



John Evan Cash

FOUNDATION

ADVOCACY. SUPPORT. EDUCATION.

Newsletter 2023

John Evan Cash continues to be a source of inspiration and motivation, leaving an indelible mark on all who were fortunate enough to cross paths with him during his short yet impactful life. His warm and giving spirit, infectious laughter, and radiant smile remain etched in the memories of those who knew him. John's passion for coaching and empowering young adults to realize their full potential serves as a guiding force for the John Evan Cash Foundation, established to honor his enduring legacy.

Equipped with a bachelor's degree in psychology from Old Dominion University, earned with the aspiration of becoming a life coach, John Evan was driven by a deep-seated desire to be a beacon of support for underserved communities, the forgotten, and those grappling to find their way. Tragically, in May 2019, at the young age of 25, John Evan Cash passed away unexpectedly. In response to this profound loss, his family pledged to carry forth his dream through the establishment of the John Evan Cash Foundation, a nonprofit organization committed to perpetuating his vision of empowerment and guidance.

In its inaugural year, the foundation achieved a commendable milestone, raising almost \$25,000. As we transition into 2023, the John Evan Cash Foundation has experienced significant growth and support from the community, with a remarkable fundraising total of nearly \$100,000. This remarkable progress not only underscores the impact of John's legacy but also speaks to the dedication and passion of those involved in the foundation, working tirelessly to uphold his vision of making a positive difference in the lives of young adults. The John Evan Cash Foundation stands as a testament to the enduring power of one individual's dream to create a ripple effect of positive change.

Thank you for to our Sponsors

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4th Annual A Walk 4 M.E., October 7, 2023



**Thank you for your continued Support | Total funds raised in 2023:
\$43,000.00.**

Our Benefactors



✓ ODU \$50,000 Endowed Scholarship was fully funded - \$22,000 donation made in 2023

✓ Current John Evan Cash Memorial Scholarship Recipient

✓ Past John Evan Cash Memorial Scholarship Recipient Update

To the family of John Evan Cash, and to the board of the John Evan Cash Memorial Foundation, I thank you. As a third-year psychology student with Old Dominion University, I feel so grateful for the support of your generous scholarship and the added freedom it gets into my schedule so I continue to study our gorgeous, complicated human minds and how we help facilitate the healing and growth of others. In the coming years, it is my highest hope to continue into the art therapy and counseling program through Eastern Virginia Medical School. Art has a tremendous capacity for offering its voice to those struggling to communicate the nuances of their experiences. Art therapy creates a safe place to expand, explore, and even play. It can be deeply healing to create something striking and meaningful from that which has previously stood in the way of our well-being or connection to loved ones. In reading about John Evan, a fellow monarch who, himself, wished to help others see the light within themselves, I visualize that I have another strong connection to him and his family. My mother, one of the brightest, wisest souls, was also challenged by living with a dissociative disorder. She was the levellest, most kind, deeply witty person. Like me, before me, she put herself through college for psychology in her forties. She was my closest person in life, and I know she would be beaming to hear with pride over my degree progress and the career I mean to build. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping me work toward my life goals in this psychology degree, and for supporting me so I make both my amazing mama - and myself - proud. Love, Christina Bishop



**Christina Bishop
2023-2024**



**Abri Yannah Graham
2022-2023**

Greetings!

I hope you are doing well.

My name is Abri Yannah Graham. I am the John Evan Cash Memorial Scholarship Recipient for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Thank you very much for your kind donation, as it assisted in the continuance of my education. On May 6th, 2023, I graduated from Old Dominion University as Summa Cum Laude with an overall GPA of 3.98. I majored in Psychology and minored in both Human Services and Business Management. This was no easy feat, but with love and support, I accomplished this milestone.

Commencement was also a special day for me as it happened on the same as my maternal grandmother's birthday. Although she is no longer with us, I felt gratified knowing she would be proud of me.

Since completing my studies at ODU, I have temporarily relocated back home to America's Paradise, the U.S. Virgin Islands. I am currently seeking employment here and I also plan to enroll in a master's program.

In the time being, I have been volunteering for Virgin Island Regal Events, Inc. (VIRE). I have been a member of this non-profit organization since its inception in April of 2015.

I greatly appreciate you reaching out to me. I do prefer direct contact. You can contact me personally by email: abrieg23@live.com and by phone: 771-296-9736.

Thank you and have a lovely week!

Abri Yannah Graham



**BRO. JOHN EVAN CASH
MEMORIAL AWARD**

Ryan Hawkins

Senior
Print Media

Western Michigan University



✓ \$2,000 award made for College
Scholarship - Bro JEC Memorial Award



✓ \$1,000 award made for College Scholarship for a Bethel Young People Division (YPD) college bound HS senior.

Pontiac Meals on Wheels Foundation



✓ \$1,500 donation
✓ Boxed & delivered food on Thanksgiving Day



✓ \$1,500 donation
✓ Winter coat and boot drive



JECF Focus Groups

The JECF Focus Groups are therapist lead youth round table focus groups engaging in crucial conversation and development of action plans around mental wellness.



MUMFORD HIGH SCHOOL



PAUL ROBESON MALCOLM X ACADEMY



✓ 100 Fall 23 participants
✓ continental breakfast
✓ Journals Stress balls & drawstring bags gifted
✓ 60 Winter 24 participants scheduled

Our Impact in 2023

- \$22,000 donation to ODU
- \$1,500 donation to Meals on Wheels
- Prepared food kits and delivered meals for Meals on Wheels on Thanksgiving morning.
- \$1,500 donation to Covenant House of Michigan
- \$2,000 donation to Oak Grove AME Detroit, MI church college scholarship fund
- \$1,000 donation to Bethel AME Hampton Virginia church- college scholarship fund
- \$8,000 in support of JECF Focus Groups

In progress

- **JECF Focus Groups (Partnership with the Flinn Foundation)**
 - Mumford High School
 - Paul Robeson Malcolm X Academy
- Covenant House of Michigan winter coat and boot drive
- Partnership with Henry Ford Health Behavioral Health Services planning
- 2024 JECF A Walk for M.E. planning

JECF Board of Directors

Quinton Buckhanan, Leah Cash, Rachel Cash, Robin Cash, Gregory Ingram, David Johnson III, Karen Johnson, and Kimberly Johnson

2024 Board Appointments

Welcome Vanessa Bates as our Board's Executive Director

2023 Committee Members

Vanessa Bates, John Cash, Jean Crain, Donna Dean, Matthew Dean, Demetria Gross, Louis Gross, Vanessa Harris, David Johnson II, Jacob Johnson, Kim Lindsay, Gail Perry-Mason, Carolyn Pruitt, Veronica Murff, Martha Nefcy, Mary Nilles, Dexter Sullivan & Pam Wood

If you are interested in joining the 2024 JECF Committee, please email us at connet@johnevanecashfoundation.org or call 248.301.2632

The JECF is very Thankful for your *Continued* support for Mental Health Awareness

Please visit JohnEvanCashFoundation Website for updated JECF information
<https://www.johnevancashfoundation.org/>

Coming up 2024,

- ✓ Welcome Vanessa Bates as our Executive Director
- ✓ JECF Corporate Sponsor Drive: January 2024 – February
- ✓ 2024 - JCF/Gartner Gives Campaign

- ✓ 5th Annual **A Walk 4 M.E.** – Saturday, Oct 5, 2024
- ✓ Covenant House of Michigan Outreach Program 2024
- ✓ Meals on Wheels 2024
- ✓ Mental Health Focus Groups (Onsite) 2024
- ✓ Crisis Support Program Launching 2024 - Need volunteers

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