



A BETTER CHANCE

RADNOR ABC PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

radnorabc.org

Opening the door to greater educational opportunities since 1972

Spring 2021

Radnor A Better Chance

2020-21 SCHOLARS

- Caleb Jaramillo (2021)
- Zaiya Ngubeni (2021)
- Hannah Baumgardner (2022)
- Keyara Crowley (2022)
- Justin Holley (2022)
- Stefanie Ferreyra (2023)
- Elani Dwyer (2023)
- Yombo Adesanya (2024)
- Noel Maldonado (2024)
- Elijah Sellers (2024)

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

- Candyce Wilson – **President**
- Heather Sheehan – **Vice President**
- Laura Janson – **Secretary**
- Vincent Boyd – **Treasurer**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Chris Kingsbery – **Academics**
- Jennifer Saionz – **Student Life**
- Birgitta Sama – **Marketing & Communications**
- Leslie Selbach – **Fundraising**
- Gabriella Fontan-Venson '07 – **Admissions & Student Selection**
- Laura Janson – **Building & Grounds**

MEMBERS

- Stacy Biscardi, Michael Blumberg, Jeffrey Moore, Edward Ruby, Dennice Schenk, Bruce Trachtenberg, Michelle Wetzel, Amy Wildey

2020 – 2021 HOST FAMILIES

- Karen & Zach Conen
- Liz & Kevin Duffy
- Jackie & Jared Kasher
- Elizabeth & Bill Marino
- Nancy & Ed Monahan
- Julie & Mike Morris
- Rachel & Roy Rosin
- Karen & David Solomon
- Caroline & Ted Stueck
- Rachel & Marc Sule

RESIDENT DIRECTORS

- Jonathan & Shellina Marshall

2020 – 2021 ACADEMIC MENTORS

- Alicia Alfonso, Stacy Biscardi, Sara Byala, Jill Knight, Debbie Lofton, Brian McCorkle, Helen McGrane, Lisa Packer, Robert Saionz, Lucia Samblas

CONGRATULATIONS!

to our graduating Scholars...

ZAIYA Ngubeni

Hometown: [Atlanta, GA](#)

Favorite class: [Calculus](#)

Favorite teacher: [All my teachers were really nice!](#)

Favorite sport / activity: [Soccer and track & field; I also really enjoyed theatre / drama](#)

Favorite memory: [Lower Merion Week](#)

Plans for the summer and next year: [Working as a camp counselor in Georgetown and then prepping for Drexel University](#)

Favorite book: [Station 11](#); Favorite TV show: [Sherlock](#); anything [Marvel](#)

New interest developed during COVID: [Theatre](#)

Career interest: [Engineering](#)

Favorite place to hang out in Wayne: [Valley Forge Park](#)

What I'll miss most about living in the RABC House: [How easy it is to connect with people](#)

Challenge I had living in the ABC house and how I overcome it: [Being away from family was really hard but meeting new people helped make things easier](#)



CALEB Jaramillo

Hometown: [Overbrook Park, PA](#)

Favorite class: [10th grade English & 11th grade Spanish](#)

Favorite teacher: [Ms. Troland](#)

Favorite sport: [Basketball](#)

Favorite memory: [Lower Merion Week and Senior Prom](#)

Plans for this summer and next year: [Hanging out with friends before getting ready for Syracuse University](#)

Favorite book: [Diary of a Wimpy Kid](#); Favorite TV show: [Stranger Things](#); [Money Heist](#)

New skills / hobbies / interests developed during COVID: [Cooking](#)

Career interest: [I want to become a sports analyst](#)

Favorite place to hang out in Wayne: [I really enjoy going to my friend's house](#)

What I will miss most about living in the RABC House: [Memories with everybody](#)

Challenge I had living in the ABC house and how I overcome it: [Fitting into a new community. I was able to overcome it by putting myself out there and making connections with people.](#)

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radnorabc.org/donate, or you can mail a check payable to
Radnor A Better Chance, 120 West Wayne Avenue, Wayne, PA 19087



facebook.com/radnorabc

a letter from the **PRESIDENT**



Greetings Friends and Radnor ABC Family!

It's hard to believe that the 2020-21 school year is already coming to an end. What a year it's been! For Radnor ABC, I think it can best be characterized as a year of courage, change and success.

Everywhere I look, I see **courage**. The courage of our school district to make the decisions that kept our schools open and our kids safe. The courage of the scholars' parents to entrust them to our care. The courage of our staff to work tirelessly to keep our scholars safe and learning. The courage of our scholars to respond positively to every change we demanded of them and the courage of all of you to support us in so many ways so that we could keep doing what we do – educating talented young people.

We all endured many **changes** throughout this year. Practically everything we used to do changed – we started wearing masks, we stopped leaving home, we worked and attended school online, we rarely saw friends and sometimes even family, we canceled events and we “pivoted.” But through it all, we were resilient. We persevered.

