

 **TURN YOUTH**
Consulting's

SAVING OUR



YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

COVID-19: THE NEW BACKSTORY

5th Anniversary

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

10.21.22 | 10.22.22

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY
GUS MACHADO SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

WWW.UTURNYOUTHCONSULTING.COM



Greetings,

WOW, it's been 5 years already! Welcome to U-turn Youth Consulting's 2022 Saving Our Youth Symposium (SOYS). U-turn is an education, training, and advocacy firm that specializes in urban youth/conflict resolution, by advocating for changes that benefit and alter the trajectory for at-risk youth, their families, and communities at-large. Our mission is to unmask the intersectional ties between Systems; and the injustices and disparities that serve as backstories, thus catalyzing the school-to-prison pipeline, leading to community gun violence.

This year's theme is Covid-19: The New Backstory. The past 2.5 years have been both difficult and unsettling, but also very revealing. Revealing because so much of what we thought we had overcome as a Country and a people has been flawed. The ideology that we were working towards reconciliation, has proven to not to be as far reaching as we once believed. The pandemic at its peak and at its lowest, became an aggravating factor. Covid-19 exposed so much of our inequities and disenfranchisement that we could not pretend; it has not impacted our youth. As we continue to "come out" of the pandemic, we are slowly realizing that Covid will become a new Backstory that is affecting our children and youth in the areas of education, mental health, physical health, financial health, uptick in youth's participation in risky behaviors, and many others. Today is about realizing how these changes will forever contribute to our youth's future stories and how best we as providers and stakeholders can mitigate the impact.

It is with this belief in mind, that we are privileged to present some of the most dynamic and thought-provoking experts in their respective fields. These moderators and panelists were selected not only because of their passion, commitment, or their ability to connect the dots when their areas of expertise, intersect with youth and gun violence; but more importantly, because they share U-turn's vision, that if we desire well rounded, productive, and wholesome youth, then we MUST provide the equitable platforms and the communities for them to thrive.

As a firm, we stand resolute in our advocacy and fight for youth justice, and to remind adults that every child is a product of their environment (at home and in the community), and as such, there is a level of accountability that we must assume, to change and ameliorate the systems that serve them.

On behalf of Team U-turn, our partners, our funders, and our sponsors, we implore you to not only intake the information, but as we continue to transition into this "new normal", apply what you've learned, share it, and more importantly, teach it and pay it forward.

Welcome to 2022 Saving Our Youth Symposium!!

Yours in Service,

Dr. Shirley Plantin,
Chief Executive Consultant



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Because All Children Are Our Children.

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CONFERENCE AGENDA

Day 1: Friday, October 21st (9am-4pm)

Sessions	Room 106	Room 107	Room 108	Room 109
9:15am-10:05am: General Session - Auditorium <i>Youth Panel (Youth Biz Summit Winners) Moderator: Ezra Dieuvelle</i>				
Morning A 10:15-11:00am	Gun Violence & Mass Shootings <i>Powered by: U-Turn Youth Consulting</i>	Covid's Impact on Education <i>Powered by: Power U for Social Change</i>	Attack on LGBTQ Youth & marginalized Communities <i>Powered by: AHF</i>	Covid's Long Term Impact on Health
Morning B 11:10-11:55am	Minority Male Initiative	Cultural of Violence: Music, TV, Games	Housing Insecurity Impact on Youth <i>Powered by: Miami Workers Center</i>	Impact on Mental Health <i>Powered by: Prosperity Social</i>
12:05pm-12:25pm: Mothers Fighting For Justice: Auditorium 12:30pm-1:20pm: Networking Lunch- Plaza				
Afternoon A 1:30-2:20pm	Education Meets Social Media <i>Powered by: Student Life 101</i>	Dirty Money <i>Powered by: Barbershop Speaks</i>	Social Justice: DEI <i>Powered by: St. Thomas Law- Ben Crump Social Justice Center</i>	U-Turn Permitted Pt. 1 (Solutions)
Afternoon B 2:25-3:10pm	Foster Youth Transitioning, Human Trafficking, and Sextortion	Impact on Mental Health <i>Powered by: Prosperity Social</i>	U-Turn Permitted Pt. 2 (Solutions)	
3:15pm-4:00pm: Closing Session- Auditorium: Moving the Needle Forward				

