
A KOYA PUBLICATION • VOL. 01 • 2026

KEEP OUR YOUTH ALIVE.

Why this movement matters. Why now.

**“WE REFUSE TO MOURN
ANOTHER YOUNG MAN.”**

A village. A promise. A pipeline of protection.

#1

CAUSE OF DEATH

Homicide, Black males 15-34

3

ACADEMIES

Grades 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

300

FOUNDING DONORS

The KOYA Subscription goal

A village of protectors.

Keep Our Youth Alive (KOYA) is a dedicated initiative of the Alpha Educational & Leadership Foundation. It exists because a generation of young men is being buried before they get to graduate, marry, vote, or lead. We reject that future. We are building the alternative.

WHAT WE ARE BUILDING

A PIPELINE. Three academies covering Grades 3-5 (ARA), 6-8 (ALPHA), and 9-12 (AMA). One continuous path from childhood into college and career.

A COALITION. Founding partners across the Alpha Phi Alpha network, supported by law enforcement, education, and homeland security allies. Individuals give personally. Organizations partner formally.

A NATIONAL PRESENCE. Chartered collegiate chapters modeled after fraternities, sororities, and national service organizations, embedding near-peer mentors on campuses nationwide.

A CONTINUUM OF CARE. Family, mentors, chapters, coalitions, national partners, and global allies, connected at every level of human endeavor.

A TECHNOLOGY LAYER. One-tap alerts, trusted circles, and rapid escalation to parents, mentors, and law enforcement, so a young man in trouble is never one moment away from help.

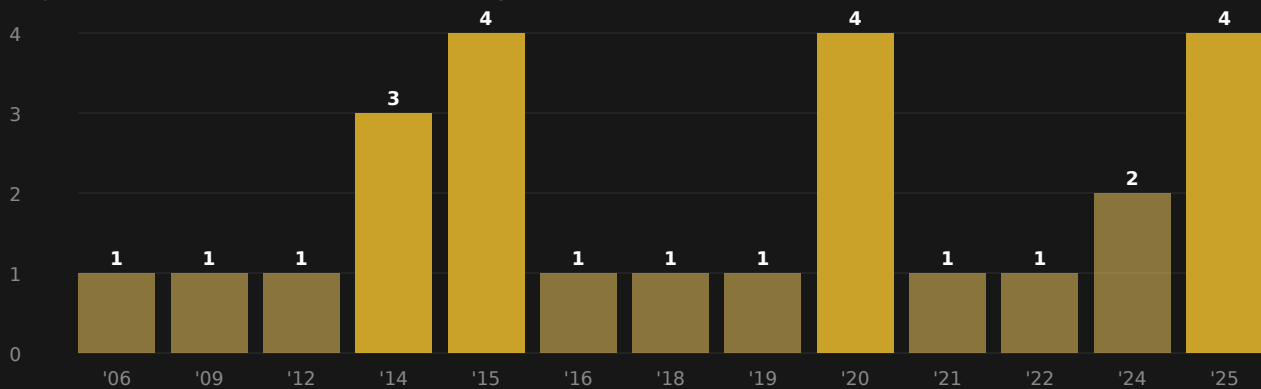
“They can no longer walk, speak, or dream. So we will walk, speak, and dream for them.”

The numbers we refuse to accept.

Homicide is the leading cause of death for Black males aged 15 to 34 in the United States. Behind every data point is a mother, a mentor, a chair left empty at graduation. These are not statistics. They are our sons.

LANDMARK CASES IN THE KOYA REGISTRY, 2006-2025

Representative national cases documented by AELF. Not exhaustive.



WHAT THE CURVE SAYS

The registry surges in 2014-2015 and again in 2020, with fresh entries continuing in 2024 and 2025. The pattern is not slowing. It is compounding. Every spike is a call to build faster, mentor earlier, and stand closer to our young men.

We say their names. We walk in their honor.

They can no longer walk, speak, or shape their futures. We will be their legs, their voices, and speak their futures into existence. Every name below is a reason K.O.Y.A. is not optional.

Sean Bell

Nov 25, 2006

23 · Groom · Queens, NY · Law Enforcement Action

50 rounds fired by plainclothes officers on his wedding morning.

Oscar Grant III

Jan 1, 2009

22 · New father · Oakland, CA · Law Enforcement Action

Shot in the back while pinned face-down on a BART platform.

Trayvon Martin

Feb 26, 2012

17 · Student · Sanford, FL · Vigilante Violence

Unarmed teen shot walking home with candy and a drink.

Eric Garner

July 17, 2014

43 · Father of six · Staten Island, NY · Law Enforcement Action

Prohibited chokehold. His words "I can't breathe" became a rallying cry.

Michael Brown Jr.

Aug 9, 2014

18 · Graduate · Ferguson, MO · Law Enforcement Action

Street shooting that sparked the Ferguson Uprisings.

Laquan McDonald

Oct 20, 2014

17 · Student · Chicago, IL · Law Enforcement Action

Shot 16 times while walking away from officers.

Tamir Rice

Nov 22, 2014

12 · Middle-school student · Cleveland, OH · Law Enforcement Action

A child with a toy airsoft gun shot within seconds of officer arrival.

Walter Scott

Apr 4, 2015

50 · Coast Guard veteran · N. Charleston, SC · Law Enforcement Action

Shot in the back while fleeing a traffic stop.

Freddie Gray

Apr 12, 2015

25 · Resident · Baltimore, MD · Law Enforcement Action

Fatal spinal-cord injury while unsecured in a police transport van.

WE REFUSE TO MOURN ANOTHER YOUNG MAN · PART 1 OF 3

We say their names.

