**A Letter from Nikki**

MissionSAFE staff did a tremendous job offering quality connection and programming between March and June mostly working remotely while lockdown. They offered Art, Spoken Word, Escape Room adventures, at-home Scavenger Hunts and UNO tournaments. They held a 3-week series of discussions around the pandemic and Black Lives Matter, giving youth a chance to process and express their feelings, thoughts and leadership through art and language. Staff also worked with youth around jobs and schooling and, with volunteers, delivered packages of food and supplies to over 150 families monthly. We are still in a very challenging time and we are so appreciative of our individual donors and foundation supporters that have come to our aid during this Pandemic. If you are able please consider a donation to support our amazing work to Boston’s underserved communities and the youth that we work with. A monthly donation will help continue to provide for food insecurities, internships, and a SAFE place to go for our youth extending a sense of belonging.

**MissionSAFE Summer Programming**

It is summer in the time of Pandemic and MissionSAFE staff has created exciting summer programming for our young people within the new boundaries of social distancing. Thanks to many of you, we are offering learning and adventures for young people who need to safely get fresh air, exercise, time with their peers, and new experiences. And our summer program is an internship program so youth receive pay as they learn and work. Here is what summer looks like at MissionSAFE!

- **Two short films**—a set of monologues and a group film—scripted and acted by MissionSAFE young people remotely with assistance from two volunteer professional actresses and scriptwriters who trained at Trinity Rep—Meghan Leathers and Octavia Chavez Richmond—along with performance artist and MissionSAFE staff, Brandi Artez.

- **Creation of a Community Quilt**, with each piece created remotely by youth under the artistic guidance of staff members Brandi Artez and Adeline Torres. **Spoken Word** and a girl’s group led by acclaimed Boston Spoken Word artist Amanda Shea. **Internships at Boston Urban Farms** for 10 youth, supervised by staff member, Carolina Suazo.

- **Our Futures program** focusing on Job Readiness, Team Building & Community Engagement led by Jumaane Kendrick and Chris Womack for our 17-21 year old young men—their work this summer will include a Ziplining team-building day (pictures above), creating vision boards together, and learning how to create and monetize their own Podcasts, as well as **twice a week Boxing lessons** to safely get out aggressions and frustration, therapeutic discussion groups, community service clean-ups, financial literacy and job readiness soft skills work.

**Nikki Flionis**
Executive Director, Founder