

Sport as a Healing Tool

Voices of Summer Webinar Series









Welcome!

- Your phone line is muted.
- The webinar is being recorded.
- A link to the recording and slides will be made available.





Welcome!



Leslie Gabay-Swanston

Director of Program and Systems Quality

National Summer Learning Association

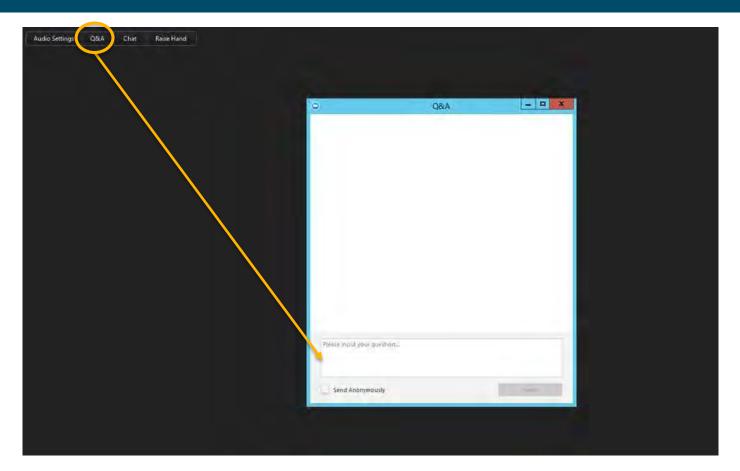


Webinar Overview

- About NSLA
- Panel
 - Laureus Sport for Good Foundation USA
 - Up2Us Sports
 - Alliance For a Healthier Generation
 - NBA
- Audience Questions
- Announcements & Follow-up



Welcome!





About NSLA

NSLA is a national, non-profit organization focused on the powerful impact of one achievable goal: investing in summer learning to help close the achievement gap. NSLA uses the power of research, advocacy, training, and policy to transform America's neighborhoods and communities, one child at a time.

Our work is based on the simple idea that summer—a time that is easily overlooked yet critical to educational development—is bursting with possibility, and instrumental in closing the achievement gap between privileged children and our most vulnerable children.



Why Summers Matter



Summer is the time of greatest inequity for young people. When schools are closed, many low income young people lack access to meals, books and other learning resources, and physical activity.

Panelists



Pharlone Toussaint
Atlanta Program Officer
Laureus Sport for Good
Foundation USA









Laureus Sport for Good Foundation believes in the power of sport to change the world as proclaimed by our founding Patron Nelson Mandela at the 2000 Laureus World

SPORT

HAS THE POWER
TO CHANGE THE WORLD.
IT HAS THE POWER TO
INSPIRE.

Sports Awards:

IT HAS THE POWER TO

UNITE

PEOPLE IN A WAY
THAT LITTLE ELSE DOES

SPORT CAN CREATE

HOPE

WHERE THERE WAS ONCE ONLY DESPAIR





More than 250 athletes support Laureus' work globally, and help raise awareness for sport as a tool for social change. Our supporters include:

MARCUS ALLEN
TONY HAWK
MARTINA NAVRATILOVA
NADIA COMANECI
LENNOX LEWIS
CHRIS PAUL
MISSY FRANKLIN
LANCE THOMAS







Mission: Laureus USA is a 501(c)(3) grant making, intermediary foundation whose mission is to improve the lives of youth and unite communities through the power of sport.

Core Belief: We believe that sport encourages healthy childhood













Panelists



Jamison Merrill
Chief Program Officer
Up2Us Sports









Up2Us Coaches

- Only National Service (AmeriCorps) program for coaches
- Placed more than 2,800 AmeriCorps coaches to expand sports opportunities in 20 U.S. Cities
- Engaged more than 200,000 at-risk youth year-round in sports and positive youth development
- Since 2010, trained more than 22,000 coaches

Our Reach



Major Markets

- -Baltimore
- -Boston
- -Chicago -Los Angeles
- -Miami
- -New Orleans
- -New York
- -Oakland
- -Philadelphia
- -Seattle
- -Washington DC

Up2Us Sports during COVID-19

- Maintaining all coaches (250 in total) who receive AmeriCorps living stipends
- Providing free counseling for all Up2Us Coaches through AllOne Health*
- Up2Us Coaches are receiving additional bi-weekly training and, where possible, conducting virtual sessions with youth
- Up2Us Coaches, depending on comfort, are also doing direct service through volunteering at food banks and other organizations focused on basic needs
- Launching a large-scale Summer Associate Program (VISTA) providing relief to sport-based youth development and other youth-serving non-profit organizations

Background

Pre-COVID:

