"I've learned to readjust my thinking, my eating, my everything."

BPHC – Getting Peer Education Right

Anthony "Malik" Wright PEER LEADER HEALTH PEOPLE BPHC Member

Anthony "Malik" Wright is a certified Peer Leader at Health People, a community preventive health institute located in the heart of the South Bronx. Health People is a BPHC member with an integral role in our clinical projects.

Anthony "Malik" Wright struggled for years to manage his diabetes, but despite his attempts at improving his lifestyle, his leg was amputated two years ago. After training to become a certified Peer Leader with Health People, Mr. Wright now leads workshops to teach diabetics and pre-diabetics how to avoid his experience.

Health People is a community preventive organization that empowers and trains those affected by chronic disease to teach others how to manage their health. Health People plays an active role in BPHC's diabetes and cardiovascular disease projects.

What makes participants in his workshops so receptive to his message, Mr. Wright explains, is their shared understanding of living with diabetes. "To make someone learn, they gotta be like you..." he says. "I can tell them 'If you don't want to listen to the program, just look at me. I didn't listen, look at the outcome.""

Mr. Wright also attends weekly support groups, which to him are a "blessing."

"I'm alive," he says. "I've learned to readjust my thinking, my eating, my everything."

Mr. Wright is now a certified Peer Leader of the acclaimed Stanford Diabetes Self-Management Program and leads workshops as part of Health People's LEAP (Lower Extremities Amputation Prevention) Program.



