



SHAYA TRANSFORMATION GROUP

COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION, COMPASSION

Youth Diplomats Program

Introduction

In our current political economy, there is a lack of representation for Black and Brown people in the areas of international development and national security. Our youth are the next generation of leaders, they are able to incite the change that they want to see around them.

- Our aim is to promote our youth with the knowledge and opportunity of experiences within policy so that they may pursue these career fields within post-secondary education.
- We believe that early policy engagement will have a lasting positive impact on raising awareness to the lack of diversity in these global spaces, but also fostering encouragement for our participants to develop into leaders.

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Youth Diplomat program: designed to promote awareness and understanding of the spaces our Black and Brown young people occupy in the field of international policy and development.

- Promote students to engage in activities such as study abroad opportunities or policy-related fields of study in their postsecondary careers.
- We address the topics of mental health, housing, human rights, infrastructure, business, and economics with the goal of dismantling systems of oppression to create global change.
- Provide them with an understanding of how the political economy framework operates and its ties to national security. Policy education is important for helping develop our Black and Brown students into strong and successful global leaders.

For Our Global Market

Youth Diplomacy helps to balance the evolving power shifts within a region and we aim to guide youth into the vision of a fair global market. We are preparing them for what is integral to the stability of regions and alliances so that they are equipped with the necessary skills to compete in the global market.

Client : City Incite

- City Incite, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2013 and still operated by Black and African American leadership in the South Side of Chicago, Illinois.
- Throughout their organizational history, City Incite has found unique approaches to engage our students in discussions about policy and development matters within their own communities and beyond.
- As a result of our efforts, City Incite has equipped youth with the skills needed to achieve gainful employment or entry into post-secondary education in the age of global economies faced with global pandemics

City Incite Program Implementation

- Focus on the advancement of international development through policy, business, and economic education for students ages 12-24.

Programming centers the empowerment of young people through:

- Identity development and personal wellness to shape a secure future
 - By supporting our students in developing motivation, new perspectives
 - Openness to experiences necessary to lead successful, independent lives of leadership and public service.
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3 *Important* Things

1 | Problem

Lack of racial diversity within international development and national security for the global economy

Lack of policy knowledge in Black and brown communities, routes to policy fields in higher education

Lack of global companies and diversity within the global market

2 | Our Solution

Engage youth in policy related issues through policy curriculum and exposure experiences.

Youth will be able to identify policy issues within international development and make clear connections to racist/prejudice systems.

3 | Results

- Increased critical thinking skills
- Problem identification
- Increased understanding of policy knowledge and implementation processes
- Increased cultural competence and diversity perspective in professional/educational spaces

Problem:

What was the issue?

- ❖ In our current economy, there is a lack of racial representation for Black and POC in international development and national security
- ❖ There is a need for diversity inclusion in order to promote positive global competition and economic growth
- ❖ Representation is crucial to understanding and formulating solutions to best represent their communities
- ❖ The lack of Black people in these space means an economic disadvantage in the competing global market

Our Solution:

