Executive Board
President: Michael Sharon
Vice President: Open
Advisor: Jennifer Regentz
Secretary: Cathy Costa
Academic Advisor: Claudia Piper
Personnel: Melissa Stone
Host Family Coordinators: Susan Leathers and Lisa Cleary
Student Life: Terry Marotta
Treasurer: Debbie Carson

Resident Staff
Resident Directors: Jamoul and Alisa Celey
Resident Academic Coordinator: Isaac Matthews
House Chef: Chandra Davis

Winchester A Better Chance (ABC) has been opening the door to educational and professional opportunities for a number of young men of color in this region for over forty years. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

In Loving Memory of Michael O. Regentz

Michael Regentz, a long-time, active participant in ABC Winchester, and many other Winchester community activities, passed away on April 28. Mike was the husband of Jennifer, a past ABC Winchester President and the current ABC Advisor.

All of you who have participated in or attended any Winchester ABC activity in recent years would undoubtedly have seen Mike. He regularly attended each board meeting, and played a key role in organizing many of our major activities during the year—the fall parent’s weekend, our fall and spring bottle drives, our graduation celebration. Mike was friendly, outgoing, considerate, and someone whom it was always rewarding to seek out and talk to when the occasion arose. I know I always made it a point to seek out Mike at any ABC event. Mike and Jennifer were host parents to an ABC scholar, Alby Acosta. They have remained in close touch with Alby through the years and Alby spoke movingly at Mike’s funeral. Mike also felt particularly close to, and proud of, this year’s senior class, and we will make it a point to remember Mike at our upcoming graduation ceremony.

Mike’s fondness for, and energetic efforts on behalf of, the Winchester ABC program were apparent to all he came in contact with. He will be greatly missed.
A Word from our Resident Directing Team

As this school year comes to a close, we can't help but reminisce about the things and people who have changed the dynamics of the Winchester ABC house.

As the Resident Directors, we strive to create a loving, caring, home-like atmosphere while also grooming young men to be scholars and successful, responsible citizens. We can't express how proud we are of our three seniors, Ahmad, Cameron, and Tristan who are all going to make ABC proud as they embark upon the next chapter of their lives. Congratulations, you three! They attained a high level of scholarship this year. They also took the time to embrace the underclassmen and showed them the ropes of being an ABC scholar, an outward sign of their leadership and brotherhood in the house.

After two years of solid service, Isaac Matthews, our resident tutor, will be leaving to pursue his career in aero-space engineering period (Yeah, a rocket scientist, lol!). How blessed we were to have him here and share his wealth of knowledge and sound structural tutorship. Through his guidance, we were able to not only boost the morale but also boost the grade-point averages of several of our scholars. He showed care, he showed patience, and he showed brotherhood. And for that he will be missed!

What can we say about Chandra Davis, our resident chef? Thank you so much for the love and care you put into the delicious food that you prepared for us every day! You gave us well-balanced meals and made us try things we would have never tried before and we loved every minute of it!

And lastly, to the all of the volunteers and the Winchester community, WOW! You are all so kind, and so generous. A program of this caliber could not be possible without you! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Sincerely,
Alisa and Jamoul Celey
Ahmad Greene-Hayes will be attending Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, this fall. Accepted to several excellent schools, Williams won him over with its persistence and excellent financial aid. Ahmad also saw Williams as a great choice for him, as a prospective Economics and Africana Studies double major. He was also awarded the ABC Achievement Award from National ABC in New York, NY and he is currently a semi-finalist for the national Jackie Robinson Scholarship Foundation.

Tristan Hardy will attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York, as an engineering major. Tristan, too, was accepted at several schools and chose RPI because it represents the best chance to pursue his dream of becoming an aeronautical engineer. He was an outstanding student there last summer during their engineering “boot camp,” and they actively recruited him to return as a full-time student.

Cameron Horsey will enroll at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, this fall. His talents in writing and other creative arts earned him a spot on their class of 2016 roster, though he, too, like his ABC brethren, was admitted to several excellent colleges. Cameron recently won the Joseph M. Murphy Scholarship, given to student athletes who demonstrate leadership and are focused on higher education.

And on the “second time around” news front, Greg Thompson (Winchester ABC ’11 and Phillips Exeter Academy ’12), will attend Bowdoin College this fall.

Congratulations to all our senior scholars and best wishes for their continued success! We would also like to thank Pat Mahon, Carol Cashion, and Doe Coover for working with our three seniors this year throughout the college process!

Three Seniors with Carol Cashion, Doe Coover, and Pat Mahon at the East Coast Grill in celebration of their acceptances!
An Evening with Dr. Harris Gibson

By Tobi Omola, ABC Freshman

When Dr. Harrison Gibson came to the ABC House to speak with my fellow scholars and me, he enlightened us with some of his personal experiences which definitely motivated us to work hard and strive for the best.

After working his way through college, Dr. Gibson began graduate studies at two different universities, to determine which field of studies really captured his interest. It turned out that his passion was for medicine. He then attended Meharry Medical College School of Medicine, and went on to become a cardiac and thoracic surgeon, working in this field for 51 years, most of them at our own Winchester Hospital, only recently retiring.

Like me, Dr. Gibson has an extensive background in music and first began playing the saxophone professionally when he was 12. The most striking thing about hearing him talk to us at supper was learning what a front row seat he had for the great events of the Civil Rights movement. He marched with Rosa Parks herself and had the chance to reminisce with her about those years later in life. To say that he has inspired us all is a great understatement.

