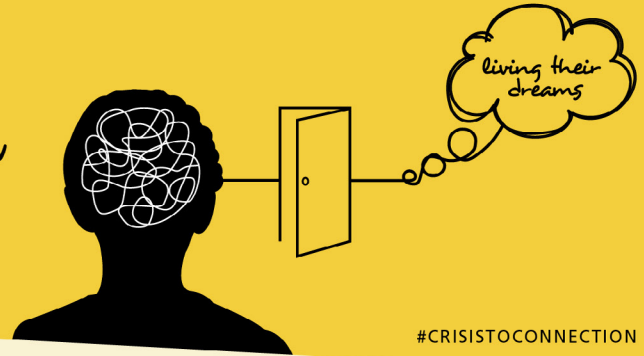




CRISIS TO CONNECTION:  
**AN IMPERATIVE FOR  
OUR BLACK BOYS**

# Change Champion Kick-off Report



#CRISITOCONNECTION

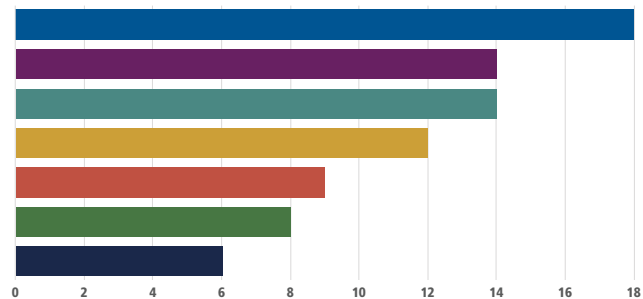
## OCTOBER 28, 2020

The Crisis to Connection Imperative convened over 100 Change Champions from the Detroit and Wayne County communities to begin diving into the challenges that systems are facing with respect to serving Black boys. The two hour event was held on October 20th, 2020 via Zoom.

### SEVEN BREAKOUT GROUPS ANSWERED ONE QUESTION:

What are the most significant challenges your system is facing with respect to serving Black boys?

1. **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS – 18 PARTICIPANTS**
2. **EDUCATION – 14 PARTICIPANTS**
3. **PUBLIC HEALTH – 14 PARTICIPANTS**
4. **PHILANTHROPY / CORPORATE – 12 PARTICIPANTS**
5. **LEGISLATIVE – 9 PARTICIPANTS**
6. **THE CHILDREN'S CENTER STAFF – 8 PARTICIPANTS**
7. **LAW ENFORCEMENT / COURTS – 6 PARTICIPANTS**



### BREAKOUT GROUP THEMES:

The most common theme across all groups was *lack of coordination and connections within and between systems.*

#### COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

1. Siloes between systems are barriers to integrated care
2. Lack of representation of Black men in all spaces
3. Across the board, systems are not trauma-informed

#### PUBLIC HEALTH:

1. Siloes create lack of coordinated care and connections between providers
2. Lack of accessible and affordable care
3. Limited preventative and holistic approaches

#### THE CHILDREN'S CENTER:

1. Lack of Black male presence in the field
2. Lack of focus on positive futures and strengths of Black boys
3. Lack of continuity of care and connections between systems

#### EDUCATION:

1. Long term impact of suspensions and expulsions
2. School curriculum is not culturally relevant
3. Lack of validation of the successful Black male experience

#### PHILANTHROPY/CORPORATE:

1. Limited access to youth
2. Lack of awareness of/access to funding opportunities
3. Disconnect within/between systems, causing a lack of coordination of funded services

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT/COURTS:

1. Stereotypes and implicit biases of Black boys
2. Misinformation about court rules and judicial system
3. Lack of support systems and connections between systems

#### LEGISLATIVE:

1. Lack of accessibility and education for Black men on engaging in politics
2. Underrepresentation of Black men
3. Lack of politicians working together to create change

## Save the Date

Crisis to Connection Change Champion Meeting:  
January 13th, 2021 @ 10:00-11:30am via Zoom

## Questions?

Email [CrisisToConnection@TheChildrensCenter.com](mailto:CrisisToConnection@TheChildrensCenter.com)