Greetings,

iPraxis began our 14th year with strategic partnerships in place to service over 585 students before the end of the school year. These students were eagerly prepared for their journey to design and complete science fair projects, interact with volunteers from multiple corners of the STEM industry in Philadelphia, and participate in horizon expanding, idea enriching field trips.

When the City of Philadelphia began pivoting to accommodate the COVID-19 pandemic, we were well on our way to meeting our goals in preparation for our 14th annual iFunction awards ceremony at the University of the Sciences in May. As we are sure that you know, our partner schools have closed and as a result, we are no longer working with our students.

While we are concerned about the state of education under these circumstances, specifically for the population of students that we serve, we clearly understand the health related implications causing these shutdowns. We are working to continue supporting students online and have created a contingency plan designed to provide the most value to our students when school reopens.

Despite these unprecedented times, we are seeking to realize our mission and still recognize the tantamount importance of STEM support for poor students in Philadelphia. Since you have been a supporter, we want to share with you some of what we did this year, and hope that you will continue to support our work, perhaps as a sponsor of iPraxis this year. We are prepared for the day that schools reopen and we know that when that time comes, we will need materials, supplies, and talented volunteers ready to do the work of inspiring and uplifting our students. We are hoping that we can count on you! See below for a summary of our year. Please contact me at jeremiah@ipraxis.org or Aja Clark at aja@ipraxis.org with any questions, suggestions, or comments. Stay safe!

Jeremiah White
Executive Director, iPraxis Incorporated
The good news is that our students had many excellent experiences before the shutdown.

We provided intensive science fair mentoring to approximately 150 students from 6 schools: Duckrey, Hardy Williams, Dunbar, McMichael, Bethune, and Northwood.

We offered 2 6-week film making elective to 30 students. The students learned how to design and create movie trailers. They also learned about screenwriting, sound, lighting, camera skills and video editing.

We hosted 3 field trips, including one to the Penn Vet Working Dog Center. The Center is a national research and training center for scent detection dogs. At the Center, dogs are trained to find victims of disasters, detect explosives, and conduct search and rescue missions. Some of the dogs are even trained in medical detection, including identifying cancer and some infections.