Need Assistance on Your Outdoor/Indoor Home Projects?
The ABC Scholars Can Help Out.

To help fund their academic summer programs and other events, the ABC scholars are available (at a reasonable hourly rate) to help you on small outdoor or indoor projects. Examples include: raking leaves (!), shoveling snow, lawn work, helping you paint a garage, helping you move (not-very-huge) furniture from one room to the next, organizing your files, and much more.

Please email scholarjobs@winchesterabc.org to describe what assistance you need, approximate time needed (1-3 hours), whether this work will require 1 or 2 scholars, and possible dates you want the work done. Also provide your telephone number. We will get back to you within a day or so with an estimated cost and availability.

Thanks for your support!
World Book Night at the ABC House

WORLD BOOK NIGHT was a global event to promote literacy in which one million copies of 30 novels were distributed nationally. Lynch Elementary participated as a ‘giver’ on Monday, April 23.

On World Book Night Lynch students and their adult chaperones distributed free copies of bestselling books to approximately six to eight local organizations, such as the Mt. Vernon Assisted Living Center, Winchester Hospital, and Winchester A Better Chance. The idea behind World Book Night was simply to get books in the hands of people that may not normally have access to read them.

World Book Night books are specially-produced, not-for-resale paperbacks. There is no charge for these special, not-for-resale editions. These books cannot be resold in any fashion. Authors are foregoing royalties to make this possible, and American book publishers, the American Booksellers Association, Barnes & Noble, the American Library Association, the Association of American Publishers, Ingram Book Company, UPS, and a dozen printers and binders have paid for the production and shipping. Through their generosity, the organizers of World Book Night were able to make the books available free of charge, along with the work of many volunteers – including the students of Lynch Elementary School!

Special thanks to Dana Diamond, Lynch School Council, Christine Kelley, Principal at Lynch Elementary School, and Eileen Milner, Winchester Educator, for organizing this event at the ABC House!
A Note from ABC Bottle Drive organizer, Derek Stone

Thank you Winchester! The Winchester ABC Bottle Drive that was recently held was a success because over the long winter many of you saved your returnable cans and bottles and then you were good enough to deliver them to us on May 5.

We had a great turn-out, not only in terms of bottles and cans collected but also volunteers! As always, there was a great showing from all the ABC Scholars and Board Members. We were also assisted by many town organizations including members of Winchester High School Connect and Commit, Winchester baseball and softball teams, and most notably the Winchester based Wolfgang Lacrosse Team — all of whom also play for the towns' lacrosse teams!

The bottle drive netted over 5 pallets of returnable glass bottles (8,400+ bottles) and 200+ bags of cans and plastic bottles. All of the proceeds generated from the drive will go to benefit the Winchester ABC program.

This photo captures some of the happy volunteers who gave ABC their time while giving all of you their smiles.

Please continue to save your returnable cans and bottles over the summer for our fall bottle drive, scheduled for Saturday, October 6. Thanks to all of you!
NOW HIRING:

**Winchester ABC Resident Academic Coordinator (RAC)**

Winchester ABC is seeking a Resident Academic Coordinator to oversee the studies for six to eight students living in the house and attending Winchester High School. Please see the job description on the website (www.winchesterabc.org) or for more information about the program. Send resumes to personnel@winchesterabc.org.

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ABC GRADUATION PARTY!

The ABC community is invited to the Graduation Celebration dinner to honor Ahmad, Tristan, and Cameron, on Saturday, June 2nd, 6 PM at the First Congregational Church. We are so proud of our distinguished seniors. This is a wonderful opportunity to thank them for all they have brought to our ABC program and to congratulate them and wish them well on their new and exciting adventures ahead. This event is a great way to gain insight of the true value of ABC and of course why this all matters. It is a heartwarming celebration with cheers and tears. I urge you all to consider attending. It is a family styled event. If you can attend, please RSVP to Suzi Reno at 781-720-7520 or suzannereno@comcast.net. Any questions, please feel free to email Cindy Hale, cindy@otwadv.com or call 617-710-5525.

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Calling all Winchester ABC Alumni!

Winchester ABC was organized by four Winchester families and accepted its first scholars in 1971. Since its advent, ABC has graduated almost 80 students, who then matriculated to some of our nation’s finest colleges.

Susanne Inglis, Winchester resident and ABC board member, has accepted the challenge of updating our ABC Alumni database. She wants to get in touch with as many of our Winchester ABC scholars as possible. Please give Susanne your most recent contact information and let us know about any of your fellow scholars with whom you may be in touch.

You can reach Susanne via email at susanne.inglis@verizon.net or you may get in touch with her via our website, www.winchesterabc.org.
ATTENTION: ABC HOST FAMILIES WANTED!

Becoming an ABC Host Family is a rewarding experience. Your ABC host son will come to your home every Sunday afternoon and one weekend a month for the four years that he is attending Winchester High School. It is a wonderful opportunity for your family. If you would like more information about the Host Family commitment, please contact Sue Leathers at 781.721.0483 / susanleathers@verizon.net.

Current Host Families are:

Scholars
Ahmad Greene-Hayes ‘12
Cameron Horsey ‘12
Tristan Hardy ‘12
Rayvoughn Millings ‘13
Hazees Abdul ‘14
Tobi Omola ‘15
Enderson Naar ‘15
Machias Turner ‘15

Host Families
The Sprys
The McGeown-Conrons
The Hollands
The Davis-Heikkinens
The McIntyres
The O’Connors
The Morries
The Burkes

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Upcoming ABC Bottle Drive
Saturday, October 6th, 2012