

Aaron Donald's AD99 Solutions Selects Eight Allegheny County High Schoolers For 2024 Prep Forward Program Cohort

Pittsburgh, PA – AD99 Solutions, a public charity founded by NFL legend Aaron Donald, proudly announces the newly admitted 2024-2025 Prep Forward cohort members. Prep Forward is co-ed preparatory training for Black high school student-athletes who reside in Allegheny County. Students were chosen through a rigorous application process, including interviews and background checks to participate in the year-long program.

- **John Bailey**, Westinghouse High School
- **Laila Banner**, Shadyside Academy
- **Nakiya Freeman**, Penn Hills High School
- **Cameron Glenn**, Penn Hills High School
- **Elijah Hickman**, Seton LaSalle Catholic High School
- **Zahir Ismaeli**, West Mifflin High School
- **Jayden Stanford**, Central Catholic High School
- **Ryleigh Tardy**, Winchester Thurston School

These students will join 11 existing participants in our tuition-free program, which aims to prepare students for the successful completion of post-secondary education by engaging them in educationally purposeful and culturally enriching activities. The comprehensive curriculum supports the development of well-rounded young adults, offering academic support, life skills training, familial support services, career exploration opportunities, and more.

The program fills the gap, as time constraints due to extracurricular commitments often hinder student-athletes from participating in purposeful educational activities and enriching cultural experiences, which are essential to healthy self-development. 80% of Prep Forward graduates are enrolled in 14 continuing education institutions across seven states, and 91% received scholarships.

"What I think is most exciting about this group is that it reflects both our continued partnership in the Penn Hills area and also growth into new districts. To have both not only speaks volumes about the Program's value but also the wonderful families who make Prep Forward what it is and I can't wait to see how these new additions raise the bar even higher," said **Rita Gillcrease, Director of Prep Forward**.

For more information about AD99 Solutions and the Prep Forward program, visit <https://ad99.org> or email info@ad99.org.

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