

## HISTORY

The Barksdale Foundation was founded in 1996 to assist young adults with academic, behavioral and social aspects of formal development. Our mission is as follows:

*"To promote and provide strategies, programs, training and motivational services whereby no child is 'left behind'."*

With seminars, lectures, workshop training programs, as well as keynote addresses, we greatly encourage the youth of today to build self-awareness and character.



**Thomas L. Barksdale, II**

Thomas L. Barksdale is an educational consultant and motivational speaker who has facilitated the STEP-UPP Process for

eight years. After earning his Bachelor's Degree from North Carolina A&T University in 1996, he soon realized that his greatest gift and passion was in helping people, especially young adults, to reach their real potential. He has worked with youth from junior high school to college, ranging from 14-22 year of age. Mr. Barksdale has an uncanny ability to speak their language, yet interact with them in a manner that demands their attention as well as their respect.

## OUTCOMES

*Success Through Effective Participation — Using Positive Potential (STEP-UPP)* is a structured and systematic learning process for youth who were considered "at-risk" because they were having difficulty adhering to the academic and social expectations and conforming to the generally accepted behaviors and practices of society. The objectives of STEP-UPP are to help youth:

- Examine self-limiting and self-defeating behaviors,
- Develop emotional and social skills that enhance their cognitive development,
- Set high, positive and realistic academic and life expectations,
- Increase self-confidence in their ability to learn and to develop their minds,
- Acquire a greater sense of self-control over their destiny,
- Create options for themselves and a sense of personal mastery,
- Better understand themselves, others and their environment.



**Success Through Positive Participation**

- Achieve self-respect and respect for others,
- Learn to maintain a positive mental attitude,
- Meet daily challenges and to overcome negative thoughts and behaviors; and
- Make daily progress toward becoming successful and secure adults.

## GOALS

- Increase Attendance
- Decrease Suspensions and Discipline Referrals
- Increase EOG/EOC test scores

### What I Can Do For Your Schools and Non-profit Organizations

The Barksdale Foundation Speakers and Trainers are guided by three Goals:

- To provide resources for students to ensure they meet state standards
- To assist students in emotional/social concerns that influence development
- To listen with a voice of encouragement to all youth

### The Barksdale Foundation

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