

YOUTH CARE

Homeless youth ➤ Off the streets ➤ Preparing for life

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Chair

Robert W. Overell
Phase RX, Inc.

Immediate Past Board Chair

Justice Bobbe Bridge (retired)
Center for Children & Youth Justice

Aaron Alhadeff
Elitae Enterprises

Peter G. Bateman
Microsoft Corporation

Susan L. Coskey
Seabold Group

Renata Hasle
Community Advocate

Brian Heagler
Key Bank

Brian Johnston, MD MPH
Harborview Medical Center

Karen Jones
Riddell Williams, P.S.

Ravin Munden
Columbia Legal Services

Molly Ruf
Adobe Systems, Inc.

Barton Shilvock
Boeing Company

Vicki Rosellini
Community Advocate

Mark Solomon
Seattle Police Department

Roy Sorensen
Retail Financial Consulting

Hugh Straley, MD
Puget Sound Health Partners

Matthew Turetsky
Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt

Ann H. Williams
Community Advocate

Melinda A. Glovengo, Ph.D.
Executive Director

To whom it may concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Abdoulaye Sylla as an instructor, a musician, and as a warm and engaging mentor to homeless youth.

Throughout the course of his weekly West African Drumming class at the Orion Center, Abdoulaye demonstrated his ability to work with a very diverse group of young adults. He was able to connect with many young people who do not normally participate in activities and bring them together. He was also able to easily teach a variety of skill levels as the course progressed.

The youth who attended the drumming class reported having a lot of fun, and many expressed pride at their newfound talents on the drums. Abdoulaye did a tremendous job of encouraging youth at the Orion center, and praising their abilities. Many of the youth who attended the class have requested additional music lessons and groups at Orion.

Overall Abdoulaye's class was an incredibly positive, fun experience for both youth and staff. I believe that playing music together is a great way to bring people together, and his style of teaching would work well for a group of any age or background.

It was a joy and an honor to get to play drums with Mr. Sylla, who is a world-renowned artist, and a wonderful human being. I strongly recommend his class to any group that seeks to build community, learn about a different culture, or to gain some additional musical skills. I hope that we have the opportunity to work with him again in the future.

Sincerely,



Laurel Snow

Community Outreach Program Manager

YouthCare - James W. Ray Orion Center



Supported by United
Way of King County