

W.I.S.E.

Model for Diversifying the Green Sector



Derron Coles, Ph.D.

THE BLUEPRINT FOUNDATION

EDUCATION

CAREER

FAMILY

COMMUNITY

Derron Coles, Ph.D.



- Blueprint Executive Director
- Instructional design and research for recruitment and retention of POC in STEM (20 years)
- Principal Consultant | DRC Learning Solutions

Jason Stroman



- Blueprint Program Director
- Mentoring and youth counseling (20+ years)
- Immediate Past President of Omicron Theta Sigma, local Alumni Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.



Eliminate the **opportunity gap** for Black youth in the Portland Metropolitan Area. This is accomplished by engaging youth in **culturally specific experiences** that introduce them to, and **prepare them for**, family sustaining **careers in green sector** disciplines where Black-identified individuals are **currently underrepresented**.

Best Practice

- Access to nature
- Connections to culture-related altruism
- Culture-matched role models (**multigenerational mentoring**)
- Culturally responsive competency development
- Enculturation and aptitude for discourse (**code switching**)
- Work experience and leadership roles

CAREER-SPECIFIC MENTORING

INVESTIGATE

EDUCCATE



WITNESS

SOLVE

IMPACT









FRIENDS
of TREES













PARTNERSHIPS FOR STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Restoration & Research

- JCWC | Leach
- PP&R | CSWC
- SOLVE | Nature Conservancy
- BES | Constructing Hope

Green Building

- NAMC | Colas Construction
- Dharma Rain | Earth Advantage

Restoration & Research

- In4All | Friends of Trees
- USFWS | Salmon Watch
- Camp ELSO | Tryon Creek



“My two children have been members of Blueprint for 3 years. When my son started Blueprint 3 years ago, he was shy and wasn't really comfortable interacting with people, he was the kid who was always in the background and out the way. After having the experiences and exposure to peers, mentors, and people within the community, my son has grown into a very mature leader, taking on projects at will. I'm so proud of him and his growth, which spills over into other areas of his life. I can't thank Blueprint enough for helping transform my boy into a young man” . -*Vanessa White, Blueprint Parent*

