

# Leadership LINKS Shines at Social Justice Town Hall Meeting



September 23, 2020 • By Alanna Thornton & Ashley Robinson

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**A**sking a tough question is not the same as confronting someone” - Chief of Greensboro Police Brian James

On Wednesday, September 23rd, President and Chairman of Accountable Youth Inc., Billy Williams, hosted the annual Social Justice Town Hall Meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to plan and proceed forward with new rules concerning our local government, police department, and community. Also, to create an environment for transparency and accountability between the police and their community,

while bringing awareness to the community concerning the local government, and to provide a way of communication between the two. To fuel the discussion, they reached out to youth in the triad area for their questions.

Leadership LINKS, Inc. was given the opportunity to participate in the submission of questions as well as sending a representative to the Town Hall Meeting. Some of the questions we asked were: “With everything going on with police brutality and the BLM (Black Lives Matter) movement, what is your goal moving forward to help enforce change for African Americans in today's

society” - LINKS Leader Miss Ramiyah Summers, and, “What are the criteria for using a taser instead of a gun? And if there is no protocol relating to this, can they enforce pulling out a taser first instead of a gun?” LINKS Leader Miss Neriah Carson. Excellent questions were submitted and 3 questions were chosen from our LINKS Leaders! Network Relations Officer Miss Alanna Thornton was chosen to represent and moderate on behalf of Leadership LINKS, Inc.!

During the meeting the topic of ‘tasers before guns’ came up. “The only time an officer’s allowed to use deadly force is if they’re under the threat of deadly

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force, serious bodily injury or a third person is under the threat of deadly force or serious bodily injury” Chief Brian James explained in response to Miss Neriah Carson’s question about the police’s policy regarding the usage of tasers before guns. All questions were answered with consideration.

The meeting was so successful that WFMY News 2 chose to use a segment in their story covering a similar topic. Find the full **Social Justice Town Hall Meeting** here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UyDaQsKlZ3c> We thank the police chiefs as well as Accountable Youth, Inc. for inviting Leadership LINKS, Inc. to participate.

We look forward to more opportunities with Accountable Youth Inc. in the future!

We urge our readers, who are old enough, to vote! Not only, people you trust, for local positions but in the presidential election and for congress as well!

Leadership LINKS, Inc. participates and partners for events like this because it fosters our organization’s purpose to “educate and equip servant leaders who are committed to using their skills and resources for the greater good of humanity.” The next town hall meeting hosted by Accountable Youth, Inc. will be held virtually on Wednesday,

October 14, 2020 at 6:00 pm. It will feature Greensboro, NC mayor, Nancy Vaughan and LINKS Leader, Miss Ramyah Summers (a three year veteran of Leadership LINKS, Inc.). We look forward to continuing the conversations that enrich our communities, grow our character, and inspire our leadership.

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