

Forward from My Book

“William Tandy is one of the most passionate human beings I’ve ever met. His love for young people is unrivaled.

Our relationship spans twenty years. When I’d returned to the university where William and I met five years after leaving, he had reached a crossroad in his career. In my opinion, he was being undervalued because he wasn’t utilizing all his dynamic gifts. It’s time for William’s rare talents combined with his fire and passion to expand his message and reach the masses. He already had a decorated career as a youth football coach.

He gave dozens of young men the opportunity to go pro not to mention the hundreds that went on to college. William Tandy’s impact on our city, on our youth in general, all over the state of Michigan, is unwavering. This selfless impact needs to be exemplified, worldwide.

For months Will and I brainstormed on titles for his books’ message but nothing worthy came to mind. Until one day I ask him, “Why he felt the need to write a book in the first place?” He said, “The city of Detroit’s youth look dead and if not, they sure look like they’re on life support then.” The moment I heard him say that, I knew he was on to something.

William has an uncanny understanding of the plight of his young people. He comes from the roughest neighborhoods in the city of Detroit, Dexter, and Linwood. When I first met him, he was the director of his beloved Upward Bound program at Wayne State University. He told me stories of escaping death, even being with a friend who was shot, narrowly missing gunfire himself.

He talked about how he came away from his experiences with a sense of self-awareness and a desire to change his life and those around him as well. In this book, William Tandy overcomes trauma, confronts death, and faces failures even redeeming his self in the process. He tells of how he finds his purpose in football, using it as a bridge to connect with education and faith thus inspiring hundreds of young men to change their lives by giving them an outlet from the dangers of inner-city life.

William Tandy is an absolute asset to any youth he meets. This book is an outstanding tale of a life doctor who has set out to revive the spirits of young people all over the country. On Life Support is a must-read because William’s unrivaled spirit makes him contagious. Not only is he my friend but, he’s a role model to all the young people he’s impacted. I recommend using “On Life Support” as a reference of understanding on how to approach our inner-city youth who find themselves emotionally and spiritually dead. This book should be a tool that is used to resuscitate kids nationwide thus taking them off life support all together.”

-Dr. Jesse Jackson III