

# Metro receives major grant

(Roswell, Georgia) - The 100 Black Men of North Metro, Inc. recently received the much needed wind beneath their wings as they continue to soar with a check in the amount of \$50,000 from the AT&T Foundation, the philanthropic arm of AT&T\*, to help expand their flagship, award-winning education and mentoring program *Men of Tomorrow*. The 100's Men of Tomorrow Program is a community-based youth mentoring program that is addressing the needs of African-American males 12 to 18 years

and who will be responsible for implementing long-term solutions. Our challenge is to balance the realities of today's economic environment with the needs of tomorrow's corporate America. Investing in education is always a smart investment," said Don Barbour, AT&T Regional Manager, External Affairs.

"As a chapter, we are most appreciative and extremely grateful to have a partner like the AT&T Foundation," said Harold Hamilton, President, 100 Black Men of North Metro, Inc. "Receiving this award

firms throughout the Metro area. According to Damon's mother, Laurie Edwards, "we were so excited Damon was selected to intern at King and Spalding, one of the top law firms in the Country. Damon has expressed a goal that he would like to work on securing another internship with King and Spalding next summer. I know he can do anything he sets his mind to, so we will keep you posted as he progresses."

There are hundreds of Jarred's and Damon's", continued Harold Hamilton. "And



**Men of Tomorrow Presentation: Receiving the check from 100 Black Men of North Metro Inc. are: Keith Dennis, Dwight Kelley, Harold Hamilton (North Metro Members), and Dennis Boyden, Don Barbour and Judy Agerton of AT&T.**

of age. The program utilizes a life skills curriculum that promotes self-discipline, respect, educational excellence and achievement, as well as personal responsibility and career exposure – all of which leads to a generation of future successful citizens who are committed to giving back to the communities in which they serve.

Developed in 2003, the *Men of Tomorrow* Program addresses the long-term problem of African-American male teenagers who are disproportionately represented in the Juvenile Justice System of Georgia. It also addresses the below average performance of African-American pre-teen and teen males in the classroom and on national standardized tests, such as the SAT and ACT.

"It is critically important to invest in American students, especially in rough economic times. It is more important now than ever to support our nation's most valued resource—our youth, particularly those in high school, who will most immediately inherit our economic problems

is a much needed blessing for us that will help in our effort to continue to support the youth in our mentoring and education programs."

Youth such as Jarred Conley who, as a result of the *Men of Tomorrow* Program, received a scholarship to attend Kansas State University for a Summer Flight Training Program. Upon completion, he will earn his private pilot's certification. His mother, Karen Conley said, "Had he not been in your Mentorship Program, I don't know that he would have acquired his interest in flying." Jarred received his private pilot's certification this year and he is currently a Senior at Tuskegee University with a dual major in Aerospace Engineering and Physics. Jarred will graduate in May, 2010 and plans to become a U.S. Navy Pilot.

And there's Damon Edwards, a Senior attending South Cobb High School, who, through the *Men of Tomorrow* Program, participated in **The Justice Robert Benham Law Camp** Program, where participants were placed with law

thanks to Mr. Don Barbour and the AT&T Foundation, we are able to expand and continue this truly remarkable Program!"

*The 100 Black Men of North Metro, Inc., a subsidiary organization of The 100 Black Men of America, Inc., is a nonpartisan organization committed to direct service and advocacy for improved life opportunities for African American youth specifically, and the African American community and larger community overall. Members of the 100 Black Men of North Metro, Inc. all share the common goal of improving the economic status of their communities as well as providing programs that enhance and enrich the lives of youth in Cobb, Gwinnett and North Fulton counties. The activities of the organization are grouped into four programmatic categories known as "Four for the Future." The initiatives are Mentoring, Education, Economic Development and Health & Wellness.*