



## **UPDATE FROM THE CAGC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Date: April 28, 2020**

**To: African American Male Initiative Student, Parents and Counselors**

**Subject: AAMI Summer Institute Will Be Held Virtually**

The Closing the Achievement Gap Consortium has successfully conducted the African American Male Initiative for the past five years. The CAGC has conducted the AAMI in conjunction with Concordia University Wisconsin on the Mequon campus of Concordia. The CAGC appreciates the partnership that it has had with Concordia University during this time. The AAMI was started under the leadership of Dr. Demond Means, during his role as Superintendent of Schools for the Mequon/Thiensville School District. Rande Drew has led this effort during the entire five-year period and has worked with a great group of counselors in planning and carrying out these events. Mr. Drew is an employee of the Whitefish Bay School District and all of us are fortunate that the Whitefish Bay School District has allowed Mr. Drew to play such an important role in the AAMI. Dr. Matt Joynt of the Mequon/Thiensville School District and Mr. Willie Garrison of the Wauwatosa School District have also played a significant role in the planning and organizing of the AAMI.

The situation surrounding COVID-19 has required that the Closing the Achievement Gap reconsider how the African American Male Initiative will be conducted in 2020. The AAMI will not be conducted as a residential event in 2020 on the Concordia Mequon campus on July 28-31, 2020. The health and safety of the AAMI students, counselors, presenters and parents make it necessary to make changes in the 2020 AAMI.

The CAGC will be attempting to conduct the AAMI as a virtual event on the same days as originally planned. Rande Drew and others are presently working on a plan to conduct the AAMI in a virtual format. The Closing the Achievement Gap Consortium will be in contact with you over the next weeks and months to keep you informed of the revised plans. But, once again, there will not be a residential African American Male Initiative on the Concordia University Mequon campus during the summer of 2020. The CAGC looks forward to everyone benefitting from the new virtual format that will provide the services of the AAMI.

Thank you for understanding.

**Dr. Elliott Moeser, Executive Director**

*Phone:* (262) 243-4213

*Email:* [Elliott.Moeser@cuw.edu](mailto:Elliott.Moeser@cuw.edu)