Now onto Ezra's vision.



SUPPORTING ACH CLEAR PATHWAYS



ACH Clear Pathways is proud to be a part of the United Way Contributing Agencies. You may sign up through your employer or give directly. Our number is **10532885**



For our Corporate Partners: ACH has been approved to participate in the EITC program and is supported by the Superintendent of the Pittsburgh Public School District. Your donation will not only benefit your corporation, but it will help the families that ACH serves.

Contact and Billing Information CHECKS: Make checks payable to ACH Clear Pathways

FULL NAME _____ PHONE _____
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Contact Info

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achclearpathways.org

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Pittsburgh PA 15219

To learn more and donate,
text WALKINGTOUR
to 44-321



For android users,
download app:
"QR Code Reader"

LORI'S STORY

Meet Lori Coleman, a mother of one son, a grandmother, nurse, caregiver and lover of people! Lori is the grandmother of three children, who all attend Saint Benedict the Moor School in the Hill District.

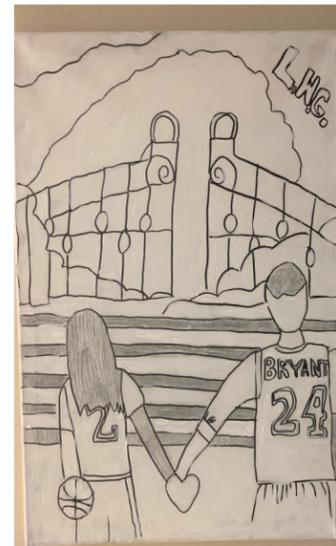
Lori's involvement with ACH began five (5) years ago. It was at that time that she was looking for a summer camp for her grandson Jyaire, who was 7 years old. She investigated several camps and someone told her about ACH and Tyian Battle. She had known Tyian all her life and the camp was located in the Hill District where she lived. It seemed to be a perfect choice for Lori. The partnership between Lori and ACH began that summer as Jyaire became a part of the summer camp and the Out of School programs of ACH. The relationship blossomed. Lori's other two grandchildren, Jaymir, 7 and Nia 6 have become a part of ACH. Some of her nieces and nephews also attend ACH. Lori said that the counselors are all caring and nurturing.

Lori is a healthcare worker and has been a nurse for over 23 years. In addition to taking care of her patients at work, Lori has cared for family members, including her mother, for many years. She said "life is about taking care of people". She, herself, was surprised at her role in caregiving. She never thought that caregiving would be a part of her life, but God had plans for her. She is a spiritual person who says that she "walks by faith and trusts in God to care for her". She is an encourager, not just to her grandchildren, but to others as well. She is the first parent/grandparent who will offer to donate candy for Halloween, or decorations for Christmas, or whatever the need may be. She said that "if ACH asks for it, they got it"! What a wonderful example of giving and encouragement. When asked what she likes best about the ACH programs, she answered without hesitation, the creative arts! Her 7 year old grandson, Jaymir never knew he could draw. It seemed that his artistic gifts came from nowhere. Now he loves to draw. Lori's cell phone is full of his art.

Jaymir came to Lori and told her he had a vision of a picture of Kobe Bryant and his daughter shortly after their death. He said he wanted to draw it. He went to Takara Canty (ACH art teacher) and asked for help. Lori and Takara thought he should add color to the painting, but Jaymir said No! That's not the way he sees it. An artist in the making! Jaymir has also included portraits in his art field. He selected another art teacher, Mr. Duffy, to use as a model. Jaymir is a perfect example of what happens when the opportunity to explore gifts and talents are given to children.



