

Honoring ECYP's Founder ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS



By Michele Waxman Johnson
ECYP Board Chair



On behalf of the **Elijah Cummings Youth Program (ECYP)** Board of Directors and staff, we pledge to honor the memory of and continue the work begun by Congressman Elijah Cummings through ECYP. We will miss the Congressman's wisdom, enthusiasm, and his giant personality at our board table. Serving as Honorary ECYP Board Chair, Congressman Cummings was very active — he was present at board meetings, interviews, graduations, and other functions. He called every student selected to welcome them to ECYP. At our annual graduation, he asked graduating fellows to announce their college plans. His pride in their achievements was clear to all.

The Congressman's passion for his beliefs was strong, and through ECYP we saw firsthand his commitment to building bridges between the African American and Jewish communities. Earlier this year, Congressman Cummings was excited to celebrate the 20th anniversary of ECYP. He was proud that since 1998, ECYP has developed more than 200 young global ambassadors who live or attend high school in Maryland's 7th Congressional district, through a life-changing two-year leadership fellowship including a trip to Israel.

We thank you for your past assistance, and ask for your continued support to help us continue Congressman Elijah Cummings' ECYP legacy.

Congratulations to our graduating class ▶



Snapshot of our fellows:

The Classes of 2019 and 2020 are diverse and represent 15 zip codes across the 7th District of Maryland (parts of Baltimore City, Baltimore County and Howard County).

69% of our fellows were female and 31% were male.

92% of our fellows were African American and 4% South Asian and 4% Latin American.

73% of our fellows attended public schools and 27% attended private schools.

100% of the Class of 2019 graduated from high school

The ECYP Class of 2019 is attending:

- American University
- Frostburg State University
- Hampton University
- Loyola University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- McDaniel College
- Morgan State University
- Spelman College
- Towson University
- Williams College
- Xavier University

New class of 2021 fellows ▼



ECYP ALUMNI

Remembering Congressman Cummings

By Maya James, ECYP Alum
Georgetown University, Class of 2020

Elijah Cummings was a presence in the room, a light filled with courage and integrity. The Elijah Cummings Youth Program was an extension of this rare light, and it exposed the hearts, minds, and courage of hundreds of students in his district. He had a way of seeing through any exterior and cutting to the chase. For me, he helped me find my voice, and taught me to inhabit it with the courage and fearlessness of a future leader. I will carry his light, and his message, for the rest of my life.

ECYP is proud to have over 200 alumni in our 20 years. ECYP has an active Alumni Council who, alongside staff, host several events throughout the year.

ALUMNI OUTCOMES:

92% of our eligible college alumni are currently enrolled in college

92% of the ECYP Class of 2015 graduated from college this spring, within four years of graduating high school

95% of our ECYP alumni have graduated from college

Continuing our Partnership with the Jewish Community

By Howard Libit, Baltimore Jewish Council

As I think about Congressman Elijah Cummings, my mind keeps going to images of the students applying to join his namesake initiative, the Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel.

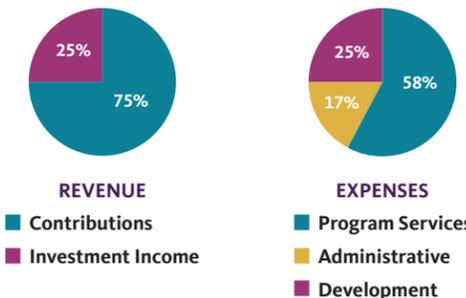
Each spring, about 25 high school sophomores from the Congressman's district are selected to interview for slots in the two-year leadership program. These 14- and 15-year-old nervous kids walk individually into a room to face the full 20-member program board, and seated at the head of the table was always Congressman Cummings. He *always* participated in the two days of interviews, and — with his booming voice — he *always* asked the first question in every interview. Talk about an intimidating introduction to the program!

But for the dozen or so students selected to participate each year, ECYP offers nearly limitless opportunities, thanks to a partnership forged more than 20 years ago by Congressman Cummings, leaders of Baltimore's Jewish and African-American communities and the Baltimore Jewish Council.

Congressman Cummings frequently told the story of the Jewish pharmacist who gave him his first job as a teenager and encouraged him to think ambitiously about his future. (That pharmacist's grandson is now on the ECYP board.) Those early experiences, the Congressman would say, helped shape how much he came to appreciate the importance of different communities working together.

When Congressman Cummings spoke, he would regularly remind us that "our children are the living messages we send to a future we will never see." His work consistently reflected that belief. May his memory be for a blessing.

2019 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



Please consider making a year-end donation today and help us continue to shape Baltimore's future leaders. Donations can be made online at www.ecyp.org/donate or mailed to:

Kathleen St. Villier Hill
ECYP Director
5750 Park Heights Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

THANK YOU TO ECYP'S MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS:

- Comcast Community Foundation
- Johns Hopkins East Community Foundation
- The Klein Foundation
- The Hirschhorn Foundation

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The ECYP Class of 2015 Graduated from the Following Universities

- Bowie State University
- Duke University
- Georgetown University
- McDaniel College
- Morehouse College
- Towson University
- United States Naval Academy
- University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- West Virginia University Institute of Technology
- Syracuse University



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Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel
5750 Park Heights Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215-3930
*A partnership between the Baltimore Jewish Council
and Congressman Elijah E. Cummings*



WHAT IS ECYP

ECYP invests in promising teens from Maryland's 7th Congressional District and prepares them to serve as open-minded leaders with the skills, community ties, and global exposure critical to success in a diverse society.



OUR WORK

The Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel (ECYP) builds leaders equipped for the future. For two decades, ECYP's vision is a world guided by ambassadors of cross-cultural relations who have high expectations of themselves and are committed to working for a better tomorrow. In 2019, ECYP served 26 fellows in two cohorts who represented the Classes of 2019 and 2020. The fellows participated in leadership training, community service and a month-long immersion experience to Israel.

