



Rev. Lamont Williams of The Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity speaks at the forum, organized by The Initiative for African American Males.

## Black Male

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rate on the need for change in the statistics as well as possible reasons for the state of African-American children in the community.

"I just felt the community really needed to know what was going on, and we need to put our resources together to help change the outcome for our African-American males," said Lakeisha Hill, assistant principal of Main Street Academy and founder of IAAM. She said she was motivated to organize the event because she wanted to go beyond the socio-economic aspect of the achievement gap for black children versus children of other ethnicities and examine the issue of race as a factor as well as to not ignore the data supporting her concerns.

The Rev. Terrence Hawkins, associate pastor of Winston-Salem First church and community organizer through Love Out Loud said, "I am here today as a concerned citizen, a concerned Christian, a community organizer and a parent."

He went on to say, "There's much work to be done, unfortunately the next generation is inheriting the problem, but we have to push on and do as much as we can so they can flourish."

Hawkins was also a panelist at the "Ties that Bind Protestants in Conversation" event the day before.

"Tonight, I was initially frustrated because it seems as though when we always come together and have these types of gatherings or workshops, they always bring out these statistics

and numbers that are not always the reality," said Nakida McDaniel, a concerned parent in the crowd. She wanted to hear what changes were going to be made instead of the same rhetoric said time after time at events such as this. McDaniel also said, "We have to think outside of the box with the things we are doing and address institutional racism in the schools, and we cannot continue to ignore that."

Carrie Woods, member of Through Unity Reformation is Nevitable (T.U.R.N.), expressed her concerns to the audience as well as introduced her organization to those who are in need of tutoring assistance as well as enrichment services for parents and children in the community.

The evening was concluded with questions and

comments from the audience. Many provided possible solutions for the black youth of the community in order to stem the decline of the black male in the educational system as well as immediate opportunities for youth to find educational assistance such as tutoring and subsidized S.A.T. prep courses.

One audience member summarized the feelings of many by simply stating "It does take a village to raise a child, but what happens when that village is designed to break a child."

## IAAM forums

The Oct. 19 forum is Part One in a four-part series. The dates of the other forums are Jan. 25, 2016; April 18, 2016; and May 23, 2016.



The Forsyth County Youth Services Center is now closed and will be replaced by a center for adjudicated youth in January.

## Center

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is now in a nominal lease with the County, which owns the property, to turn it into a center for adjudicated youth, which will be run by the non-profit Methodist Home for Children and is scheduled to open in January. Also in the planning stages is the State turning the former group home on the property into transitional/re-entry housing for juveniles.

Assistant County Manager Damon Sanders-Pratt said that as the county was looking to end its detention center, the state was looking for someplace to house new juvenile services.

"As we were talking to the State about gearing down our program, that they're no longer sending Forsyth County youth to our youth detention center and making other arrangements, at the same time the state was also putting out proposals for this crisis bed center for post-adjudicated juveniles and had an interest in a transitional facility," he said.

According to Diana Kees, with

the Communications Office of the N.C. Department of Public Safety, the new assessment and crisis center will be for youth who need a temporary out-of-home placement to stabilize their behavior. It will have eight beds for Level II and high-risk Level I adjudicated youth in a 19-county area of the Piedmont (Level I are misdemeanor level offenses and Level II are youth with multiple adjudications). Youth will normally stay there up to 14 days and can stay a maximum of 30 days.

"The center will provide an opportunity to determine effective interventions for each juvenile — matching their risk and needs with existing department and community resources — to reduce further court involvement, promote stronger families and to assure safer communities," Kees said in an email.

Methodist Home for Children is a Raleigh-based 501(c)(3) that started in 1899 as a traditional campus-based orphanage and now provides a multitude of services for youth throughout the state. The organization operates five multi-purpose and transitional homes for juveniles in partnership

with the N.C. Department of Public Safety and will be opening another assessment and crisis center in Granville County.

The new center in Forsyth is expected to have 18 employees. Methodist Home for Children is currently hiring employees, some of whom were staff at the detention center, like Director Sharon Singletary, who will be the director of the new center.

According to Forsyth County Human Resources Director Shontell Robinson, the youth detention center had 19 employees, seven of whom got new jobs with the county. Eleven were eligible to get severance packages and three left county employment. The county doesn't keep track of if employees found jobs with other employers.

The move to close the center prompted four judges who serve in juvenile court to write a letter to the county commissioners last year expressing concern over the move, including the hardships it puts on parents to visit their children in another county.

## Atkins

from page A1

Childers. "I'm very proud of our students as well as our teachers, and other faculty members. Winning this award was a real team effort."

The award was created in 2014 by the Science Mathematics and Technology (SMT) Center in Raleigh and was only given to 17 schools in the entire state.

According to Kimberly Marion, program manager of magnet and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs for

Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, the award is a

"The process was very rigorous," Marion said. "They had to submit an application, lesson plans, videos, samples as well as a letter of recommendation from a community leader."

"The schools that were nominated for the award represent the best magnet and STEM programs in the state," she said. She added that they are models for other states as well.

Dana Jones, chairwoman for the school board, said she was proud of the leadership at Atkins from the teachers as well as the students.

"We recently did a walk through the school and you can see the excitement, and innovation that is happening in the classroom," said Jones. "I am proud of the leader-



Childers

**"I'm very proud our students as well as our teachers, and other faculty members. Winning this award was a real team effort."**

**—Joe Childers, Atkins High School Principal**

joint collaboration between the SMT Center, N.C. Department of Public Instruction, the Golden Leaf Foundation, and the William and Ida Friday Center in Chapel Hill.

Before presenting the award, Marion discussed the long process Childers and his faculty had to go through before being nominated. Even before they were nominated, they had to submit an application, lesson plans and a letter of recommendation among other things.

ship at Atkins from the teachers, faculty and administrators as well as the students."

Atkins High School will be honored before the N.C. State Board of Education and the state superintendent during the scheduled meeting in November.

"As a former English teacher, I never thought I'd be the principal at a STEM school, but it's a real honor to be the principal at Atkins," Childers said.

## Corrections

The Chronicle apologizes for some errors made in a story written by Tevin Stinson in SportsWeek of The Chronicle on Oct. 15. The article, with the headline "Sports analyst Jalen Rose hosts first Champion Day fashion show," stated that employees had the chance to win items not sold in the U.S. In fact, the items not sold in the U.S. were only for display. The article also misquoted Chyna Broadnax, who is the manager of communications for HanesBrands. She says she did not say that employees were shopping for themselves and family nor did she give a quote about raffling items sold abroad. The Chronicle regrets any mis-

understanding that may have resulted from the errors.

Also, The Chronicle apologizes for some errors made in a story written by Tori P. Haynesworth. In the story titled "Statewide meeting focuses on 'Women's Power NOW'" on Oct. 15 on page A1, the organization for Gailya Paliga was incorrect. She is president of NC NOW. The theme of the conference was "Focusing Women's Power NOW." The NOW Political Action Committee (PAC) made endorsements to the Hillary Clinton campaign. NC NOW has a Political Action Committee to endorse in statewide races.

The Chronicle regrets any misunderstanding that may have resulted from

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