

SPORTS® BACKERS

**FITNESS**WARRIORS

ANNUAL EVALUATION 2019-20

#### **DEAR WARRIOR FRIENDS & FAMILY,**

The 2019- 2020 year has truly been eye opening for the Fitness Warriors Program. Like many, we had to move quickly to adapt to COVID. March 13, 2020 was the tipping point of so much, but we cannot forget the impact that came before nor the growth and impact that continue on. Our participants stuck with us through the changes and reaped the benefits of their consistency. Warriors continued to learn and grow, with many earning certificates during this time. March 2020 may have changed the way we do things, but it did not stop us! We kept moving forward and we thank you for hanging on for the ride!

Sincerely.

Tiffany Copeland

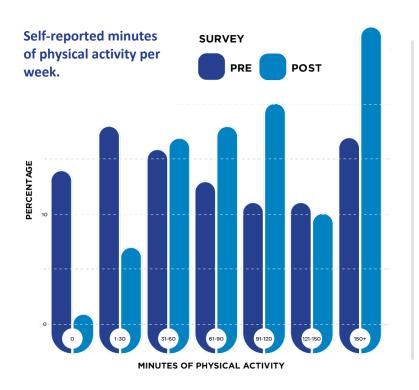
Fitness Warriors Program Manager, 4<sup>th</sup> Class Fitness Warriors

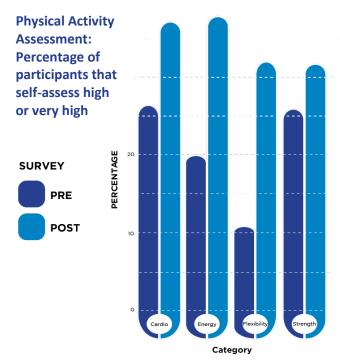
### adapt & persevere

Breaking down barriers is the heart and hustle of what our Warriors do. That same heart and hustle is what carried our program forward when the COVID-19 pandemic shut down our Warriors' classes. Without skipping a beat, the Warriors found a way to adapt and press forward in order to continue serving those in our community. Zumba on Zoom, socially distanced outdoor boot camps, and Warrior-led YouTube fitness videos were just a few of the ways that our Warriors kept people moving.



#### **PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES**





#### **Class Participants Self-Reported Outcomes**

Knowledgeable about physical fitness Have a positive outlook on life

Increased Confidence

Reduced stress and improved mood

Improved ability to function in daily activities/tasks

Weight Loss Reduced Medications

87%

86%

85%

83%

82%

58%

25%

#### CLASS ATTENDANCE

July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020

13,090

**Total Class Visits** 

2-89

**Age Range of Participants** 



1,372
Total Unique Participants

81%

of class participants are overweight or obese.

## MEET MONTQUE & ROCHELLE

By: Juliana Gecker

Monique (50) and Rochelle Deveaux (12) are a mother-daughter duo from Providence Forge, VA who have been avid participants in the Fitness Warriors classes since 2019. Though this year has presented many challenges for us all, including shifting our classes to Zoom, Monique and Rochelle haven't let things slow them down one bit! If anything, they've turned a negative into a positive by using this time as an opportunity to become closer, try new classes they wouldn't be able to if it weren't for our virtual format, and accomplish their goals physically and mentally.

#### How did you find out about the Fitness Warriors program?

**M:** I first heard of Fitness Warriors when I saw a flyer on my church's bulletin board. I decided to get involved in 2019 where I joined classes at St. Paul's Baptist Church, and I've been participating ever since.

**R:** I joined my mom back in March when the pandemic started. I joined her for one of her classes and I've been stuck ever since!

## How has being involved in Fitness Warriors helped you outside of just physical fitness?

**M:** I'm the healthiest I've been yet! I've become more flexible, seen positive changes in my outward appearance, and it's given me the opportunity to bond with my daughters.

**R:** It makes me feel like I've done something. It makes me feel proud and accomplished.

We've all experienced hardships throughout 2020 due to the pandemic. How has the Fitness Warriors program helped you make it through? What has staying involved virtually through Zoom classes done for you?

