

RAMS HOLD CHARACTER CHAT WITH PROBATION DEPARTMENT YOUTH

ONGOING SERIES PROVIDES DIALOGUE FOR YOUNG ADULTS PREPARING TO REINTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY

Dr. Jesus Corral, Senior Director of Probation Education Services presented the third session in the ongoing series with the Los Angeles Rams football team members. Part of the Character Education Series, the virtual presentation featured Los Angeles Rams safety Tyrell Burgess as well as lawyer and Managing Corporate Officer of the Riviera Country Club, Michael Yamaki.

Both speakers shared stories of their challenges and success. Hosting the conversation was Jonathan Franklin, former NFL player now Director of Social Justice and Football Development with the Los Angeles Rams. Youth were invited to ask questions after the interviews.

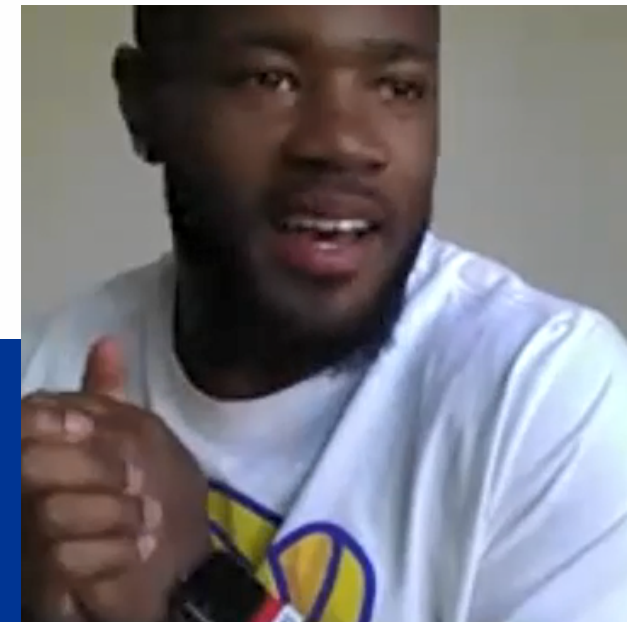


Michael Yamaki



Jonathan Franklin

Mr. Burgess, who grew up near San Diego, shared his story of growing up with a single parent and turning to sports as an outlet. While he had his troubles as a young person, he shared that, "Making mistakes in life help you learn things." His favorite football moment so far? The day his dream came true. "The night that I got drafted. I'll remember it for the rest of my life. It was a very emotional moment. I was with my family and it was the end of the night and the GM called me. I just started tearing up. I wouldn't change it for the world."



Tyrell Burgess

Mr. Yamaki shared that he had spent time at Campus Kilpatrick and he had some things to share with the youth who were watching. "You can get out of where you're at. 50% of the people that you're in there with, they're not going to make it," he said. "But the other 50%, well if you want to get out, you have to make some adjustments." He warned that it wouldn't be easy. Mr. Yamaki closed his portion of the presentation with how he was able to change his life's direction. "One of the things you've got to do is make up your mind. You say, I'm getting out of this environment. It's tough. You're alone out there. I had to give up a lot of friends, or those I thought were my friends, because they were keeping me down. I decided to go on my own path. And that's ultimately how it worked out."

In closing, Mr. Burgess said, "Give more in value than what you can receive in payment." Young adults from eight facilities participated in the character chat, including youth from Camp Afflerbaugh, Camp Paige, Dorothy Kirby Center, Camp Scott, Camp Kilpatrick, Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall, and Camp Rockey.

The youth question period was not available for viewing.