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are prevalent, with over half of adults reporting more than 1 ACE and 1 in 6 reported more than 4 ACEs.ⁱ
- ACEs can have long-term negative consequences on life outcomes, including mental health.
- Half of all mental illness occurs before a person turns 14 years old, and three-quarters of mental illness begin before age 24.ⁱⁱ

During and Post-COVID:

- A recent study showed that kids who were quarantined were four times more likely to show signs of PTSD than those who were not.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Economic downturns are associated with increased mental health problems for youth due to trickle down effects from adult unemployment, adult mental health, and child maltreatment.^{iv}
- A recent poll suggested that nearly half of Americans feel that COVID-19 has harmed their mental health.^v
- Relatedly, the SARs epidemic in early 2000s showed increases in PTSD, stress, and psychological distress in people.^{vi}

i. Centers for Disease Control: https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/aces/fastfact.html

ii. Centers for Disease Control: https://www.cdc.gov/mentalhealth/

iii Brooks et al. Lancet Psychology: https://www.helancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)30460-8/fulltext

iv. Golberstein et al. Heath Econ: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31165566

v. Keiser Family Foundation: https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/report/kff-health-tracking-poll-early-april-2020/

vi. Lee AM et al. Can J Psychiatry: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17500304

Our Guiding Principles

- 1. Mental and physical health are two sides of the same coin.
- Coaches play a pivotal role in maintaining and cultivating positive mental health for young people.
- 3. Positive mental health of coaches (mentors) is a prerequisite for positive mental health of youth.
- 4. Relationships -- founded on mutual respect, trust, and praise -- help buffer stress for young people.

Role of sports coaches in supporting healing and cultivating positive mental health

- Sport is a powerful healer and provides an important protective barrier for children and young people. A 2019 study found that youth who participated in team sports were less likely to develop symptoms of depression later in life than those who did not play team sports.ⁱ
- Interaction with positive coach-mentors have been strongly linked with a reduction in depressive symptoms for young people.ⁱⁱ
- The presence of a caring adult is the main factor in building resilience.

ii. Mentoring.org: https://www.mentoring.org/why-mentoring/mentoring-impact/#1442856309069-add22431-aa80

iii. Center on the Developing Child: https://developingchild.harvard.edu/science/key-concepts/resilience/

Coach Wellness



- Coaches must first prioritize their own mental health to better support the mental health of the youth they are working with.
- Coaches receive structured training on the importance of self-care, reflection, and debriefing.
- We are continuously refining our referral protocols for coaches who are need support with mental health.

Coach Training

- Developed First Coach Certification in Sports-based Youth Development (50+ hours)
- Coach training involves providing coaches with trauma-informed skills and strategies to help them engage kids who experience ACEs
- Trauma-informed content provides coaches with an understanding of:
 - How stress and trauma affects the brain of their players (mentees);
 - How personal and community context affects the behaviors of their players; and,
 - How to leverage trust-based relationships and sport to improve wellness and build self-efficacy and confidence.

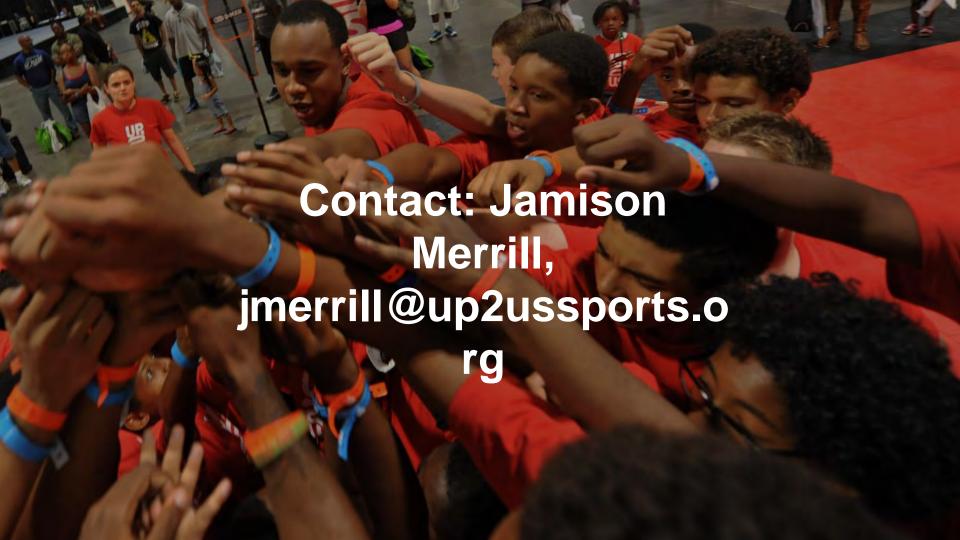
Returning to Play



- Leveraging service and mentoring:
 Up2Us Sports Coaches, through a service year, can aid healing for themselves, youth and communities by serving as community health coaches (2nd responders).
- Rethinking safe play, sport, and mentoring and developing tailored Coach-based mental health approaches: How do state-specific reopening strategies affect sport and play? What are the effects on coaching/mentoring (in-person vs. virtual vs. combination of both)? What new skills can we give coaches to better support their players' mental health?

