Junior STEM Scholar Mentoring Program (JSSMP)

Program Overview

The Junior STEM Scholar Mentoring Program was created during the 2020/2021 academic school year with a purpose and design to support high school students that belong to historically underrepresented demographics and are interested in pursing a degree within the avenues of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). High schoolers are paired with undergraduate students currently in the process of obtaining a bachelors degree in a STEM major from Texas Christian University that act as personal mentors and advisors through the duration of the program and long after. Through community service projects and academic/professional development monthly workshops, students are immersed in foundational knowledge critical to a post-secondary education. JSSMP's mission statement is to help minority students grow their passion for STEM and ensure their success upon admittance into institutions of higher education.

Project Description

This Program can be divided into 3 components:

1. Mentorship

- 6 high school students were recruited to partake in the program and paired with a mentor
- One-on-one mentoring between the high school student and TCU Undergraduate establishes an immediate support system that can be crucial to the continuation of the student's education

2. Academic/Professional Development Workshops

- Workshops given by TCU Faculty & Staff members provide information on:
 - The college application process
 - Scholarships & Financial Aid _____
 - Resume building & Interviewing skills _____
 - Studying tips & Stress management -
 - Opportunities in the different fields of STEM ____
 - Networking opportunities with TCU Faculty _____

3. Community Service

• At the end of the program, both mentors and mentees participate in a community service project in which they make hygiene kits and cards for the patients and families at Cook Children's Medical Hospital



• Survey data identified the following:

- a STEM profession that they felt they could ask for advice



Post-Program Data



Robert Molina TCU Faculty Advisor: Dr. Sophia Garcia

Survey Data

• 67% of students in the program were classified as a first-generation college student

• Over 50% of students stated that they do not currently know of someone (outside of this program) in college or in

■ Strongly Disagree ■ Disagree ■ Agree ■ Strongly Agree

- **Question 1:** I am confident in applying to college
- **Question 2:** I am knowledgeable in applying to scholarships
- **Question 3:** I am confident in my understanding of the different types of Financial Aid available
- **Question 4:** I am confident in my resume and interviewing skills
- Question 5: I have a strong understanding of different avenues of STEM
- (Post-Program) Question 6: I feel like I have a strong support system and can ask my mentor for advice despite the program being completed

Community Partners

Chisholm Trail High School (CTHS) is located within the Eagle Mountain Saginaw Independent School District (EMSISD). CTHS served as the pilot school for the inaugural year of JSSMP.

- Principal

Northside High School is located within the Fort Worth Independent School District (FWISD) was the second school to partner with JSSMP in 2021.

programs

Sustainability Plan

- director
- Community Expansion
 - minority students

Acknowledgements

- partners for additional funding and support:

TCU **Pre-Health**

63.6% Minority Enrollment

Representative: Stacy Donalson – Assistant

97% Minority Enrollment

Representative: Antonio Martinez – Principal

Conclusions

• The data collected from the Pre- and Post-surveys highlights the effectiveness that mentoring programs have in establishing a support system within minority students as well as providing information critical to the admittance and success in undergraduate STEM

Future Goals

• Pass the program onto a TCU Undergraduate apart of the TCU STEM Scholars Program following graduation of the current program

• For the 2022/20223 academic school year, JSSMP plans to partner with two additional high schools that are apart of the Eagle Mountain Saginaw Independent School District to provide this opportunity to a larger population of

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