



## A Virtual Reality: Defining Our New Normal Summer 2020



### A Virtual Summer

COVID-19 has created a domino effect of unimaginable consequences as we watched schools close early, families struggle to meet basic needs, and small businesses shuttering their doors. In the midst of all of the heartbreaking devastation, All Ways Up has stepped in to offer our scholars and alumni virtual programming and emotional support. Check out some of the virtual events we hosted and be on the lookout for more events coming soon! Here's wishing the best (and good health) to everyone who is beginning what will certainly be an unprecedented school year.



### Virtual Town Hall: Combating Racism

George Floyd and Breonna Taylor's death ignited a racial awakening across the globe. All Ways Up stands firm in support of all Black lives, and in June, we held our first Virtual Family Town Hall: "Combating Racism." The objective of the Town Hall was to facilitate a healthy and safe conversation about addressing systemic racism in our communities, while also providing resources for scholars and members of our community. The resources can be accessed [here](#). Be on the lookout for our next Family Town Hall which will focus on effecting systemic change by actively participating in the upcoming elections.

### College to Career Summit

Gearing up for your senior year of college can be as daunting as preparing for your freshman year, not to mention doing it while the world is in lockdown. In late July, All Ways Up hosted its second annual (and first virtual) College to Career Summit. We kicked off the two-day event with a keynote conversation with our founders, Greg and Jodi Perlman. They shared their thoughts about what it means to be an All Ways Up Scholar, setting the tone of respect and admiration that carried through the Summit. Following our keynote, scholars dove into a variety of workshops focused on financial literacy and wellness, resumes and cover letters, mental health and self-care, and a number of career panels, including a panel discussion with Greg and his Executive Team.



### Virtual Hangouts

Despite all of the challenges living in a pandemic has brought, preparing our scholars for a successful future continues to be our focus. This summer, we partnered with [FutureMap](#) to host career development workshops that focused on navigating the job search, building resumes and cover letters, and creating your LinkedIn profile, all with the goal of helping our students navigate this challenging job market. Earlier this month, all rising sophomores participated in virtual "hangouts" designed to equip the students with tools, resources, and helpful tips to succeed in this upcoming virtual school year.

### #WellnessWednesdays

The health and well-being of our scholars is of primary importance. Our #WellnessWednesday campaign promotes wellness inside and out. This summer, we offered several virtual classes hosted by All Ways Up scholars and alums. Classes included virtual Zumba, Yoga and Meditation. Students, staff, and friends of the Foundation joined together to improve their mental and physical fitness! Special thanks to LaIndia Santos-Phillips and Mar Wilson for sharing your special talents.



### Calling All Mentors!

During this uncertain time, many All Ways Up scholars and alumni have asked to be paired with a mentor. If you are interested, please complete [THIS FORM](#) and we will match you with a scholar or recent grad. No experience necessary. We will hold a virtual training to provide guidance about the mentor/mentee relationship and we will send monthly emails with tips to enhance your role as a mentor. We only ask that you make at least a one-year commitment to monthly interactions (virtual for now) with your mentee.

To support the Foundation,  
please click here: [www.allwaysup.org/donate](http://www.allwaysup.org/donate)

THANK YOU!



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