

MENTOR

JOHN PAULIN EWOUDOU MANYAKA: FUTURE ENGINEER



To mentor is to touch a life forever



If you are reading this booklet we'd like to thank you for showing interest in supporting students at Columbia Heights Educational Campus (CHEC). CHEC is a globally themed bilingual campus that serves grades 6 through 12 and strives to prepare all students for college and career success. Multicultural Career Intern Program (MCIP), a nonprofit community-based organization was created to strengthen and extend the impact of a CHEC public education by marshalling private sector resources and developing new partnerships with similar minded organizations.

AN OPEN LETTER TO SERVE

“

Our lives are often shaped by adults who consistently loved us and showed us the way or gave us the opening and the security to find our way. Not every young person has that kind of adult in their lives, but each one deserves to, each one needs to. We seek to do just that at CHEC, where every day our students demonstrate their brilliance, courage and perseverance.

”

For over forty years Bell Multicultural High School has been recognized as a public school of excellence by venerable institutions like The Washington Post, U.S. News and World Report and the U.S. Department of Education during the presidencies of George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. During this same period, our college-going rate has consistently averaged 84% of any given senior class. We are proud of these accomplishments and are committed to creating even more robust and rigorous opportunities for all students to be affirmed and successful at CHEC and beyond.

Hope is a powerful thing. It inspires us to do the impossible and helps us carry on during difficult times. And hope often comes in many different forms. During the lockdown period of the pandemic, we became very familiar with the impact and the power of mentoring.

All of our students experienced learning and social challenges due to isolating environments with fewer interpersonal interactions, instability brought up by the death of loved ones, and food and housing insecurity due to job loss within the family. It was, to say the least, an incredibly desperate and fearful time.

However, the students with outside mentors thrived.

When school was no longer the safe space for students and committed teachers to work until the evening on homework and college applications, mentors stepped in to fill the void. Mentees were provided structure, love and hope by caring adults who helped them map out and accomplish their short and long term goals. Those students believed that their college dreams might be delayed but not derailed. In the return to in-person learning, these students exhibit less mental trauma, view the future positively and are more connected to school. Every student at CHEC deserves this.

ABOUT US

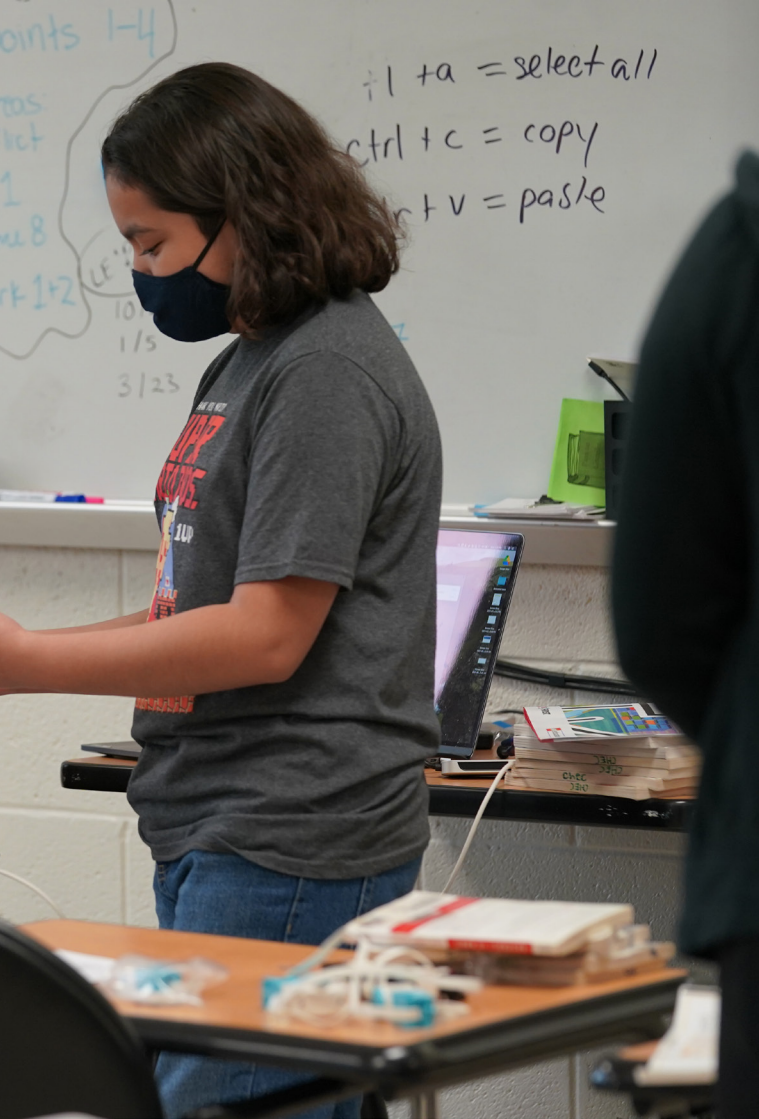
MCIP was founded in 1979 as a “dignity in schools” movement to challenge the systemic school policies that disproportionately hurt and pushed out newly arrived immigrants, students from low-income families, LGBT students and the students who required special accommodations.



