BIG BOLD IDEA

Increase the number of impactful and influential role models for black male students by recruiting and developing black men to be schoolteachers.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Profound Gentlemen strategically recruits, develops, and sustains black male educators who offer a profound additional impact in the lives of students, more specifically young black males. Through a cohort experience, tailored development, and continuing opportunities, Profound Gentlemen shapes black males who redefine the image of urban education. Profound Gentlemen’s end goal is to match the percentage of black male educators to young black boys in urban education while giving them more positive images and opportunities to pursue their purpose.

PERSONAL BIO

Mario Jovan Shaw is the co-founder and co-chief executive officer of Profound Gentlemen where he serves to redefine the image of urban education through increasing the percent of black male educators. Previously, Mario taught seventh grade in Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools through Teach For America. While teaching, Mario created a program called the BrotherHood to address the needs of young black males in his classroom. During a discussion, participants evaluated the lack of black male educators nationally. This sparked Mario’s passion for creating Profound Gentlemen. He is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University School of Education and has been featured in Teach For America and Charlotte's local publications to address the importance of increasing the percentage of black male educators.