



Next Step to Success Weekly Update

A Message from our Executive Director



James Harris

I'm excited to share that Next Step to Success has officially surpassed our enrollment goal of 120 students, and we are now quickly moving toward our annual goal of 150 students. This milestone reflects the growing trust that families and the community have in our program and the opportunities we are creating for Norfolk's youth.

As our program continues to grow, consistent daily participation remains essential. When students attend regularly, they benefit fully from the mentorship, academic support, enrichment activities, and relationships that help them build confidence, discipline, and leadership skills. Showing up each day truly makes the difference.

We also encourage everyone to stay connected with everything happening at NSTS by following us on social media. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram to see student achievements, program highlights, and upcoming events as we continue expanding our impact.

Our Brick Fundraiser is still going strong, and we invite families and supporters to participate. Each brick purchased represents more than a contribution it symbolizes a lasting belief in a student's future and helps support the continued growth of our program.

Thank you for helping make this success possible.

James Harris,
Executive Director



Follow us on Socials!
Stay up-to-date!

Like & follow for news, updates & photos.



Next Step to Success- NSTS



nextsteptosuccess_nsts



www.nextsteptosuccess.org



● ● ●

Youth Spotlight: Isaiah



Isaiah, a 10th grade student at Granby High School, has been part of the Next Step to Success community for the past three years. Known for his determination and reliability, Isaiah enjoys the connections he has built with both peers and mentors through the program. Whether he's working toward his goals or spending time on the basketball court, Isaiah continues to focus on growing and moving forward.

1. What is your name and grade? **10th Granby HS**
2. How long have you been a part of Next Step to Success? **3 Years**
3. What do you like most about coming to NSTS? **The people**
4. What is one goal you're working on right now? **Getting a Job.**
5. Who inspires you the most, and why? **Coach Jontel – He taught me about responsibility.**
6. What is your favorite subject in school? **Culinary Arts**
7. What activities or hobbies do you enjoy outside of school? **Basketball**
8. What's your favorite book, movie, or song right now? Book: **Chain Saw Man**
9. What does success mean to you? **Improving or progressing toward a goal.**

10. If you could give advice to another student, what would it be? **Stick to dreams and progress towards it.**

11. What do you see yourself doing in the future (career, dreams, or big goals)?

Working in a business.

12. Share a fun fact about yourself most people don't know! **I like being independent and keep my circle of friends small.**

13. Is there someone at NSTS (staff or peer) who has made a big difference for you? **Tylan – He's a student.**

14. If you could describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

Determined, Understandable, and Reliable.

15. What makes you proud of yourself this week? **I learned to understand another person point of view.**

Isaiah defines success as making progress toward your goals, and that mindset shows in the way he approaches both school and life. With his strong work ethic and clear sense of direction, we're excited to see where his future takes him and proud to have him as part of the Next Step to Success community!

NSTS in Action

A Day of Creativity at the Chrysler Museum





I want to take a moment to highlight some of the great progress our students have been making recently. Many of our youth have secured employment—some on their own and others through our partnership with Tidewater Community College’s Apprenticeship Program. It has been exciting to see students gaining real-world experience and building confidence through these opportunities.

Today our students will also be working with FinTech and NSU to participate in hands-on financial literacy learning. Experiences like this help our youth build practical skills that will benefit them well beyond high school. We are so grateful for our community partners who are always providing new and engaging experiences for our youth.

As always, we encourage families to stay engaged with your students’ academic progress by checking grades, asking about assignments, and maintaining open communication. If you ever have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me directly.

We also encourage everyone to follow Next Step to Success on our social media pages to keep up with program highlights, student achievements, and upcoming opportunities.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.



Program Update Kaelyn Hundley

This week at Next Step to Success has been full of great opportunities for our youth. Our middle school students began working with Together We Can to build

personal portfolios and learn the importance of documenting their achievements and growth. Youth also enjoyed several experiences outside the classroom, including a visit to the Chrysler Museum of Art, volunteering in the community with Team Up Mentoring, and last Saturday some of our basketball players had the chance to watch the Hampton University basketball team play.

With the warmer weather arriving, we're beginning to think ahead to summer. We encourage families to consider enrolling their youth in our summer program so they can continue to experience opportunities like these and so much more.



Operations Update Muhanma Garcia

Program Participation & Summer Enrollment

To help our program run smoothly each day, consistent attendance is important. Our daily planning for meals, activities, field trips, and dismissal relies on accurate participation counts. While we understand youth may occasionally have appointments or school commitments, please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Early Pick-Up: Youth must be picked up by 5:00 PM to fully participate in daily programming.
-
- Late Arrival: Youth arriving late must arrive no later than 3:30 PM.

