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MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation Celebrates Their 25th Anniversary

JACKSONVILLE, FL (Feb. 2, 2021) –The MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation (MWYF) is celebrating 25 years of serving hope and changing lives in Jacksonville’s Urban Core, in an area with the highest rates of crime, poverty, high school dropouts and teen pregnancy in the county.

In 1996, pro tennis player, Olympian and Wimbledon finalist, MaliVai Washington, founded MWYF to introduce tennis to low-income, at-risk children at clinics and events. Under the leadership of founding Executive Director Terri Florio, today MWYF has grown to become a comprehensive afterschool and summer youth development program serving youth from kindergarten through their high school graduation and beyond.

In 2008, MWYF opened their Youth Center, which now houses all elementary programs, after raising over \$3.8 million. In 2020, the Foundation opened a Teen Center, Club 904, after raising over \$5.5 million. This new center serves middle and high school students and fills a need in the community for programs specifically for teens.

Over the past 25 years, the Foundation has served thousands of children through outreach programs, tennis clinics, summer camps and afterschool programs and awarded over \$1.1 million in scholarships to their members for higher education. Among students who have completed their after school program, none have become teen parents and 100% have graduated from high school on time.

“This isn’t something I’ve done alone, this has been a true collective, community effort and that is why we are in our 25th year. I want to say how grateful I am for all of that support. Going forward, we are going to continue to try to be worthy of our supporters’ time and effort and treasure that they are trusting in the Foundation.” – MaliVai Washington

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About MWYF

The MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation is an after school and summer youth development program in Jacksonville's Urban Core that promotes academic achievement and positive life skills. For more information about MWYF, please visit malwashington.com.

You can also find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).