



# BTWEN

## MISSION STATEMENT

Espousing the teachings of Booker T. Washington on education, leadership, excellence, personal responsibility, and character building, BTWEN seeks to help disadvantaged youth and their families rise above difficult circumstances, empowering them to discover their extraordinary legacy, and return to their communities to create positive change as leaders, mentors, and role models.

### *Foundational teachings from the wisdom of Booker T. Washington . . .*

- 1.) *“One cannot hold another down in the ditch without staying down in the ditch with him – and in helping the man who is down to rise, the man who is up is freeing himself from a burden that would else drag him down. For the man who is down, there is always something to hope for, always something to be gained.”*

Addresses: hope, making a difference, kindness, self-worth, **education**

- 2.) *“It must be remembered that no individual of any race can contribute to the solution of any general problem until he has first worked out his own peculiar problem.”*

Addresses: judgment, self-improvement, relationships, and **leadership**

- 3.) *“Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life, as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed.”*

Addresses: Perseverance, determination, strength, **excellence**

- 4.) *“It is important and right that all privileges of law be ours, but it is vastly more important that we be prepared for the exercise of these privileges.”*

Addresses: preparation, discipline, delayed gratification, **personal responsibility**

- 5.) *“I will allow no man to drag me down so low as to make me hate him.”*

Addresses: self-love, anger, self-control, peace, love, and **character**