

(SPEECH)
[BIRDS CHIRPING]

(DESCRIPTION)
Shipping containers behind railroad tracks with graffiti on the walls.

(SPEECH)
[TRAIN WHISTLE]

(DESCRIPTION)
Text, "The typical White family has eight times the wealth of the typical Black family." - 2019 Survey of Consumer Finances.

A man and young boy skateboard on a plaza.

(SPEECH)
[HONKING]

(DESCRIPTION)
Text, Change the System, Building Black Wealth.

A person stands at a kitchen sink and three others sit around in a family room and at a table.

(SPEECH)
Yo, I got to get my haircut in the morning tomorrow for graduation.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(DESCRIPTION)
Otis.

(SPEECH)
Being in Oakland is just-- it's home. I've lived here my whole life.

(DESCRIPTION)
He walks with a backpack and visor on, on pavement towards a roof structure. A montage of scenes of Oakland.

(SPEECH)
Oakland's full of many different people from many different backgrounds and I feel like that's what makes it special. My city is strong.

(DESCRIPTION)
Cars on a street. Otis and a young girl stand next to a car.

(SPEECH)
A key moment I can remember, when Oakland really came together, was during the murder of George Floyd, and the protest that took place

along this area actually.

[CROWD SINGING]

(DESCRIPTION)

Protestors hold up signs.

(SPEECH)

That could've been my dad.

(DESCRIPTION)

His father leans back on a couch with a baseball cap on.

(SPEECH)

We speak a lot about the hardships of Oakland. But sometimes chaos and hardships forges just the strongest and most resilient people

(DESCRIPTION)

From behind. he stands near a street and watches a car go by.

(SPEECH)

I went to school here in Oakland, from an elementary all the way through high school, grew up in East Oakland.

(DESCRIPTION)

Javarte Bobino, Mills College, Youth Mentor.

(SPEECH)

Sometimes you need to know how far you need to go to be able to understand how far you came. For a lot of our young, African-American students, the system has hindered their families for generations.

(DESCRIPTION)

Otis walks past school lockers. A spread of photographs, one of Obama sitting with the sun on his face and looking out with his hand at his mouth.

(SPEECH)

Nobody in my family had this opportunity to be able to make it out. I wanted to be better. I wanted to have an opportunity to go to college.

(DESCRIPTION)

In slow motion, he leaves out the front doors of the school.

Text, In the wake of George Floyd's murder,, PG&E recognized it could do more to address racial injustice.

An economic equity program was launched to help close the racial wealth gap.

(SPEECH)
[CHATTER]

(DESCRIPTION)
Otis Ward, a senior at McClymonds High School, was one of the first participants.

(SPEECH)
[DING]

(DESCRIPTION)
The front of the school.

(SPEECH)
OK, today we going to do a ice breaker, so get off that phone.

(DESCRIPTION)
Relonda McGhee, McClymonds High School Teacher.

(SPEECH)
I recall my husband came home one day, and he's like I met this kid in the sixth grade. His name is Otis Ward, and that boy is going somewhere. And

(DESCRIPTION)
Otis writes on an easel in a classroom.

(SPEECH)
I was like, OK. And when Otis got here and I met Otis, I was like, oh, this is Otis Ward.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(DESCRIPTION)
He reaches his arms back and laughs as he holds hands with other students as they turn under each other.

(SPEECH)
Otis can't turn around.

McClymonds serves majority African-American students. We call ourself, like, the little Black college.

That last week of school, they're doing all their last minute senior things, graduation rehearsals.

We let students know that education is your way to get out of your circumstance. It just sets them up to be successful. One of the roadblocks to a lot of our students is they don't want to leave the community. They don't want to leave home. It's a big world out there.

(DESCRIPTION)

He walks next to the school with the young girl.

(SPEECH)

You finished your homework?

No, I have to do that in the car.

God is good. God is great Thank you for food. By him, we are fed Thank you, God, for daily bread. Amen.

Amen.

You know,

(DESCRIPTION)

Otis, two women and a girl hold hands around a table at a meal.

