



The Black Swan Academy
Making the Exception...the Rule

Safe Passage 4 Youth Passage

Youth deserve to experience true safety. We can't say we are caring for youth until we make schools and communities a safe place for them. This means supporting their growth, learning, and development. This can happen by identifying & supporting non-carceral approaches to care, healing, validating & addressing youth's experiences with violence.



Address violence by investing in the community and supporting community driven solutions that move beyond policing.



DID YOU KNOW?

- In 2020 & 2021, 7.4 % of D.C. youth were victims of, or witnessed, violence in their immediate neighborhoods.
- 36 % of students replied that they felt uncomfortable or in danger while traveling to school.
- In 2021, nearly 80 % of D.C. residents lived within a half mile of a homicide & about 2/3 of D.C. residents lived within a half mile of multiple homicides.

DEMANDS:

- Free and Quality Rehabilitation programs
- Increase # of violence interrupters involved in safe passage and supporting are communities in and around schools.
- Fund free shuttles from/to schools to designated areas in community (or individual homes)

- Fund community- led training's to strengthen our community's skills and capacity around mediation, conflict resolution, De-escalation techniques, and healthy coping mechanisms
- 24 hour access to spaces in the community; including recreation centers
- Increase support for OST programming that provides safe spaces for Black youth.