**M:** It's been a way to help me cope. You can stretch out, it gives you something to do that's healthy, the instructors are committed, and I'm grateful. I've been able to experience more classes because of the Zoom format.

**R:** It's helped me get my virtual P.E. hours in a fun way.

## Was there ever a moment you've had while participating that made you stop and think to yourself, "Wow, this is what I love to do!" and, if so, can you explain that moment?

**M:** During the HIIT classes! They make me feel invigorated and the instructors are always enthusiastic, which helps me get through.

**R:** I'd have to say during the HITT class too. I always feel strong after the HITT classes. They make me feel good and it makes me feel like I can lift a thousand pounds!

#### What specifically keeps you coming back for more Fitness Warrior fun?

**M**: It's become a routine for me. If I miss a Thursday, I'm not happy! It's become something I look forward to; plus, I've seen positive results.

**R:** For me, it's knowing I'll feel good, have fun, and meet new people.

## What's one piece of advice you'd give to someone new to or wanting to try out Fitness Warriors?

**M**: Give it a try and do what you can! If you stick with it, you will get better. There's something for everyone so no excuses!

R: Have Fun!



## MEET OUR 2019-20 HOST SITES

4th Avenue Senior Apartments - RRHA Amelia County Parks & Recreation

Antioch Baptist Church

Bellemeade Community Center

Bensley Community Building

**Blackwell Community Center** 

Bon Secours Center For Healthy Living Sarah

**Garland Jones Center** 

**Broad Rock Community Center** 

Calhoun Center

Chesterfield Mental Health Support Services

**Ettrick Community Building** 

Colonial Heights Recreation and Parks

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Cross Pointe Church of the Nazarene

Delta Community Service Foundation

Faith and Family Community Center

Friendship Baptist Church

G.H. Reid Elementary School

Ginter Park Library

Ginter Park Presbyterian Church

Girls for a Change

**Great Hope Baptist Church** 

Hatcher Tobacco Flats

Hickory Hill Community Center

Hopewell Community Center

Jerusalem Baptist Church Jarrett, VA

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Manna Christian Fellowship Church

Marywood Apartment

Northside Boys and Girls Club

Nottoway County Public Schools -Burkeville Site

Olive Branch Baptist Church

Pathways-VA, Inc.

Petersburg Public Library

Powhatan Community Center

Providence Park Baptist Church

Randolph Community Center

Richmond Behavioral Health Authority

Richmond Public Library - Hull Street Branch

Richmond Public Library - Main Branch

Sacred Heart Center

Sixth Baptist Church

Southside Community Center

Southwood Community Center

Stonebridge Recreation Center

The Light Community Church

The St Paul's Baptist Church – Elm Campus

The St. Paul's Baptist Church - North

The Saint Paul's Baptist Church – South

Trinity Family Life Center

VCU Health Hub at 25th

Westover Hills Community Center

Winn's Baptist Church



#### **8TH CLASS GRADUATES**



**SHARON ADAMS** 



**MELISA BATES** 



**JACKI DAVIS** 



**IRMA DIAZ** 



**BAILEY GARRISON** 



**IESHIA GRAY** 



**CRYSTAL HOPPER** 



MARICA MOORE



**TAZASHIA WILSON** 





#### MINI-GRANTS

Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, we awarded a total of \$5,910 in Sports Backers mini grants to 9 organizations that offer free classes to the community through the Fitness Warriors program. We were proud to support the following Warriors and their host site organizations:

**Lindsey Washington**Providence Park Baptist Church

Rebecca Ingram
Colonial Heights Recreation & Parks

**Andrea Boozer** 1 Step 2 Health Foundation

Elicia Gordon
Chesterfield County Parks &
Recreation - Ettrick Building

Patricia Wilson
Ginter Park Library

Theresa Caldwell & Talibah Majeed
Petersburg Public Library

Tiffany White
Delta Community Service Foundation

**Eboni Washington**Southside Community Center

**Sarah Nave**Covenant Presbyterian Church

#### **AWARDS**

Outstanding Host Site Award Stonebridge Recreation Center

Nominated by Warriors, this award is given to the host site that goes above and beyond to support and promote their Fitness Warrior class.

