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*Plant A Seed of Hope Cultivate A Field of Dreams Reap A Harvest of Champions*©

**Executive Summary and Program Prospectus**

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Champion Institute exists to train coach and mentor fatherless boys to win in life. In response to the needs of fatherless youth who have been broken by their past and have no direction for their future, the program offers hope, restoration, and a roadmap forward. Through the program, these youth gain renewed inner strength to approach life’s challenges, rediscover doors of opportunity to pursue personal and professional goals and find meaning in their own lives resulting in a desire to serve others.

**Our Mission**

We exist to inspire, coach and train fatherless boys to win in life.

**Vision Statement**

We envision a world in which fatherless boys win in life by achieving their dreams

and by reaching their God-given potential. We take the concept of coaching off the

field, and into the lives of fatherless boys to become healthy self-reliant responsible young men.

**Core Values**

 Under the Restorative Identity Model, the programs promote five core principles:

* Each youth has God-given purpose and has the potential to achieve his or her dreams.
* Success is cultivated through a process of encouragement.
* Natural talent and ability emerge within a supportive environment.

**History**

Our Founder, Shawn Zanders, is driven by a belief that fatherless youth deserve an opportunity to reach their fullest God-given potential. He has devoted more than twenty years reaching out to these youth, providing consummate compassion and encouraging them to believe in themselves and their ability to achieve their goals. Shawn’s journey in his calling to fatherless youth began when he started mentoring one youth, not realizing that his efforts with the youth would become his life’s work. Since first touching the life of one youth, Shawn’s work has blossomed into Champion Institute for Youth Development.

Over the past fifteen years, Shawn’s work with youth has led him to the development of his cutting-edge model, Restorative Identity Development. This framework helps fatherless youth tap their strengths, discover skills, and unlock their internal capacities to write a new narrative about their future and reach their goals.

Under Shawn’s leadership, Champion Institute for Youth Development now proudly serves fatherless youth across the Greater Houston and Fort Bend communities, helping these youth beat the odds and overcome the wounds that fatherlessness often leaves behind. The success of Shawn’s model of Restorative Identity Development has achieved acclaim and its success is evidenced in daily life transformations experienced by youth who attend Champion Institute for Youth Development.

**How we make a difference**

We develop fatherless youth, building upon the natural strengths and talents that each youth possesses. Through an understanding of each youth’s unique needs, we provide comprehensive one-to-one coaching, and we work to help each candidate identify his or her strengths.

We restore a sense of hope and personal self-worth through intensive one-to-one instruction and mentoring. We help candidates develop a new narrative about their past and use it as a gateway to their future.

**Approach**

Champion Institute offers a cutting-edge program approach that parallels a journey to championship. The program encompasses five phases, the draft, training camp, the season, the playoffs, and the championship. Within this model, we take coaching off the field and into the lives of young boys to help them cultivate and master those skills necessaries to champion their individual purpose in life.

Champion Institute recruits participate in rigorous curriculum that includes Lifelabs, sessions that focus on specific aspects of development. Hosted at our partner university campuses, community centers, and iconic settings, Life labs topics in decision-making, thought agility, and learning strategies.

**Program Goals**

**Goal I**: To provide a structured program within which youth can rediscover their strengths

An overarching goal of the Champions Within Institute is to help each youth rediscover individual strength and potential. Using the Restorative Identity Development approach, the goal of the Champion Institute is to restore healthy identity development through a process of hope-building, decision-mapping, and rediscovery of one’s inner strengths.

**Goal II**: To offer a wraparound support circles to address each youth’s unique challenges and needs

Another goal of the Champion Institute is to provide intense support to each youth.Champion Institute’s team of Champion architects help youth organizes circle of support comprised of mentors, each addressing a specific aspect of the youth’s growth needs including academic advancement, social skills learning, service learning, leadership aptitudes.

**Goal III**: To help each youth reach their highest potential

Champion Institute strives to develop youth to maintain a continuous movement to higher levels of goal attainment. By presenting new opportunities for candidates to grow personally, academically, and professionally the Champion Institute restores a sense of purpose within each youth, replacing self-defeating thoughts and behaviors left in the aftermath of early childhood trauma.

**Outcomes**

The program aims to achieve success with each participant. Toward that end, success of the program is determined using very specific metrics. Successful graduates of the Champion Institute demonstrate the following:

* Our youth can articulate a positive self-story of victory rather than defeat. Their academic efforts result in high school completion and pursuits of higher academic and career goals.
* Our youth find stability and wholeness, regaining a renewed inner strength to approach life’s challenges, and rediscover doors of opportunity.
* Our youth conquer life’s challenges and embrace new opportunities. They realize their dreams and become difference-makers in their communities.

For more information, contact Shawn Zanders, Founder and Executive Director at (713) 955-4549