



From left, Dr. James Hurley, president of Tusculum University; Steve Diggs, president and CEO of Emerald Youth Foundation; high school students Nicole Geller and Javell Swanson; and Tusculum student Kenderick Grant highlighted the partnership during a news conference Friday afternoon, Oct. 19.

Emerald Youth Foundation PARTNERSHIP

Tusculum University and Emerald Youth Foundation are partnering to support Emerald Youth’s efforts to transform the future of urban youth in Knoxville toward long-term success and become Godly young adult leaders in the city.

The university has committed significant resources during the next three years for Emerald Youth’s Calling and Career Ministry, which helps high school students discern their post-graduation path. The Calling and Career Ministry centers are modeled after university learning and student success facilities. Tusculum’s financial and personnel contribution will assist with staffing, materials, technology and transportation costs associated with this innovative program.

Tusculum students will work alongside Emerald Youth employees and tutor and mentor program participants. In addition, the university will provide workshop speakers on topics such as the ACT and completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, better known as FAFSA.

Dr. James Hurley, Tusculum’s president, said the university is thrilled to engage with Emerald Youth and increase the likelihood its participants will continue their education after high school. Having a degree from a college or university dramatically increases earning potential and, ultimately, someone’s quality of life, he said.

“Emerald Youth Foundation has provided an admirable service that has made a profound difference in children’s lives for more than a quarter century,” Dr. Hurley said. “Tusculum University is grateful to develop a relationship with this faith-based organization and contribute to each child’s promise. We are committed to playing an active role in the community, and this collaboration with Emerald Youth Foundation aligns perfectly with our focus on civic engagement.”

