



Guided Mentoring is a two-tiered approach to peer-to-peer mentoring. DREAM staff, along with other Guides will lead high schoolers through a mentor-in-training curriculum to kick off their mentoring experiences. They will gain the tools, resources, and confidence to provide mentorship to elementary school-aged youth while being mentored themselves. Along with their mentees, they'll explore how who they are intersects with their community and be empowered to impact their lives and the lives of others - and they'll have a blast doing it!

“DREAM gives extraordinary opportunities to all those involved.”



Why two-tiered, guided mentoring?

Throughout our lives, we are mentors, those who provide guidance to others, and mentees, those who learn from and lean on others. Often we are in both roles. It is important to learn when and why to shift between these two roles, and to explore how one can be and bring their authentic self into their endeavors. Spending meaningful time with peers optimizes the experience.

“In simple words, DREAM means love, community, and leadership to me.”

GUIDED MENTORING fun
 learning purpose
 meaning relationships
 opportunities exploration
 community teamwork identity
 celebration experiences growth
 connection



DREAM operates with a core value of inclusion and strives to honor and celebrate all participants regardless of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, socio-economic status, place of residence, veteran status, ancestry, or national or ethnic origin.

The Commitment

For Students

High School Mentors are expected to participate in the program for two years, beginning with mentor-in-training foundational work. They will take part in group programming and mentoring, totaling one to three hours per week.

To honor this commitment, high school mentors will have opportunities to develop and demonstrate proficiency in Transferable Skills for graduation.

For Schools

We strive to tailor our programming to meet the needs of every site. We ask our school partners to collaborate with us to make this an exciting leadership and learning opportunity for students, allowing them to celebrate, be empowered, and give back.

These are a few key pieces that will help us launch the program at your school:

- A designated advisor's time and energy - we're looking for at least one high school advisor per school to act as a liaison with DREAM and to assist in recruiting and organizing high school mentors.
- Space - A classroom or other place to gather for programming.
- Enthusiasm - we want our school-based partners to be just as invested as us!



DREAM builds trusting relationships.

92% of DREAM participants report having people they can trust because of DREAM.

About The DREAM Program

DREAM (Directing through Recreation, Education, Adventure, and Mentoring) was founded in January of 1999 and became a non-profit organization in November 2001. Our aim is to make sure our youth know that they can achieve anything and provide them with the necessary skills to overcome obstacles. Our ultimate mission is to close the opportunity gap for children in low-income housing.



Curriculum Overview

Mentorship

Mentors will understand the role and purpose of mentoring and develop the skills and confidence to build positive mentoring relationships.

Identity

Mentors will understand their positionality and develop skills and abilities to step into various leadership roles.

Sense of Place

Mentors and mentees alike will discover — on their own terms — the assets and opportunities that exist within their own communities. They will celebrate their communities' strengths and their roles within it.

Meaning & Purpose

Mentors will discover the ways in which their skills, abilities, and interests intersect with their communities. They will practice a variety of leadership roles, gaining self-efficacy and agency.

DREAM
Closing the opportunity gap.

For more information, please contact Bruce G. Perlow, Director of Guided Mentoring at bperlow@dreamprogram.org.

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