

Mr. Bernie Wilkins was a well known Black Organizer in Wilmington, Delaware. Bernie Wilkins had his dream come true, When the state and federal legislation that established Juneteenth as an official state holiday. Mr. Bernie empower a young man name Haneef Salaam engages in empowering the community and he became very passionate about helping individuals and he is the Campaign for Smart Justice Manager and he would not be the man he is today without Bernie Wilkins.

Growing up in Southbridge, one of Wilmington's most historic communities, Salaam remembers Wilkins as a cornerstone of the neighborhood who imparted a strong sense of educational and moral values on the youth. Wilkins' steadfast commitment to education and providing different opportunities to the neighborhood children helped mold Salaam into the person he would grow to become.

"Mr. Bernie really, really taught me a lot and planted those seeds," Salaam said. "He's one of the people who really impacted me in my youth and sewed into my life at a young age to help me to be the man that I am today."



Wilkins served as a youth coordinator at the Neighborhood House for 25 years, ensuring that opportunities such as citywide flag football or basketball games were always available for the kids. Mr. Wilkins passed away 2021 and leaving a legacy and a pathway to follow to all up coming generations and organizations and organizer, That your dream can and will come to life in honor of Mr. Bernie Wilkins a Black Organizer.