What we did to help

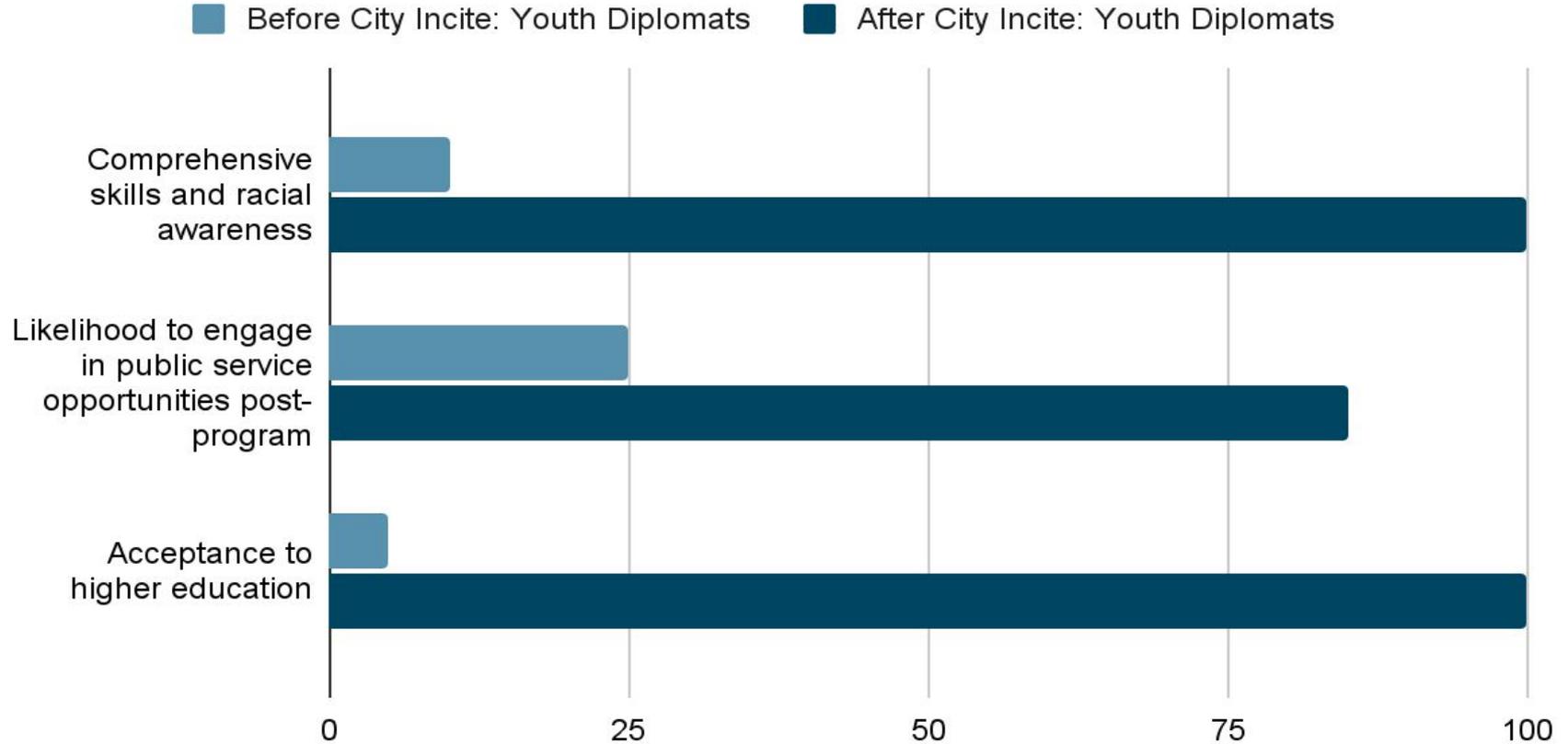
- ❖ Implementation of policy curriculum to gain understanding of racial/social structures through the lense of policy
 - ❖ Promoted intercultural competencies & increased confidence levels to achieve leadership roles in international development
 - ❖ Strengthened critical thinking, problem identification, academic curiosity
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Results:

Positive Impact

- ❖ Increased policy knowledge and fundamentals
 - ❖ Expanded racial awareness and problem identification
 - ❖ Increased self confidence, pride and determination
 - ❖ Literacy comprehension development
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Positive Impact



Student Testimonies

- Felt the program was a healthy boost to their self-confidence, self-esteem, and life satisfaction
 - Had a clearer sense of direction for their goals and how to achieve them
 - Increased confidence in themselves to pursue leadership roles to do good for themselves, others, and the community
 - Felt their problem solving, leadership, critical thinking, and communication skills were exponentially better than before the program
 - Development in accountability and organizational skills
- ★ **Student A:** Will be pursuing the medical field in effort to dismantle healthcare policy issues toward Black girls and women in underprivileged communities.
 - ★ **Student B:** Will be pursuing higher education for construction management. He plans to utilize policy by getting a concentration that will expand on the fundamentals of international development. He want to build a program of his own that will help youth in globally disadvantaged areas.

Results

1. Program allowed for students to engage further with the fundamentals of policy
2. Students developed and strengthened key skills that they can use in public spaces to foster conversation and promote cultural competencies
3. Students are self aware of racial issues within policy both domestically and globally
4. Youth understand the importance of international development and the importance of leadership role as Black people. They are confident and determined to successfully compete in the global market