Resources

- Visit #Up2UsSportsAtHome: https://www.up2us.org/up2ussportsathome
- Keep Girls in Sport Digital Training: https://www.keepgirlsinsport.com/
- Summer Associates -- We are placing no cost VISTA positions provided to interested organizations: https://www.up2us.org/up2us-sports-summer-vista
 - You will find links to the application, informational webinar, program guide, and FAQs.



Panelists



Daniel HatcherDirector of Community Partnerships

Alliance For a Healthier Generation





OPENING REFLECTION CIRCLE



Participation Prompt:

Answer in the chat box, who else is feeling this way?





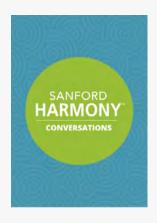
Participation Prompt:

Focus on the clouds.

Do the I-Y-T stretch together.

Breathe deep.

ACTIVITY: QUICK CONNECTION CARDS



Participation Prompt:

Use the chat box to share your answer.



"Today you are you, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is youer than you."

- Dr. Seuss

What has made you feel proud?

UPPER GRADE









ACTIVITY: RAINBOW ROUNDUP

Participation Prompt:

Look around you or go to the nearest window.

Find objects for each color of the rainbow.







Family Activity Tracker

When families are physically active together, they can have fun while encouraging healthy choices. Try to get at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day!

Hang this tracker on a wall or refrigerator where all family members can see it, and create an active family goal each month (e.g., this month we will try a new outdoor activity together). Then, track your activities and reward your progress with something the whole family will enjoy!

Our Monthly Goal:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY

Participation Prompt:

Which practice will you add to your day?



Panelists



Adam Harper Senior Director, Youth Basketball Development NBA



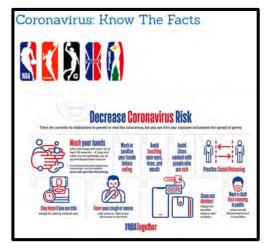


NBA Together

Know the Facts • Acts of Caring • Expand Your Community • NBA Together Live



Know the Facts



Expand Your Community













Tuesday Twitter Q&A with Matisse Thybulle of the @sixers!

Send your questions for @MatisseThybulle now before he answers them at 4pm/et! Submit using #NBATogether #



Tweet #NBATogether

Acts of Caring



NBA Together Live

Her Time To Play



Jr. NBA Leadership Conference



Social Media Snapshot

#NBATogether #ActsofCaring #JrNBAatHome

Since the #NBATogether launch, we have shared almost **14K posts** across **NBA**, **NBA Cares**, **and Jr. NBA** accounts, generating over **921M video views** and **86M actions**. The initiative has the following components:

- Know the Facts: Overall on @NBA, PSA content has generated a total of 60M video views across League and International accounts.
- NBA Together Virtual Roundtable Series: The NBA
 Together Virtual Series has generated 2.3M views and 14K watch hours.
- Acts of Caring: 392 posts on NBA and NBA Cares that generated a combined 1.8M actions League, Team, Player and International accounts. To date there has been 4.2K mentions of #ActsOfCaring on Twitter.
- Expand Your Community: #JrNBAatHome videos have garnered 80M video views and 9.2M actions across Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
- Since launching NBA Math Breaks Presented by AT&T has generated over 5.7M views and 26K actions



NBA Together

Know the Facts • Acts of Caring • Expand Your Community • NBA Together Live

#NBATogether

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Questions





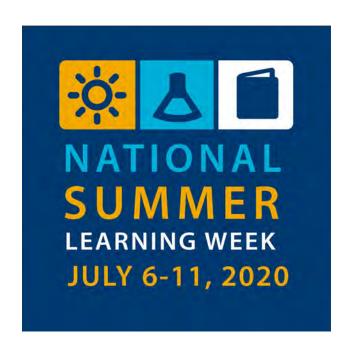


Voices of Summer Webinar Series





National Summer Learning Week



National Summer Learning Week is a national advocacy day aimed at elevating the importance of keeping kids learning, safe and healthy every summer – all so students return to school ready to soar!



FOLLOW US

Find NSLA on social media to keep updated on **#summerlearning**



@SummerLearning



@SmarterSummers

Join our Community!



Thank you!

www.summerlearning.org