(SPEECH)

being in West Oakland, coming from West Oakland, it's a lot of other factors there, a lot of different distractions. And I feel like that was kind of the hardest part.

I

(DESCRIPTION)

Otis sits in the family room. Otis Ward, Sr.

(SPEECH)

didn't want him to fall in them streets. Because like, a lot of kids his age, they're not doing what he's doing. And when I was growing up, I got-- I was caught up in the streets and gang life. So I've been trying to tell him all the time, it's only two ways out.

So he took what I told him and this is where he at now. And he excelling, and doing big things, So I'm real proud of him.

(DESCRIPTION)

Otis's eyes and visor reflected in a rear view mirror.

(SPEECH)

This is a perfect point in my life to go and see what I can do and what I'm capable of. You have to do what you need to do before you can do what you want to do.

(DESCRIPTION)

He drives past houses. Text on an entrance mat, BerkeleyHaas. Haas School of Business, University of California Berkeley. Several students sit in a lecture hall.

(SPEECH)
[CHATTER]

(DESCRIPTION)

Text, PG&E partnered with UC Berkeley and Mills College to identify college-bound seniors around Oakland for a yearlong financial education pilot program.

(SPEECH)

First of all, thank you, everybody for being able to get here on time. We've had a very good time, showing you guys some of the-- or introducing you guys to some good concepts here. We started out talking about public stocks, and private stocks, and wealth creation, and risk, and return, and savings. And we're going to talk about your own personal wealth.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(DESCRIPTION)

Jason Miles, Amenti Capital, Program Instructor.

(SPEECH)

Right now, there's a major wealth gap between Black families and other families in the United States. Most of the time, we see financial education or financial literacy programs focused on how to open a savings account, how to buy a car-- almost like a home economics type of course. But they're rudimentary.

What we sought out to do with this, is to really take it up another notch. Concepts like compounding, concepts like venture capital, the difference between fixed income and public equities-- those are things that will go with them throughout their career. So that's one of the key differentiators

Yes,

(DESCRIPTION)

Otis talks to students next to him in the lecture hall.

(SPEECH)

[INAUDIBLE] investing in stock market, in companies like Apple. Those are the big ones-- Apple, Disney, Google. Yeah, you basically own a part of the company.

(DESCRIPTION)

Jimi Harris, PG&E, Program Lead.

(SPEECH)

After the George Floyd tragedy, I really wanted to make sure that PG&E

had a genuine commitment to design a specific program that could have longevity. This is the first cohort and we'd like to see how these results can create a platform to increase these opportunities for other students in California.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

This is just the beginning. I think, as human beings, there's always a fear of the unknown. What we're trying to do is take away that fear factor, and give them opportunity to be confident about the college experience, because we want them to be as successful as possible.

There are things in this world bigger than just money. But if you know these critical things you need to be able to have this financial security, it's a leg up.

It's hard, just being an African-American, trying to get in college, trying to do all these things. You need these tools to go to the next step.

A lot of these young people, when they're ready to go into college or do other things in life, they stay to what they know. And if they don't know anything else about how to build wealth, they're only going to stay to the path that's laid out for them. So this is laying out a different path and another option for them.

[SIREN]

(DESCRIPTION)

Javarte Bobino watches a fire truck go by.

Otis outside at night.

(SPEECH)

I love Oakland but all I know is Oakland. Having the opportunity to go to college is really a blessing. It takes me out of my comfort zone, and I get to experience new things, and that's always exciting. But it's also scary. But it's also exciting.

You know, it's brightened my world.

(DESCRIPTION)

The family in the family room.

(SPEECH)

My goal I have for myself over the next four years is to really find myself and find what I want to do for the rest of my life.

(DESCRIPTION)

A graduation photo.

(SPEECH)

That's what I'm looking forward to.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(DESCRIPTION)

He stands in front of a glass barrier in front of a body of water in the evening with his arm around the young girl's shoulder. A woman on the other side holds his arm and leans her head against his shoulder. They all smile.

From above, the city at sunset.

The image fades to black.

Text, Otis will be attending Stanford University in the fall to study computer science and engineering.

PG&E continues its work to advance economic equity in Oakland and throughout all of California.