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Mentoring Brochure: Longer Version

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GEM CITY MENTORS



All Students Have A Mentor

Mission Statement

Our purpose, within this class, is to create a program in the city and surrounding areas of Dayton that supports underprivileged children by providing mentors to those who need them. By providing all students with a mentor we hope to break the cycle of poverty and increase graduation rates by connecting students with businesses, churches, and universities.

“A Mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself”

- Oprah Winfrey

Mentoring Story

Joe Bogle was eight years old growing up in the inner city of Boston when his single mother enrolled him in a mentor program. Joe was paired with a sophomore in college named Robby who quickly taught Joe that he would never quit on him. Their mentor relationship has lasted for 17 years, and in that time span Joe’s life has greatly improved. The first place his life changed was in school. Joe graduated high school with honors, which ultimately led to his graduation from Bridgewater State University. Robby and Joe’s relationship started with their common interests such as watching and playing sports. However, their friendship quickly grew as Robby met with Joe every other week. Although they only met every other week Joe was able to call Robby on the phone with any kind of problem he might encounter. Now that Joe is an adult he has also decided to give back to the community in Boston by mentoring the youth just as Robby mentored Joe.

Mentoring Can Help!

Robby’s simple acts of friendship helped Joe create a better life. Most importantly Robby didn’t do anything special, rather he listened carefully, gave advice, and offered Joe little acts of kindness when ever he needed it. Mentoring can break the cycle of poverty. 20% more of young adults who had mentors aspire to enroll and graduate from college. 30% more of young adults who had mentors will participate in after school activities, and finally 20% more of mentored young adults will give back to the community by volunteering in hopes of breaking the cycle of poverty. Mentors can help kids stay on track in school, make good choices, offer advice or thoughtful responses to everyday troubles, but most of all be their to offer the support that the youth and young adults need. In the end this is not just a one sided relationship. Robby admits that his experience as a mentor is very fulfilling. He has the chance to help someone not only better themselves but also his community.



Who Are We?

We are a group of seniors in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Dayton. This year we are part of a class called Sustainability With Abundance. The goal of the class is to create sustainability and connectivity in Dayton communities that lack support.

BECOME A MENTOR



We Want to:

- ◆ Provide a mentor for every student
- ◆ Make our presence in the area and be accessible for any child who needs or wants support.
- ◆ We want to improve community engagement by connecting businesses, churches, and universities to schools in West Dayton.
- ◆ Establish long term connections that lead to greater self confidence and improvement for all those involved.

Fridays For the Future

Fridays for the Future is one of the first aspects of the program we would like to implement. Once or twice a month, a high school would host businesses or a spokesperson from the area. Students could attend these lunchtime sessions to learn more about business opportunities in the city of Dayton. In addition, speakers could include individuals from trade schools and colleges. Twice a year, presenters would be invited back in order for students to make connections with the opportunities that were of interest. The main goal of the program would be to provide high school students with a better understanding of the variety of options available to them after graduation. However we also want to incorporate days revolving around sustainability, entrepreneurship, and health awareness. This program would be one of the first steps in building our program.

Sustainability

Sustainability is the ability to be maintained at a certain level without the depletion of resources. As advocates of sustainability, our solution to revitalize Dayton communities encompasses sustainable themes such as renewable energy. We want to help underprivileged communities thrive inexpensively and efficiently.

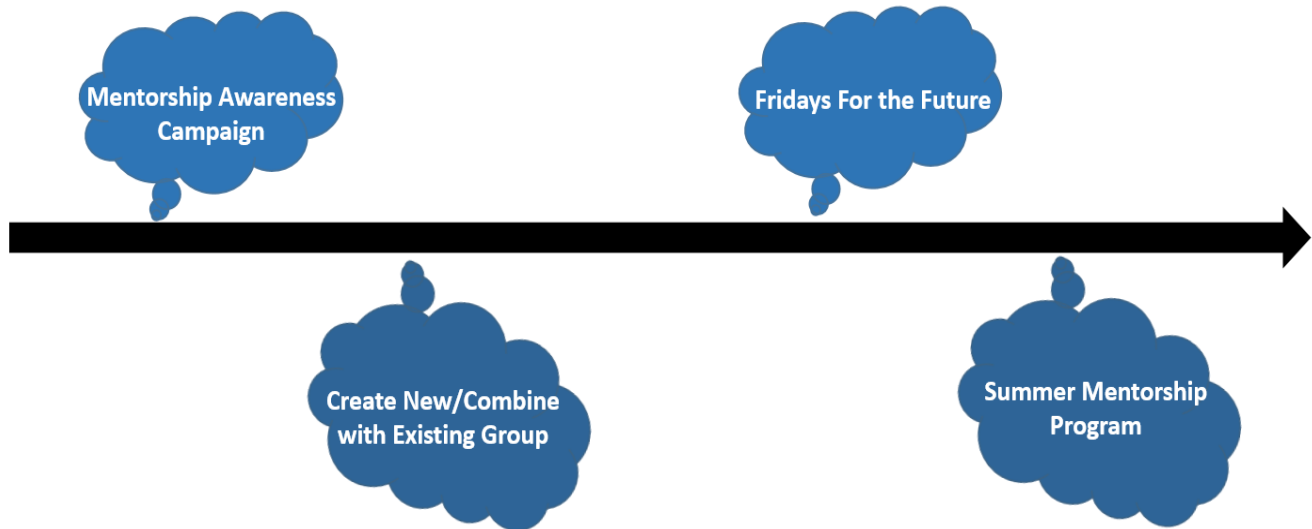
Entrepreneurship

Through Gem City Mentors, high school students could be paired with a business professional who could offer guidance and advice surrounding his/her trade. By interacting with individuals in the workforce, mentees will be able to learn valuable skills and an understanding of ways to grow in their field of interests. This would encourage the high school students to take an interest in a specific area and to learn about potential business opportunities, including entrepreneurial opportunities.

Health Awareness

Childhood obesity is a critical issue in America today and is the focus of many programs throughout the states. By focusing on closer communication with local area children the goal is to hopefully teach students to make better decisions when selecting food when they have the choice but also to teach why these decisions are important and how their decisions will impact them in the future.





Ideal Roadmap

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How will we judge ourselves?

In order to ensure that we adhere to our mission statement, we will be judging ourselves based on the benefits that we are capable of offering. We will base our success based on the longevity of our program, the number of students that we reach out to, and frequency that we are able to meet with our mentees.

How Can you Help?

Schools can help us raise awareness for the program. In the future they can help us host Fridays for the Future events. However, the biggest impact they can make is helping us connect students with mentors.

Businesses can help become mentors for local high school students, by providing their expertise at Fridays for the Future events.

Churches, like schools can help raise awareness for the program. They can help us build connections between groups, and provide a meeting place for mentors and their mentees

Everyone can help by providing feedback to our program, but most importantly everyone can help by mentoring students. We will always be limited by the number of mentors available to us. Mentors are capable of supporting students in many different ways. Their jobs are said to be fulfilling and life changing. Join us today, and help improve the community in Dayton.