Enrollment for the Next Step to Success Summer Program 2026 is now open for youth currently enrolled in our after-school program. Families can enroll by logging into TraxSolution and selecting Summer Program 2026. For questions, please contact Muhanma Garcia at mgarcia@nextsteptosuccess.org.

Program Growth & Enrollment

We are excited to share that Next Step to Success currently has 120 youth enrolled in our after-school program. We appreciate the continued support of our community and would like to recognize Ghent School, Norview Middle School, Northside Middle School, and Maury High School for their recent student enrollments.

Please remember that enrollment is not complete until families meet with staff in person to confirm information and finalize registration in TraxSolution. New participants begin on Mondays, and enrollment will continue until program capacity is reached.

We encourage families and community members to continue sharing information about Next Step to Success with others who may benefit from our programs.

For more information or to apply: [Click Here](#)

JOIN US FOR SUMMER 2026!
For Youth Ages 13-18
3401 Tidewater Dr. • Norfolk, VA 23509
(757) 995-2111



Next Step Success
Summer 2026

Your Summer Starts Here!
Beginning June 15th, youth will embark on an exciting 8-week summer experience designed to challenge, inspire, and empower them to become confident leaders.

What Your Camper Can Expect:

- Daily transportation to and from home
- Breakfast, Snack & Lunch included
- Transportation Pick-up begins at 8:00 AM
- Camp programming: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

GRIT • GROWTH MINDSET • OPTIMISM • SUCCESS • COMMUNITY SERVICE • AGENCY

Culinary Corner



From the Coordinator of Culinary Arts, Chef B

Good afternoon, Team & Families,

Chef B here popping in with this week's **kitchen game plan!** The youth have been bringing great energy into the kitchen, and we've got a lineup of meals that are guaranteed to keep everyone fueled, happy, and maybe even asking for seconds. 😊

Here's what's cooking this week:

 **Monday: Creamy Alfredo Pasta** served with **Garlic Bread & Fresh Salad** – a classic comfort meal to start the week right.

 **Tuesday: Taco Chili** – a bold, flavorful bowl packed with taco-inspired goodness that always warms everyone up.

 **Wednesday: Wings & Wedges** – crispy, savory wings paired with seasoned potato wedges. A mid-week favorite!

 **Thursday: Chicken Sandwiches** – juicy chicken sandwiches served hot and ready with all the good flavors.

 **Friday: French Toast, Turkey Sausage & Fruit** – because ending the week with breakfast for lunch just feels right!

As always, we're making sure our youth enjoy fresh, hearty meals that bring everyone together around the table. The kitchen continues to be a place full of laughter, teamwork, and great food.

Thank you all for your continued support of the program. We look forward to another delicious week!

Bricks That Build Futures



For generations, the St. Vincent de Paul House has stood as a place of compassion, service, and hope in our community. Originally established as a resource for families and individuals in need, the building has long been rooted in the belief that everyone deserves dignity, support, and the opportunity to move forward. Today, that same spirit lives on through Next Step to Success, as the space continues to serve as a foundation for growth, learning, and second chances.

Through the NSTS Brick Fundraiser, we invite our community to become a permanent part of this legacy. Each engraved brick represents a name, a family, a business, or a message of encouragement—laid literally into the path of progress at the St. Vincent de Paul House. Funds raised through this campaign directly support NSTS programming, helping us provide enrichment, mentorship, and life-changing opportunities for youth and families in Norfolk.

The images below offer a preview of the engraved bricks and the location where they will be permanently installed. Bricks will be laid along the walkway at the St. Vincent de Paul House, creating a visible and lasting tribute to the individuals, families, and supporters who believe in the mission of Next Step to Success. Each brick becomes a meaningful part of the path forward, symbolizing community support and shared commitment to building brighter futures.

Your brick is more than a donation—it's a lasting symbol of belief in our mission and the people we serve. Join us in honoring the past while building the future. Purchase a brick today and leave your mark on a place where the next step toward success begins.

NEXT STEP  TO SUCCESS

BUY A BRICK



*CEMENT YOUR LEGACY &
INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION!*



Buy a Brick

Next Step to Success | [Website](#)



[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact](#)
[Data Notice](#)

Next Step To Success | 3401 Tidewater Dr. | Norfolk,
VA 23509 US



Try email & social marketing for free!