

The 2007 Chester Youth Empowerment Summit

On May 12, 2007, the Chester Youth Collaborative (CYC) and Delaware County District Attorney G. Michael Green co-hosted "The Remix, 2007 Chester Youth Empowerment Summit" at Widener University. This free event attracted over 300 community members.

The Summit included workshops and a talent showcase. Mike Green, Chester Mayor Wendell N. Butler, Jr. and Assistant District Attorney Erica Parham were among the speakers. Lamarr Darnell Shield gave the keynote address. Mr. Shield is an author and co-founder of the Urban Leadership Institute. Mr. Shield's speech focused on self-empowerment, determination and goal setting. Hip-hop legend Slick Rick entertained the crowd.

The Summit Planning Committee presented Chester Education Foundation member Elaine Greene-Upton with a Visionary Award. CYC member Romir Kirksey was honored for his leadership skills.

After the successful event, Assistant District Attorney Parham said, "I was inspired by the young people who coordinated the Chester Youth Summit. Their desire to control their own destiny through positive actions and hard work is commendable. I was so proud of them. I am grateful to work in an environment that encourages community involvement and fosters partnerships in our community, especially with young people."

Organizers hope that lessons learned at the summit will inspire youth to bring about positive changes in their lifestyle choices, their communities and their schools.

The CYC thanks the following organizations for their partnership with the Collaborative:

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| Bethany Baptist Church | Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance |
| Big Brothers Big Sisters SEPA | Islamic Center of Chester |
| Chester Arts Alive | J. Lewis Crozer Library |
| Chester Biddy Association | Lighthouse Community Church |
| Chester Boys & Girls Club | Majestic, Inc. |
| Chester Branch NAACP | Millions More Movement |
| Chester Community Improvement Project | Musicopia |
| Chester Education Foundation | Pendle Hill |
| Chester Housing Authority | Peniel Recovery Center |
| Chester Mural Collective | Proverbs Basketball League |
| Chester PAL | Saber Program |
| Chester Rotary Club | Siloam United Methodist Church |
| Chester Upland School District | South Chester Optimist Club |
| Chester Weed and Seed | Swarthmore College |
| Chester Youth Build | Team Mac |
| City of Chester Mayor's Office | The Achievement Project |
| CKHS Healthy Start | The Nia Center, Inc. |
| Community Action Counsel Wesley House | United Way SEPA |
| Crozer-Keystone Health System | United Way Southeastern Delaware County |
| Delaware County Chamber of Commerce | Wallingford Community Arts Center |
| Delaware County District Attorney's Office | Widener University |
| Department of Public Welfare | William Penn Foundation |
| Eastside Neighborhood Connection | Youth for Christ |
| Envision Youth Center | YWCA of Chester |
| Franklin Mint Credit Union | |