Despite the challenges that 2020 and 2021 brought, we can point to many **successes** this school year. In a few days, we will graduate 2 seniors who will attend Drexel University and Syracuse University with scholarships representative of their intelligence, hard work and integrity. We have 8 other scholars who have also achieved great things this year – 2 National Honor Society inductees, 3 nominees for the 2021 Union League Good Citizenship Award, 2 with parts in the RHS Spring Musical, several officers in the Black Student Union and the newly formed CoSATIDE (Council of Students Advocating for Transparency, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity), participants in RHS baseball, basketball, crew, color guard, track & field and the Delaware County Youth Orchestra. Our scholars have regularly volunteered at the Food Pantry at Wayne Church. All of our scholars made the Honor Roll for at least 1 marking period, and I could go on. Additionally, our board, staff and a few community members have embarked on the often-time difficult work of understanding our own racial identities and becoming aware of some of the challenges our scholars face as they navigate our predominantly white community as people of color so that we can better support them.

And although we had to cancel two consecutive Spring Soirées, our biggest fundraiser, we've managed to keep the lights on and the kids fed thanks to YOU. We couldn't have done it without you, and we are counting on your continued support as we work hard to make up for our pandemic losses. In 2022, Radnor ABC turns 50 years old, and we hope to celebrate that milestone with all of you and party as though we've all been cooped up for the past 1.5 years! ;-)

Thank you for believing in the scholars and our mission. You give us the courage to keep moving forward. I can't wait to see you in the coming months!

Always,

Candyce Wilson

Candyce Wilson, President
Radnor ABC Board of Directors

scholar SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Hannah and Yombo applied for and were awarded summer scholarship money from the National ABC Program – Congratulations!

Hannah: Virtual Real Estate Exchange Summer Program (REEX)

Yombo: The Mystery and Science of Human Behavior @ Wake Forest University and gymnastics

Elijah: basketball camp

Stefanie: travelling to Dominican Republic and may get a job there

Keyara: summer job

Noel: playing sports with friends

SENIOR PROM

City



CALEB Jaramillo



ZAIYA Ngubeni

Resident Directors' UPDATE



What a change the spring season has brought!! Our scholars are back in school, in person 5 days a week, several have jumped into sports, crew, baseball, track and basketball in the fall, and we have continued to do activities together as a house. Not to mention our newly furnished deck that has been used for meetings, as a hang out spot and yes even an outdoor study hall session.

We are thriving as a house. While we were not able to keep COVID away for the year, with a winter outbreak in the house, scholars and staff

managed to bounce back and keep things moving. Now that restrictions are being lifted and the sun is shining more and more, scholars and staff are looking forward to spending more time outside with each other and with friends.

We can't believe the year is close to coming to an end as we still have so much more to do (graduation, birthday celebrations, and surprising to say but all the end of the year festivities) but we are excited to have made a challenging year special by connecting, enjoying each other's company, having late night chats, and celebrating upcoming changes!! We can't thank you enough for all the support that makes this a home away from home!



DONATIONS

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HOW YOU CAN HELP



You shop. Amazon gives.

Help support the Radnor ABC House by shopping at smile.amazon.com. Simply enter **Radnor A Better Chance** in the search field after you sign into your account.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the **Radnor ABC House!**

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Radnor ABC is in need of volunteers in fundraising, academics, student life, recruiting, host families, household repairs. We can always use an extra hand. If you're interested or for more details, please email us: board@radnorabc.org

You can make a donation anytime through PAYPAL: radnorabc.org/donate, or you can mail a check payable to: Radnor A Better Chance, 120 West Wayne Avenue, Wayne, PA 19087

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2020–21 Radnor ABC Program



2020 -21 Radnor ABC Scholars

Photography courtesy of Jennifer Imperato

Radnor ABC Volunteer Spotlight: Brent Doane, Click Canyon

A big thank you and congratulations to our Featured Volunteer, Brent Doane!

Brent has helped the Radnor ABC program in many ways, most recently with updating and vastly improving our website. It is beautifully done and we can't thank him enough! He was kind enough to answer some questions detailing his involvement with the Radnor ABC Program:

How long have you been involved with the ABC program?

I first became involved with the ABC program in 2014 when we volunteered to design the RadnorABC.org website. Since that time, we have continued to maintain the website and just recently completed a complete redesign of the website.

What made you want to get involved and volunteer?

As a resident of Wayne, and with two boys in Radnor schools (MS and HS), I was already aware of all the great things the Radnor ABC program was doing. Back in 2014, during a conversation with Charles Oliva, it was mentioned that the program was looking to create a new website. That seemed like a great way for me to support my community through my company Click Canyon.

What message has ABC House taught you that you value the most?

The importance of opportunity and determination. When opportunity is combined with a determination to succeed, people will be able to achieve their full potential.



Deanna & Brent Doane, Click Canyon



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