

THE ARTHUR M. BLANK FAMILY FOUNDATION

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THE ARTHUR M. BLANK FAMILY FOUNDATION ADDS PROGRAM MANAGER TO LEAD YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FOR ATLANTA'S WESTSIDE COMMUNITIES

ATLANTA, GA (April 13, 2015) - Beginning today, Kaamel Nuri, a 25-year veteran in youth programming and development, will become Program Manager of [American Explorers](#), an operating program of The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation. Founded in 2014, American Explorers is an expeditionary learning-based youth leadership program delivered in partnership with North Carolina Outward Bound School (NCOBS) and other non-profits focused on youth development. The multi-year curriculum is designed to inspire young men and women from Atlanta's Historic Westside neighborhoods to be effective leaders, community builders and stewards of the earth.

"For the past 25 years, Kaamel has been passionately committed to improving the lives of youth, families and communities through his work in youth development, education and health and wellness," said Penelope McPhee, President of The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation. "His experience will be a tremendous asset to the American Explorers program and to the youth we are serving on Atlanta's Westside."

Nuri joins The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation and American Explorers from YMCA of Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc.'s Arthur M. Blank Family YMCA location where he served as Executive Director (2003-2014), Associate Executive Director (199-2003) and Program Manager (1990-1999). In this role, Nuri was responsible for overseeing program planning, fundraising, marketing and delivery of high quality and high volume programs. Prior to the YMCA, Nuri worked with Roxbury Youthworks, Inc. in Boston as a Program Director and Case Manager, developing education programming and treatment programs for at-risk youth.

Nuri volunteers his time on the Executive Committee of the Atlanta Promise Neighborhood Board of Advisors and the Morehouse School of Medicine Master of Public Health Program Advisory Board.

Nuri earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard University.

"The possibilities for what American Explorers can become are endless, and I am grateful for the opportunity to uplift young leaders who will go on to do great things for their families, their communities and for themselves," said Nuri.

About The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation

Formed in 1995, The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation promotes innovative solutions to transform the lives of youth and their families, seeking results that move communities beyond what seems possible today.

The Foundation invests in early childhood development, education, green space and the arts, and leads giving programs for each of the Blank Family of Businesses, including the Atlanta Falcons, PGA TOUR Superstore, Mountain Sky Guest Ranch and MLS Atlanta.

Over the past decade, the Foundation has invested nearly \$10 million into efforts to improve the quality of life in the neighborhoods on the west side of Atlanta. To further its work in additional areas of need, the Foundation has created the Westside Neighborhood Prosperity Fund, a \$15 million long-term commitment to invest in catalytic projects that will ignite positive change and transform both people and place in Atlanta's Westside communities.

Mr. Blank, chairman of the Foundation, co-founded The Home Depot, the world's largest home improvement retailer, in 1978 and retired from the company as co-chairman in 2001. Through the Foundation and his family's personal giving, Mr. Blank has granted more than \$300 million to various charitable organizations.

For more information about The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, visit www.blankfoundation.org or follow us on Twitter at [@blankfoundation](https://twitter.com/blankfoundation).