



SPEAKERS BUREAU WITH TYLER WESTON (REAL ESTATE)

Future Leaders Program 2015-2016 Report

Year in Review

Overview

The **Future Leaders Program** worked with students grades K-7 at Parkridge Community Center and Huron Heights in Ypsilanti. This occurred through weekly educational workshops catered towards students' social-emotional and leadership development.

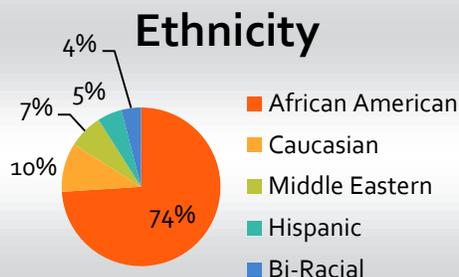
68 students participated in the program during the school year.

Format of program

The **Future Leaders Program** is a workshop-style educational mentoring program where a group of students and volunteers (normally college and high school students) assist in facilitating interactive and engaging activities that build the necessary skills for students to transition successfully into middle school. The program keeps a 1:3 ratio to ensure all students' needs are met through an individualized approach towards education.

Demographics

Students came from varying backgrounds that participated in the program. For the first time in the program, a higher percentage of boys (56%) participated in the program. At least 90% of parents identified their household income as \$25,000 or less with at least 78% of our students living in a single-parent household. The chart illustrates the demographic breakdown of students by ethnicity.



Brotherhood

Students from our boys leadership workshops. College staff and volunteers from EMU assisted with facilitating all activities.



Sisterhood

Sereniti, Eunicia and Rain take a break from playing arcade games to talk for a little bit. Our program strives to connect girls of all ages.

LIST OF FIELDTRIPS

Zap Zone
 Mt. Brighton Ski Resort
 EMU Women's Basketball Game
 U-M Natural History Museum
 Henry Ford Museum
 Cedar Point
 Black History Month Event
 Lodge Lanes Bowling

FAST FACTS

- Volunteers completed over 300 hours through this program
- Students came from Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor, Belleville, Canton and Toledo (Yes that far!)

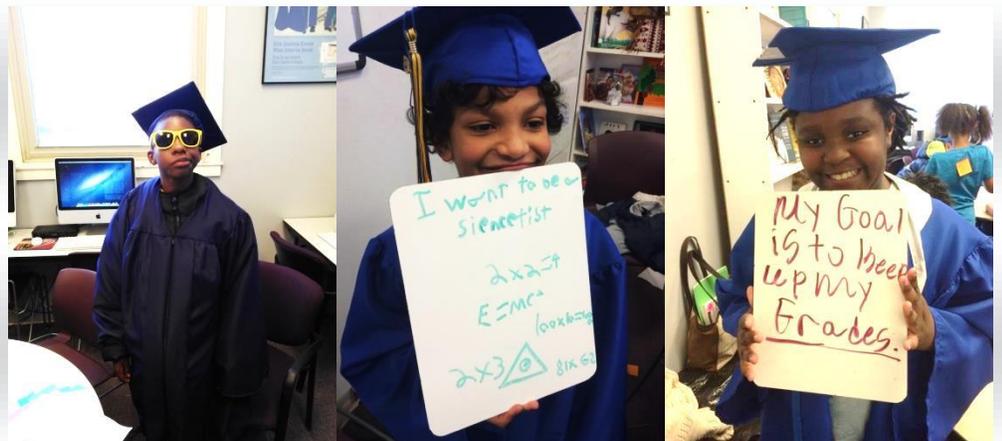


Stevie (above) and her peers from M2Y spoke to Ypsilanti City Council on recommendations for preventing youth exposure to drugs and alcohol in their neighborhood.



Eating Healthy

Students received a healthy snack at the end of each lesson prior to having free time to play board games or conduct outdoor activities.



Academic Achievement

The Future Leaders Program ensures students make a strong commitment towards learning. 91% of our students reported better grades in school. Illustrated below is a depiction of how program attendance impacted our students' school performance.