**Class Participant Stand Out Award** 

Northside: Terry Strayhorn Southside: Nadine Nelson Tri-Cities: Fatima Rasheed

Nominated by their Warrior instructors, this award is given to a class participant, or participants in this case, who stand out for their above and beyond participation in Warrior classes.

#### Fitness Warriors Volunteer of the Year Award Lindsey Washington

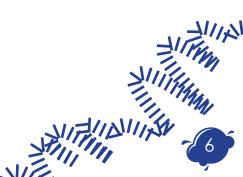
This award is given at the Sports Backers annual volunteer appreciation event to the Warrior who exceeds program expectations and excels as a Fitness Warriors volunteer.

#### Raymond D. Patterson Award

Theresa Caldwell

With nominations coming from their fellow Warriors, this award is given to the Warrior who is a change maker in the community both through the Fitness Warriors program and through their outside service to the community.





#### WARRIOR OUTCOMES

85%

of Fitness Warriors are satisfied with community leadership opportunities.

## Accomplishments attributed to the Fitness Warriors Program



Friendship/ Connection



Personal Life Skills



Change in Life and World View



Fitness Jobs

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

In an effort to support the ongoing growth and development of our most dedicated Warriors, we offer scholarships and additional training opportunities throughout the year. We are proud of the Warriors for taking advantage of these opportunities and bringing what they learn to their free community fitness classes.

#### ACE GROUP FITNESS INSTRUCTOR

ARLENE CARY
BOBBY GRAVES
KISHA HOLLOWAY
REBECCA INGRAM
OLGA JETER
SHIRTIERA LYNCH
JAYME PERMINT
DANIELLE SAUNDERS
CHANTEL TURNER
TIFFANY WHITE

#### SCULPT & CORE PILATES

JOSIAH GILLISON CAROLE HALSTEAD EBONI WASHINGTON LINDSEY WASHINGTON

#### **ACE SENIOR FITNESS**

KATHY BROWN
THERESA CALDWELL
TIFFANY COPELAND
WILLETTE ELLIS
JOSIAH GILLISON
BOBBY GRAVES
CAROLE HALSTEAD
OLGA JETER
TALIBAH MAJEED
DENISE MORMAN
JACKI QUINLAN
LINDSEY WASHINGTON

#### **CHAIR ONE FITNESS**

THERESA CALDWELL
CHINARY HALL
CAROLE HALSTEAD
LACORA HURT
REBECCA INGRAM
TALIBAH MAJEED
RICKY MARTIN
TAMANI SCOTT
PATRICIA WILSON

#### **TRX SUSPENTION**

LAKEISHA ALLEN

ANDREA BOOZER KATHY BROWN ARLENE CARY **DELICIA CLEMENTS TIFFANY COPELAND** JACKI DAVIS WILLETTE ELLIS JOSIAH GILLISON **ELICIA GORDON IESHIA GRAY** CAROLE HALSTEAD SHANNA HOLLAND KISHA HOLLOWAY CRYSTAL HOPPER LACORA HURT REBECCA INGRAM RICKY MARTIN JOYCLYN MCCALLUM TAIMANI SCOTT **EBONI WASHINGTON** LINDSEY WASHINGTON TAZASHIA WILSON TERRICA WOOLRIDGE

#### **ZUMBA**

ANDREA BOOZER
WILLETTE ELLIS
CHINARY HALL
SHANNA HOLLAND
ROBIN JONES
MONTINA MCELROY
TIFFANY WHITE
TERRICA WOOLRIDGE



# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE PART OF THE WARRIOR FAMILY?

Being a Warrior means that I am contributing my gifts to my community to help overcome the fear of working out, and the "I can't attitude." ...Being a Warrior has allowed me to introduce mindfulness to my community. For that...I am forever grateful!

- Fitness Warrior

Classes have a positive and encouraging energy. Tiffany does a great job communicating the steps, so that newcomers can easily participate. Class times and dates were consistent, and changes were promptly communicated.

- Olive Branch Baptist Church, Host Site

Thank you for acknowledging my participation in your Zoom Classes. What I need you to know is how much your classes mean to me - they anchor my day, raise my spirits and of course, improve my fitness level...thank you!

- Kate, Warrior Participant

