

Madison ABC Community Service



With Renee McIntyre at the Cove Run

In October, the ABC scholars participated in the annual Cove Run, a fundraiser for the nonprofit Cove Center for Grieving Children, which provides free counseling and camps for children who have had a death in the family and for schools affected by violence. The boys aided lead volunteers, setting up tables, chairs, tents, and booths, distributing T-shirts to the more than 2000 participants, and packing up after the event. It was a great day! The boys did a fabulous job and have been asked back yearly.

Jordan and Delvante in the CDR kitchen

The scholars prepared and served lunch at the Community Dining Room in Branford in March 2017. The CDR, which serves the central Connecticut shoreline from East Haven to Old Saybrook, is committed to feeding the hungry and helping with other basic needs. The boys set tables for fifty guests, then washed, peeled, and diced vegetables and made garlic bread, which came out delicious! They served guests salad, soup, lunch, and dessert, and were amazing waiters. They cleared, washed, and dried all dishes, leaving the kitchen and dining room ready for the next meal. It was a wonderful learning experience and a good time for all!



Malachi and Josh bundling flatware at the Community Dining Room

Josh, Malachi, and Jordan at the ABC Holiday Concert

Of course the boys participated in the Annual ABC Holiday Concert at the First Congregational Church on the Green in December, setting out candles on the walkways, tables for desserts, and seating in the balcony and for the Shoreline Youth Symphony Orchestra. They greeted guests at the doors, handed out programs and brochures and ensured that all was left in good order after the concert. They were marvelous ambassadors for ABC!



MADISON A BETTER CHANCE, INC.
P.O. Box 371
Madison, CT 06443

Madison ABC is on Facebook!



Please "like" and share our new Facebook page: [facebook.com/Madison A Better Chance.](https://www.facebook.com/MadisonABetterChance)

We look forward to sharing all the latest news, photos and events from Madison ABC!

See the Madison ABC spring newsletter inside.

**Postal Patron
Madison, CT 06443**

ACT II Thrift Shop & ABC Bike Sale



The ACT II Thrift Shop, a major supporter of the Madison ABC Program, is celebrating 13 years since it opened in July 2004. In addition to its significant support of ABC, ACT II also donates to other youth-related educational, humanitarian, social, and cultural concerns on local, national, and global levels.

Since its inception, the following charities have benefited directly from ACT II's gift-giving: Madison A Better Chance, Madison Foundation, Madison Community Services, Madison Cares (Raise the Roof) Habitat for Humanity, E. C. Scranton Memorial Library, Madison Food Pantry, Read Aloud Program, DHHS Nite in Hand, DHHS VIBE, Warm the Children, New Strong Field, Lions Club DHHS Scholarship Fund, Madison Little League, Friends of Madison Youth, Shoreline Youth Symphony Orchestra, Read to Grow, CLOUT Cares, Call to Care, Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, Madison Arts Barn, Foundation for Prader-Willi Research, CT Burn Center for Children, American Red Cross Katrina, LEAP New Haven Fund, AmeriCares Philippines & Hurricane Sandy Relief, Cove Center for Grieving Children, New Reach New Haven, and Nepal Orphans Home.

Donations of articles to the shop are accepted on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Suitable items to donate include gently used housewares, furniture, jewelry, games, hardware, books, art, crafts, antiques, clothing, and much more. More complete donation guidelines are available at the shop, or you may call (203) 245-2815 for further information.

ACT II, located at 170 Boston Post Road, is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Madison Earth Care volunteers, other volunteers, and ABC scholars transport bicycles to the Green.

ACT II is also well known for its used Bike Sale at the Madison Lions Club Annual Flea Market on the Green. This year's sale will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2017, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bikes for all ages and in very good to excellent condition are donated to the Thrift Shop year round. After being tuned by ACT II volunteers, they are sold at the Bike Sale at affordable prices. Please call ACT II at (203) 245-2815 to find out how to donate your gently used bikes.

www.madisonabc.org – Madison ABC website

www.abetterchance.org – National ABC website

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Message from Our Board President Tom Virgulto

Continuity and change: those two words embody much that is Madison ABC. The program grows and changes, as scholars, host families, and Board members come and go. New faces bring new ideas, new perspectives, and new energy. And with that energy, ABC evolves in new exciting ways each year. The program adapts to the times, and comes to reflect the various ways in which Madison and American society as a whole have grown and emerged. Yet, while the faces are new, the core of all that is Madison ABC continues to hold true. The same values that attract our scholars, as well as the numerous supporting volunteers, remain steadfast and constant. Opportunity for hardworking, dedicated, and deserving young men continues to be the hallmark of this program we have all come to cherish.



spirit of compassion and altruism continues. It is both a testament and credit to this loving and inclusive community that we have enjoyed the success with which we have been blessed.

We eagerly look forward to the days ahead, and hope to continue this tradition with your support. On behalf of Madison ABC and its scholars, thank you for allowing us to be a part of the community.

Madison ABC Annual Meeting - You're Invited!

ALL ARE WELCOME

Please join us Sunday, June 4, 2017
7:30 pm at the Surf Club

Please join us Sunday, June 4, 2017, at 7:30 pm at the Surf Club to experience the heart and soul of Madison ABC at its Annual Meeting.

This year we will welcome author, filmmaker, and interpersonal communications coach Allen Paul Weaver III as our speaker. Allen holds a Bachelor of Arts in Mass/Speech Communications and a Master of Divinity degree. He brings 30+ years of personal and professional experience into focus with his skills, gifts, and talents as he works to inspire, motivate, and educate audiences of all ages. Allen's core message to all: "MOVE! Your Destiny Is Waiting on You."

After Allen's address, one of the highlights of the year happens when we will present our returning scholars, Delvante Hutton, Josh Cabral, and Jordan Rivera, and introduce our new scholars who will join us in the fall. We conclude the evening with a celebration of Malachi Dixon-Powell and his four years with the Madison ABC program.



Allen Paul Weaver III

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