## Smith impacted by BMCEP's exposure to college environment



Black Male College Explorers Program Alumnus Alphonso Smith is thankful for the exposure the program gave him to experience the college environment. Years later, the educational foundation laid by BMCEP helped create a structure to support a career in education.

"The program was important to me because it gave me exposure to the college environment, and it allowed me to interact with people from different backgrounds," Smith said. Now an educator in Northern Virginia pursuing a career in

administration, Smith said the program has made an impact on the lives of countless young men over the years.

"The program taught me about self-respect, discipline, hard-work, and your role as a black man in America," he said.