We walk in their honor.

They can no longer walk, speak, or shape their futures. We will be their legs, their voices, and speak their futures into existence. Every name below is a reason K.O.Y.A. is not optional.

Mother Emanuel Nine

June 17, 2015

Ages 26-87 · Parishioners · Charleston, SC · Hate-Motivated Violence
Nine Black parishioners murdered during Bible study.

Philando Castile

July 6, 2016

32 · School cafeteria supervisor · Falcon Heights, MN · Law Enforcement Action
Shot after calmly disclosing a licensed firearm at a traffic stop.

Stephon Clark

Mar 18, 2018

22 · Father of two · Sacramento, CA · Law Enforcement Action
Shot eight times in his grandparents' backyard. Cell phone mistaken for a firearm.

Botham Jean

Sept 6, 2018

26 · Accountant · Dallas, TX · Law Enforcement Action
Shot in his own apartment by an off-duty officer who entered the wrong unit.

Ahmaud Arbery

Feb 23, 2020

25 · Former football player · Satilla Shores, GA · Vigilante Violence
Cornered and shot while jogging by three local residents.

Breonna Taylor

Mar 13, 2020

26 · ER technician · Louisville, KY · Law Enforcement Action
Killed in her home during a midnight "no-knock" warrant execution.

George Floyd

May 25, 2020

46 · Father · Minneapolis, MN · Law Enforcement Action
Died after over nine minutes of knee compression to his neck.

Daunte Wright

Apr 11, 2021

20 · New father · Brooklyn Center, MN · Law Enforcement Action
Shot after officer claimed to have confused her firearm for a Taser.

Buffalo Market Ten

May 14, 2022

Ages 32-86 · Shoppers · Buffalo, NY · Hate-Motivated Violence
Ten Black shoppers murdered by a white supremacist livestreaming the attack.

WE REFUSE TO MOURN ANOTHER YOUNG MAN · PART 2 OF 3

We say their names. We walk in their honor.

They can no longer walk, speak, or shape their futures. We will be their legs, their voices, and speak their futures into existence. Every name below is a reason K.O.Y.A. is not optional.

Sonya Massey

July 2024

36 · Mother, called 911 · Springfield, IL · Law Enforcement Action
Shot in her own kitchen moments after calling 911 for help.

Jerard Jackson

2024 / 2025

Young Black man · Michigan · Suspicious Public Death
Body discovered hanging after attending a major music festival.

Tonea Jackson

2024 / 2025

Young Black man · Miami, FL · Suspicious Public Death
Found hanging in a municipal park after local Juneteenth events.

Juanita Nzita

2024 / 2025

Young community member · Location under review · Suspicious Public Death
Found hanged outside a church facility. Case under independent review.

Mario Kaiser Jr.

April 2025

Young Black male · North Carolina · Suspicious Public Death
Discovered with a noose around his neck. Community backlash over local handling.

Earl Smith

June 2025

Young Black male · Location under review · Suspicious Public Death
Public hanging ruled a suicide within hours of discovery.

Trey Reed

Sept 2025

20 · Delta State student · Cleveland, MS · Suspicious Public Death
Student found hanging near campus tennis courts.

Nolan Wells

July 2026

18 · Student-athlete · Horn Island, MS · Suspicious Death
Found dead in water after traveling with three white peers.

WE REFUSE TO MOURN ANOTHER YOUNG MAN · PART 3 OF 3

One promise. Three academies.

The KOYA Promise is a continuous developmental pathway. It begins in elementary school and delivers a young man ready for college, career, and community leadership. Each academy stands on the shoulders of the one before it.

ARA

Alpha Rise Academy

Grades 3-5

Est. 2022

Foundational character, public speaking, and identity formation. The launch pad of the pipeline.

ALPHA

Alpha Leadership Program for Higher Achievement

Grades 6-8

Est. 1985

Middle school communication, decision-making, and brotherhood in the years most young men are lost.

AMA

Alpha Millennium Academy

Grades 9-12

Est. 1999

The flagship pathway to college and career readiness, scholarships, and lifelong mentorship.

THE KOYA PROMISE · EDUCATION · LEADERSHIP · SAFETY

A continuum of care.

Protecting our youth requires an organized, connected effort at every level of human endeavor. From the kitchen table to the global stage, KOYA links the hands that hold our young men up.

01 FAMILY

Parents, guardians, siblings. The first and most important protectors.

02 MENTORS

Alphas, coaches, teachers, faith leaders. The near-peer voices young men trust.

03 CHAPTERS

Collegiate and alumni chapters embedding presence on every campus.

04 COALITION

Founding partners and academy supporters coordinating resources and reach.

05 NATIONAL

Law enforcement, education, and homeland security allies at scale.

06 GLOBAL

Diaspora partners carrying the mission across borders.

FOUNDING PARTNERS

Alpha Educational & Leadership Foundation, Inc. · Gamma Mu Lambda Chapter · Beta Nu Chapter · Iota Delta Chapter · Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Join the movement.

Three ways to keep our youth alive.

SUBSCRIBE

As an individual.

Become one of 300 Founding Donors. A recurring monthly commitment funds mentors, academies, and safety infrastructure. This is the personal path.

\$25 / \$50 / \$100 monthly

PARTNER

As an organization.

Coalition membership is a separate track for agencies, chapters, corporations, and civic institutions. Formal MOUs. Programmatic alignment. Shared reach.

Coalition tiers available

JOIN

As a chapter or campus.

Charter a KOYA Collegiate Chapter. Bring near-peer mentorship to your campus and connect to the national network of chartered affiliates.

Chartering opens 2026