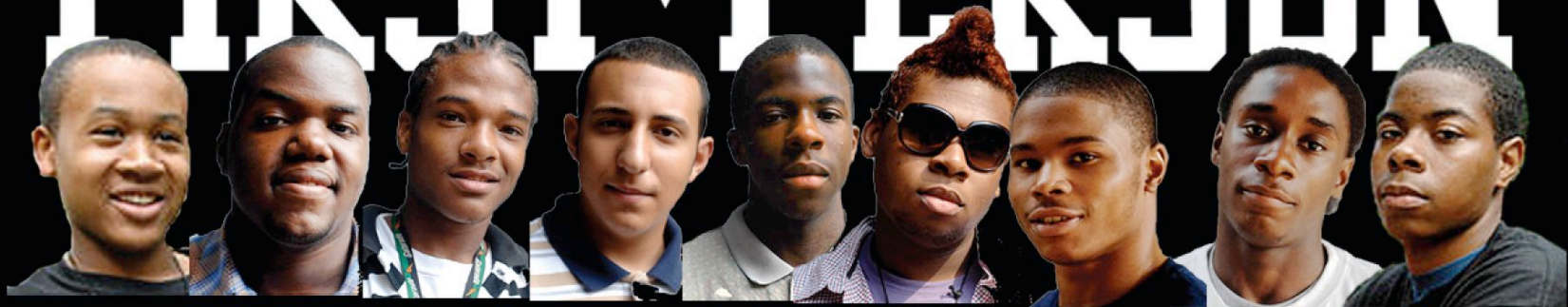
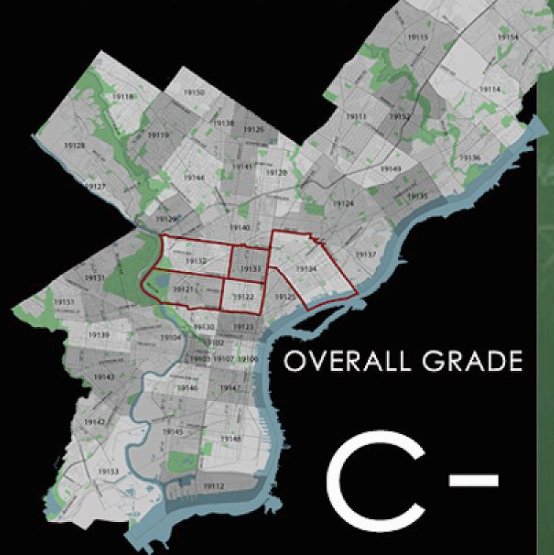

FIRST ★ PERSON



NORTH PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE AMBASSADORS

www.firstpersondocumentary.org

NORTH PHILADELPHIA 19121, 19122, 19132, 19133, 19134



"Black and Latino males want to go to college, but too many people don't expect us to go. We believe that in order for us to make it to college, we need our community, school, family, and peers to help us. Our Village must provide us with five supports. We have graded North Philly on its ability to do so."

www.firstpersondocumentary.org

Education & Academic Supports **C+**

We need preparation for postsecondary, career, and social success. But few schools in our area offer qualified teachers, rigorous academics, or SAT prep. For example, over 90% of the 11th graders at FitzSimons High School and over 83% of 11th graders at Vaux High School scored Below Basic on their PSSAs.

Mentoring and Social Supports **C+**

We need motivation, information, counseling, and connections to help us with school work, finding college information, and with emotional support. We do have people to help keep us out of trouble, but we need more competent mentors who tutor us, teach us, and advise us how to go to college. We also need more college students to interact with us on a regular basis.

Competent Organizations and Programs **C-**

We need organizations and programs that prepare us academically and culturally for college. Too many local Rec and Beacon centers are just "hang out" areas. Organizations and programs should be giving students SAT/ACT prep, college trips, networking opportunities, and personal skill development.

Financial Assistance **C+**

We need grants, loans, scholarships, and good financial advice. Even though it's out there, we don't always take advantage because we don't know where to find it or we are afraid we can't pay back loans. Because so many of us live in low-income neighborhoods and families, however, those who support us struggle to pay bills and save money. It can also be hard for adults in our village to find good jobs because so many of them have been locked up.

Neighborhood Leadership **D-**

We need leaders who can rid our neighborhoods of obstacles so our young people don't get caught up in negativity. Our neighborhoods are dirty, drug infested, and full of crime and violence. We are worried about being beat up, robbed, shot, killed, using and selling drugs, and how we are going to get money. These worries make us lose hope and focus on doing well in school.