



One to One Mentoring Disadvantaged Students

1. **Purpose:**

Funding from this proviso was provided to two organizations to develop skilled mentors who work one on one with high school students to support academic success and keep them on track to graduation. Those organizations are Big Brothers Big Sisters and Community for Youth.

2. **Description of services provided:**

Community for Youth:

- Each program participant was provided a 1:1 weekly mentoring experience from March–June 2020
- Each mentor, student, and parent were supported through monthly match support meetings with program staff to ensure a high-quality mentoring experience for each student
- Each student received guided career-integrated mentoring from a diverse set of mentors representing high-quality careers and professions (tech industry, government, corporate, and nonprofit sector)
- Monthly curriculum was designed and facilitated to support student's academic and social emotional growth
- Staff also supported all students and family with resource navigation during initial outbreak of COVID-19 (rent assistance, food subsidies, online learning, and digital access)

Big Brothers Big Sisters:

- Recruitment and training of 70 volunteer mentors
- Monthly support calls and coaching for 70 mentors
- Biweekly check-ins and support contacts for 70 students
- Biweekly staff-led sessions to foster social-emotional skills, develop students' growth mindset, and encourage youth to set goals for their future
- Monthly cohort events at each school to foster student-mentor connections
- Technology for mentors and youth to connect safely between monthly events
- Closure process for students and mentors ending participation
- Collection of process and outcome data on program/student indicators

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

Community for Youth: High school students in South Seattle area. Must demonstrate need and commitment to personal growth and academic pursuit.

Big Brothers Big Sisters: Eligibility requirements varied slightly by school district, but all participants were required to:

- Be a student at one of five partner high schools
- Obtain parent permission for participation
- Fall into one or more of these categories:
 - Be enrolled in an academic support or selected advisory class
 - Have risk factors reducing their likelihood of graduating on time
 - Request mentor support to graduate and achieve post-high school success

Beneficiaries in 2019-20 School Year:

Number of School Districts: 0
Number of Schools: 0
Number of Students: 91
Other: 0

Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 0.0

Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 0.0

FY20 Funding: State Appropriation: \$250,000
Federal Appropriation: \$0
Other fund sources: \$0
TOTAL (FY20) \$250,000

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?**

No

Yes, please explain.

If state funds are not available, the state will not be eligible...

5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY20	\$250,000	\$250,000

6. **Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:**

N/A. First year of funding.

7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):**

N/A

8. **Evaluations of program/major findings:**

Community for Youth:

- 85% student retention in program
- 100% of Community for Youth seniors graduated high school
- 74% of graduating seniors transitioned to postsecondary education
- 100% of students successfully completed academic year

Highlights from End of Year Strength of Relationship survey results:

- 100% of students said, "My relationship with my mentor is important to me."
- 93% of students said that "when something is bugging me, my Mentor listens while I talk about it."
- 86% of students said, "My Mentor has lots of good ideas about how to solve a problem."
- 86% of students said, "I feel close to my Mentor."

Big Brothers Big Sisters

- 92% of participating students expected to graduate and engage in post-secondary education.
- 82% of students were able to relate to their peers and felt a connection to others.
- 96% expressed trust in their parents or guardians.
- 91% said they had a supportive adult in their life.
- 92% of students had less than two absences per month, on average.
- 86% of students were on track to graduate in four years.
- 94% had no behavior referrals.
- Students achieved an average GPA of 2.97.

9. **Major challenges faced by the program:**

N/A

10. **Future opportunities:**

N/A

11. **Statutory and/or budget language:**

ESSB 6168 Sec. 520 (19) - \$250,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2020 and \$250,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2021 are provided solely for contracts with Washington state based nonprofit organizations that provide a career-integrated one-to-one mentoring program for

disadvantaged high school students facing academic and personal challenges with the goal of keeping them on track for graduation and post-high school success. The mentoring must include a focus on college readiness, career exploration and social-emotional learning. An applicant requesting funding for these dollars must successfully demonstrate to the department that it currently provides a career-integrated one-to-one volunteer mentoring program and has been mentoring high school youth for at least twenty years in the state prior to application.

12. **Other relevant information:**

N/A

13. **Schools/districts receiving assistance:**

See [OSPI's Grantee List](#)

14. **Program Contact Information:**

Name: Dixie Grunenfelder

Title: Director, K12 Systems of Support

Phone: 360-725-0415

Email: dixie.grunenfelder@k12.wa.us