Lori Coleman
Caring and Sharing



Jaymir's Vision



Mr. Duffy and Jaymir



Jyaire, Jaymir and Nia



Musical interests transformed into art

LORI'S CONTINUAL GIFT OF LOVE

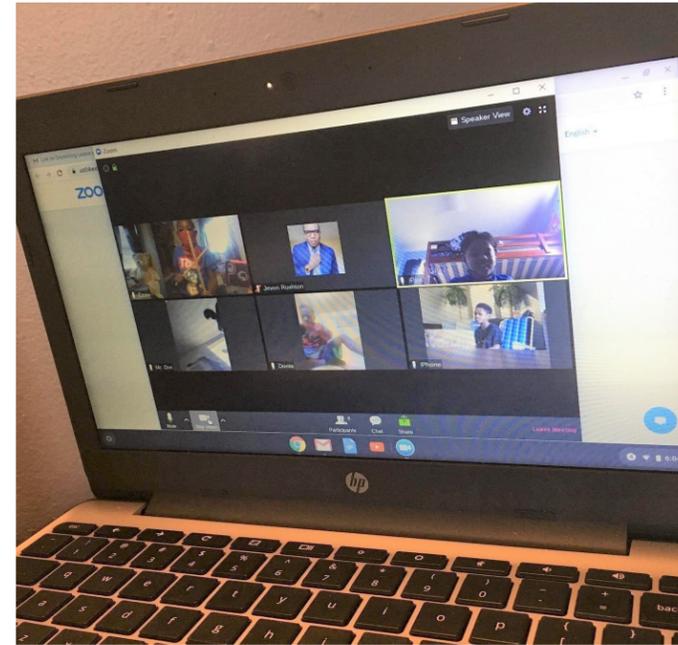
Lori cared for her mother, Loretta Clancy, until she passed two and a half years ago. Mrs. Clancy was a woman who loved her community and was an active participant in the growth and development of the Hill District. Lori, like her mother, has always been a part of the Hill District. Lori knew how important it was not to have to worry about her grandchildren during the summer. She wanted others, who were unable financially, to have the same opportunity as her grandchildren. Lori wanted to honor her mother by continuing a legacy of service and love. She did this by starting a scholarship for children to attend summer camp. For the past two years, Lori has provided camp scholarships to six (6) ACH children. Lori's generosity has not been limited to ACH, but she has also sponsored children of other agencies.

Challenge

If you are interested in sponsoring a child or children of ACH for summer camp, please contact ACH at admin@achclearpathways.org or call 412-815-0271. We know that you want to be a part of the new visions of our children.

VIRTUAL ART AT ACH!

The ACH Clear Pathways after school programs follows the guidelines of the Pittsburgh Public Schools; therefore, we have not had any "in-person" classes since the beginning of this pandemic. Our hallways are empty, but the Corona Virus did not stop the dedicated teachers from continuing to provide opportunities to our families to participate in art activities. ACH provided lap top computers to students who did not have access to them. Here is a sample of virtual art.



Mr. Javon Rushton provides drum lessons virtually. Our students have been provided with the equipment to keep practicing



Mr. Duffy has virtual planning meeting with the Executive Director, Tyian Battle. Even at home, he surrounds himself with art.



Ms. Takara and her virtual art class. Students have been provided the necessary art supplies. We can't wait until we can display these projects in the Kaufman Center.



We wanted you to know that your donations are still working for our families. We know that during this time, when children don't have the outlets that they normally do, it is especially important that ACH continue to connect and provide opportunities for artistic outlets for our youth and families. We are planning virtual classes for our seniors right now. Check our web site often to see what we're doing. Thank you donors for making this possible.

COVID 19—WHAT IS ACH DOING?

The following policies have been implemented by the Board of ACH Clear Pathways. For more on these policies, please visit our website at ACHCLEARPATHWAYS.ORG

Dear Members of the ACH Clear Pathways Community:

The following is an update to the ACH Clear Pathways response to the COVID-19 crisis, following the order of Governor Wolf on March 16, 2020, that all non-essential businesses across the Commonwealth close:

ACH Clear Pathways' top priority is the safety and security of our participants, staff, community partners, and guests so that we can continue to provide the arts education and facility experience they expect and deserve. The decisions we make are to keep our people and our facility safe and to preserve as much as possible its use as a community asset.

All events scheduled at the Kauffman Center Elsie H. Hillman Auditorium are canceled, regardless of anticipated attendance until further notice.

All employees capable of working remotely are being asked to do so. All determinations regarding employee work arrangements shall be made by the executive director.

After School Arts Program / Creative Camp

- The ACH Clear Pathways After School Arts Program is operating virtually through May 31, 2020. This action was taken in response to the closure of Pittsburgh Public Schools in accordance with the decision of Governor Wolf to close all schools across the Commonwealth.

