Aquaponics as an Intervention for Mental Health & Employment

The Rev. Dr. Robert V. Lee III, Founder & CEO, FreshMinistries
Bobby Lee, Director of Aquaponics & Urban Initiatives, FreshMinistries
Michelle Harcourt, Executive Director, Weaver Center for Community Outreach, FreshMinistries
Adult Mental Health: Supported Employment
Hospitality Training Program (est. 2008)

Certified Nursing Assistant Tutoring Program (est. 2012)

1,665 Students
93% Gainfully Employed
88% Remain Employed

Industry Skills Training
Industry Recognized Certificates
Life Skills Training
Employment Placement Assistance
Mental Heath Counseling
Wrap Around Services
Life Skills Training
Children Mental Health: Day Treatment & Prevention Services
1,470 Total Enrolled
840 Placed in Internships
97% Graduation Rate

- Family Strengthening
- Financial Literacy
- Health & Wellness
- Arts & Culture
- Academic Support
- Career Exploration
- College Readiness
- Leadership & Character Development

- Service Learning
- Employability Skills
- Summer Internships
- Mental Health Counseling
- Wrap Around Services

Day Treatment (est. 2016)
Curriculum: Sport Prevention Plus Wellness

263 Total Enrolled
149 Nassau County
114 Duval County

Prevention Program (est. 2019)
Native Fresh Aquaponics
What is aquaponics?

• Closed-loop system that combines aquaculture (raising of fish, shrimp, snails, etc.) and hydroponics (growing produce in water)

Aquaculture + Hydroponics = Aquaponics

Aquaponics is a farming system in which the waste produced by farmed fish or other aquatic animals supplies nutrients for plants grown hydroponically, which in turn purify the water.
What Can We Grow?
Where Can We Grow?
Who Do We Serve?