Our original program started with just 40 students and an unyielding commitment to fight for the human right of every young person to receive a high quality education and to be treated with dignity. In 1989, MCIP merged with Bell Career Center to create Bell Multicultural High School (now part of a two-school complex named Columbia Heights Educational Campus). After the 2008 merger with Lincoln Multicultural Middle School, CHEC became DC's first grades 6-12 campus. MCIP began serving both communities and is now the largest youth-serving nonprofit in Columbia Heights.

Our original mission and design have been enhanced over the years with new services and interventions to meet the educational and health, safety... needs of all of our students. MCIP designs, funds, and implements the following ser-





vices at CHEC:

(1) The Bell College Scholarship Fund; (2) After School and Summer High Impact Tutoring and Enrichment; (3) Bell Teen Parent and Child Development Center; (4) Diversionary and Prevention Services; (5) Family Engagement Services; (6) Mentoring

The guiding principle that informs all MCIP actions is the essential belief that young people from underserved communities have inherent value and are worthy of fierce love, relentless advocacy and an all-consuming support system that changes life outcomes.

QUICK FACTS

1,589

ENROLLMENT

450

**AFTER SCHOOL
ENROLLMENT**

100%

FREE LUNCH

92%

DAILY ATTENDANCE RATE

84%

GRADUATION RATE

82%

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE

72%

COLLEGE GOING RATE

50

**COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED**

24

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Computer Science, Computer Science Principles, English Language, English Literature, French Language, Italian Language Music Theory, Physics, Spanish Language, Spanish Literature, Statistics, Studio Art: 2-D Design, Studio Art: 3-D Design, US Government and Politics, US History

CAREER PREP PROGRAMS

Carpentry, Cosmetology, Pre-engineering, Hospitality Management, Early Childcare

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Advanced Placement for All, Blended Learning, Early College, Early High School for Middle School, Extended Day, National Honor Society, NJROTC, Robotics, Read 180, Future Business Leaders of America, Rotary Interact Club

MCIP PROGRAMS

After School Tutoring, Early Childhood Center, College Scholarship Awards, Mentoring, Study Abroad Program, Teacher Training Institute, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Youth Development Program, Summer School

OVERVIEW

The MCIP mentoring program is being designed to create a more direct avenue for professionals to share their knowledge, skills, experiences and personal networks to help CHEC students reach their potential. This initiative is being designed and targeted to the specific needs of students.

MENTOR EXPECTATIONS...

