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Volvo for life Awards Heroes



A Mentor and Leader in Bed-Stuy

Barnabas Shakur

New York, New York

Barnabas Shakur is the chief executive officer and founder of Bed-Stuy's Project Re-Generation (PRG), a youth-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing New York's underserved young adults with educational programs, as well as work and volunteer experiences, while seeking to maintain a community in which the residents of the Bedford-Stuyvesant community can be proud to reside.

Since 2002, PRG has embraced the youth of Bed-Stuy Brooklyn via two programs: R.O.P. (Rites of Passage); and afterschool and weekend programs for New York teenagers and Youth Always Committed To Outstanding Restoration (YACTOR). YACTOR is a fee-based youth employment and entrepreneurship community maintenance program for home and small business owners who have a vested interest in increasing their community/property value.

PRG also plans Community Pride Day every summer, where volunteers have engaged in activities such as a garbage scavenger hunt – a fun and a clever way to clean up the neighborhood – and a beach cleanup project.

Barnabas is also an active alumnus of the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) program. His incomparable interpersonal relationship skills have allowed him to be an excellent business mentor. Barnabas guides other young entrepreneurs and helps them reach their goals. He is a sought-after person in the office when it comes to business advice.

Barnabas is truly a mentor and leader within his community who strives to make a difference. He is committed to change and is a hard-working self-starter who invariably knows what he wants to do. As a mentor and a leader, he instructs and guides inner-city youth to become productive citizens.

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