SERVICE PROJECTS COMPLETED

Thanksgiving Brunch
 Cans for a Cause
 Christmas4Kids
 The Gilbert Residence
 City Council Project
 Ypsilanti Pride Day
 "First Fridays" in Ypsilanti

SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULTS

92% of students report higher levels of confidence in life and school

84% of students displayed improved leadership skills

89% of students reported higher levels of self-esteem and sense of self-worth

92% of students report they are better able to manage peer and family conflict



Mentor2Youth took 30 youth to Mt. Brighton Ski Resort for its 3rd annual ski trip. Many youth like Corey (above right) stated it was their first time skiing.

Quick Q&A

Why Future Leaders Exist

Future Leaders was developed due to a lack of out-of-school programs based in Ypsilanti that target high-risk neighborhoods by providing personal, academic and professional support to elementary-age youth coming from vulnerable situations. 82% of first time families enrolling their child into this program have reported their children not having access to afterschool or recreational programs. The objective of Future Leaders is to fill the resource gap that exists.

Q: What makes us different?

A: Our mission! Year-to-year, at least 85% of students enrolled in Future Leaders report not being involved in any other programs. This means, we are the sole outside support system for many of the children we work with. We are working with a population that is the most difficult to reach and engage.

A2: Secondly, our focus is not just providing a safe space for kids to play, improving their self-esteem through mentoring or participating in physical activity. While these are all important components of a child's development, we take a holistic approach towards supporting a child. The goal is to ensure they transition successfully to adolescence (middle school). Therefore, we must provide all requisite learning opportunities, activities, and experiences that will attain that end result. This occurs through our educational curriculum series of workshops and supplemental activities we provide to our students.

Q: How Is the Program Funded?

A: As the program expands and grows, so do our avenues for funding. Future Leaders Program receives grants, individual contributions, corporate sponsorships and holds fundraising initiatives to sustain year-round programming. Some of our 2015-2016 partners include:



Q: Plans for Future Programming?

A: Mentor2Youth plans to expand its Future Leaders program during the 2016-2017 school year to incorporate reading and math tutoring, workshops focusing on health and wellness, STEM, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship over a program spanning 40 weeks throughout the year.

BECOMING A SUSTAINER

During the 2016-2017 school year, Mentor2Youth would like to increase the amount of students it serves through **Future Leaders to 100 students (47% increase)** while expanding the depth of services to provide academic intervention in reading and math while exposing students to vital experiences necessary to promote a well-rounded education.

A donation from you would go towards **40 weeks of programming (4 days/week)** during the school year and summer period providing more than **350 hours** of instructional time for each child enrolled. Our giving levels include:

\$10/mo = *provides school supplies/food for 10 students*

\$25/mo = *sending 15 students on an educational fieldtrip*

\$50/mo = *Buying laptops for 15 students to use online reading/math software*

\$100/mo = *Hiring a high school student as a peer leader for 2-3 students*

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Contact: [Emmanuel Jones](mailto:Emmanuel.Jones)

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E: emmanuel.jones@mentor2youth.com

W: www.mentor2youth.com/donate

Still Much Work Left to Finish...

Over the last five years, the Future Leaders Program has worked with 230 youth across Southeastern Michigan. Parents and teachers have reported the immense turnarounds and drastic improvements they have seen from their children/student personally and in the classroom. Even with our tireless effort, the long-term vision of creating a school-to-career pipeline is still our primary focus.

Did You Know?

- \$90,000 is the cost each year per youth placed in the juvenile justice system (your taxes pay for this)
- Increasing male graduation rates by 10% would result in \$560 million annually in savings and earnings in Michigan (how would this benefit our community?)
- Only 38% of students are deemed ready for college in Washtenaw County based on ACT prep scores (this decreases even more for low-income students)

Why is this important?

These issues become more prevalent in high school but, the foundation is laid at a young age and it all starts with reading. **Two-thirds of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of the 4th grade will eventually end up in jail or on welfare.** Less than 50% of students attending school in Washtenaw County are proficient by 8th grade in English Language Arts (reading).

We need YOU!

These issues are still present in Washtenaw County and Mentor2Youth feels YOU can be the change this community needs. By pledging to make a donation to Mentor2Youth, you are not just supporting a child's wellbeing, you are uplifting the entire community for years to come. We understand the root causes that victimize urban communities and are currently working to solve the problem one child at a time. Join us and take a stand for youth by making an investment in their promising future. Make an investment in Mentor2Youth today!

Like Us! Follow Us! Watch Us!



"There is nothing I would change about this program. I love it already" ~Toris; age 11