- The ACH Clear Pathways Creative Camp will operate virtually effective June 22 through August 1, 2020. This action will be measured due to COVID-19 to keep our children safe during the Summer months.

Kaufmann Center/Elsie H. Hillman Auditorium

- The ACH Clear Pathways Kaufmann Center and Elsie H. Hillman Auditorium are closed to the public starting today, March 16, 2020, until further notice. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and take direction from local and state officials and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We will issue additional communications as needed with an update on the status of the facility.

- All events scheduled at the Kaufmann Center Elsie H. Hillman Auditorium are canceled. ACH Clear Pathways staff will be in contact with the organizers of each event to make rescheduling arrangements, if possible.

ACH Clear Pathways Operations

- The offices of ACH Clear Pathways will remain closed. Executive management is, however, encouraging preventative measures, including social distancing, as recommended by the CDC.

- Our maintenance team has enhanced its usual cleaning practices to address hygiene in high-use areas. This includes an increased frequency of and enhanced sanitization and cleaning of all surfaces and touchpoints.

- Employees should report to work remotely. ACH Clear Pathways will follow CDC guidelines for implementing mitigation strategies in the workplace once staff returns. Management will consider each employee's circumstances to develop remote work plans when feasible and appropriate.

ACH Clear Pathways is taking this action to do our part in practicing social distancing that may help protect the community from the spread of COVID-19. Our participants, visitors, and our dedicated staff who serve our participants and their families were considered in this decision. Whether your child is a student in our after school program, or you are an attendee at an event, a community partner, supporter, or donor, our entire organization takes great pride in providing the Kaufmann Center and Elsie H. Hillman facility for arts programming and community events.

As you are aware, this is a complex, challenging, and fluid crisis that continues to evolve rapidly. Accordingly, all guidelines are subject to change and/or extension as deemed necessary by ACH Clear Pathways leadership. We are actively engaged in monitoring and responding to this crisis daily to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of the ACH Clear Pathways community. Be assured we will continue to keep you apprised of the situation through our usual communication channels, social media, and our website.

In the meantime, we encourage you to continue to [follow CDC guidelines](https://www.cdc.gov)

Most of the staff of ACH has been working remotely so that we may continue to serve our families and the community.

A CHANGE IS COMING!

At first glance, the picture of the ACH Clear Pathways Kaufmann Center may look the same to many of you; but wait a minute! Let's look inside and see the renderings of the **NEW** Kaufmann Center. A change is coming!



In order to create an environment that supports the creativity of our families and youth, ACH has contracted with Massaro Construction Company to create additional spaces under the building. These spaces will supplement the current space available at the Kaufmann Center. Our building permit has been granted and ground breaking is scheduled this spring. We're excited because we will have the space to provide excellence in Art education to our families. These renovations offer our donors an opportunity to secure their legacy by naming a space in the Kaufmann Center. The naming rights are open to individuals and corporations.

YOUR NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

Visual Art Studio—\$200,000.00

Recording Studio—\$150,000.00

Writing Composition Center—\$150,000.00

Digital Media Center—Committed

Ensemble Studio—\$100,000.00

Vestibule—\$75,000.00

Creative Café—\$50,000.00

Executive Director Suite—\$50,000.00

Creative Team Hoteling—\$30,000.00

Creative Break Room Space—\$20,000.00

MORE WAYS TO BE A PART OF THE CHANGE

Perhaps you would like to be a part of the CHANGE, but you are not financially able to participate in the Naming opportunities. This opportunity is for you! Once the renovation of the Kaufmann Center is complete, we would like donors to have the opportunity to leave their mark in the community and invest in the project.

You may purchase a brick with a custom engraved message on it. The cost is only \$250.00. Your message will bless ACH Clear Pathways sustainability for many years to come.

To secure your Memorial Brick, please contact ACH at:

admin@achclearpathways.org

or call us at 412-815-0271



Terry and Janet Serafini Digital Media Center

(Before renovations)

This is a photograph of a current second floor classroom; but this room, along with other current rooms, will also be renovated to provide state of the art equipment and facilities. Our families will not be relegated to second class learning spaces or materials. We are preparing them to be leaders of their community in a technological age.