DAY 2: Saturday, October 22nd (9am-2pm)

9:15am-10:05am: General Session (Welcome) <i>Gus Machado Auditorium</i>		
Morning 10:15-11:15am	Brother Circle <i>Room 106</i>	Sister Circle <i>Room 107</i>
11:25am-12:30pm: Wellness Activation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mindfulness (Room 108) ● Yoga ● Zumba ● Game Tent 		
12:30pm - 1:00pm: Closing Session 1:00pm - 2:00pm: Lunch		

Session Descriptions

MORNING A: 10:15-11:00am

Gun Violence & Mass Shootings: This session will address the uptick in community gun violence and mass shootings since Covid-19, and how this violence affects our black and brown youth.

Covid's Impact on Education: This session will address the impact and status of Covid on public education and all the contributing factors leading to this state of emergency.

Attack on LGBTQ & Marginalized Youth: This session will deep dive into the recent attacks and legislations against the LGBTQ community and their lasting impacts on LGBTQ youth mentally and emotionally, and the direct linkage to self-violence and violence against all marginalized youth.

Covid's Long Term Impact on Health: This session addresses the long-term affects of Covid-19 on youth, and the propensity to develop additional maladies, while addressing the inequities and disparities within healthcare, particularly disenfranchised communities, that prevent children/youth from accessing preventative care

MORNING B: 11:10-11:55am

Minority Male Initiative: This session will address the need, specifically post Covid, for initiatives that target minority youth males to not only help get them into college, but to help them succeed, and ultimately graduate and become leaders in their homes, workplaces, and in their communities.

Culture of Violence: Music, TV, Games: This session will address the impact that music, TV, and video games have on our society and ultimately how they determine the direction of our society, immediate communities, and even our ideology of the family, particularly post Covid.

Housing Insecurity Impact on Youth: This session will address how housing insecurity is affecting our youth. Often the discussion is centered around the needs and dignity of adults, without considering the same for children and youth and how young brains and emotions have difficulty processing housing insecurity.

Covid's Impact on Mental Health: This session will focus on the increase of youth experiencing mental health issues because of Covid, dealing with situations at home, in schools, with friends, in relationships, and in the community at-large.

AFTERNOON A: 1:30-2:20pm

Education Meets Social Media: This Session will address the intersectional ties between education and social media and the lack of students' desire for any post-secondary plan outside of being a social media influencer.

Dirty Money: This session will address one of the most important contributing factors to gun violence—money; and how money is the nexus to much of the shootings, either directly or indirectly, via music, social media, and scams. This session will also address the uptick in fraudulent digital crimes/scams because of Covid.

Social Justice: DEI This session will address Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as an underlying factors to consider in every system that interacts with youth and how they contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline and ultimately the gun violence in our communities.

U-turn Permitted Part 1: These sessions will highlight many facets of the solutions within the community to combat youth/ gun violence as resources for youth service stakeholders.

AFTERNOON B: 2:30-3:10pm

Foster Youth Transitioning, Human Trafficking, and Sextortion: This Session will address the long-existed disparities within the system, particularly as it relates to youth transitioning out of the foster care system and possibly serving as the gateway into Sextortion and human trafficking.

Covid's Impact on Mental Health: This session will focus on the increase of youth experiencing mental health issues because of Covid, dealing with situations at home, in schools, with friends, in relationships, and in the community at-large.

U-turn Permitted Part 2: These sessions will highlight many facets of the solutions within the community to combat youth/ gun violence as resources for youth service stakeholders.



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SPECIAL THANKS TO...



Special Thanks to team U-turn, our dedicated partners, vendors, and participants for making this year's virtual conference a success.