The overall expectations and the role of a mentor in a student's life will be to prepare for life after high school. Five possible avenues following high school include: 4-year college, 2-year college, volunteer service, technical school; and military. At a minimum, we hope that mentors will help students chart realistic paths in their post high school lives. We are looking for mentors to be the personal champions of their student mentees to help them on their life journey. It is our hope that mentoring will also lead to opportunities for personal growth of mentors and to unanticipated experiences and rewards. Mentors commit to be present and listen, guide, advise and support. Providing positive reinforcement and stability are two overarching goals of the program.

GOALS

General support – listening to student’s concerns, experiences, and challenges.

Share a new perspective – what the world can offer.

Fun –having a meal together, movie, bowling, walk in nature, tours.

Feedback – assess mentee’s progress





COMMITMENT

There will be three modes of contact per month including...

- ✓ *Monthly group meeting*
- ✓ *Monthly mentor-mentee in-person meeting*
- ✓ *Weekly check-in (text, call, FaceTime)*



DURATION

The expectation is that each mentorship will last for at least a school year. After the school year has ended, the mentor and mentee will be asked if they want to renew their engagement for another school year.

PROGRAM TOPICS

- FAFSA and CSS profile
- Careers: exploring possible careers and shadowing a professional
- Schools: exploring possible colleges, trade schools and other programs
- Applications
- Financial Literacy
- Essay/Personal Statement
- Mental Health and Mental Wellness
- Assessing strengths, talents, and learning styles
- Standardized testing: developing a study plan, resources for tutoring, test optional
- Finding scholarships (for citizens and non-citizens)
- Soft skills (coherent communication, problem solving, creativity, leadership, interpersonal skills, time management)
- Mock interviews: Help students gain experience with the interview process and guide them to perfect answers to commonly asked questions.
- Resume Reviews: Offer feedback and guidance to help students present their growing skills on their resumes
- Professional grooming and business etiquette
- Networking / Schmoozing: Help students practice their elevator pitches and how to build rewarding relationships with adult professionals they will encounter at school, college and in life.

MEET THE MENTEES





**ACADEMIC INTEREST:
PEDIATRICS OR
ENGINEERING**

ISSA BATISTA



“

At the moment, my two passions are to work with little kids and do what I can to save the planet. If given the opportunity, I would love to become a pediatrician or an environmental science engineer.

It would be great to have a female mentor who is already doing what I want to study after I graduate from Bell. They could even help me with my college essays and pick the right college.

”





**ACADEMIC INTEREST:
ACTING**

KYANDO BAYLOR



“

The kind of mentor that I would like to have is someone that can put themselves in my shoes, that understands where I am in my life and can help me do what no one in my family does enough of: succeed at a chosen profession or career.

”





**ACADEMIC
INTEREST: LAW**

ARJAYE DAVIS



“

I've wanted to study the law since I was seven because I like the idea of passionately advocating or defending a point of view for a living.

Going to college and finishing what I started would mean the world to me.

In my family, a lot of us go to college but we have no graduates to celebrate. I'd like to be our first graduate.

”



ACADEMIC INTEREST: TECHNOLOGY



“

I want a career that will allow me to properly give back to my single mother who has given me everything. I'm looking for a mentor who can find me because I'm lost.

”





JORGE FLORES



**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
SCIENCE**

“

I take my role as 10th grade student government secretary and being the eldest of my siblings very seriously. I am deeply interested in the sciences and going to college. I have a strong relationship with God and look for ways every day to impact the world in a positive way.

”



NARDOS GETACHEW



CINDY GUTIERREZ

**ACADEMIC INTEREST:
MILITARY PARAMEDIC**



“

I'm just a genuine and down to earth person who likes to help people and feel needed. Joining the military or becoming a paramedic would help me either serve my country or my community. A mentor could help show me how to better plan out my life and figure out how to get to college.

”



**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
BUSINESS &
COSMETOLOGY**

KENYAH JOHNSON





“

Helping my family means a lot to me. I would love to be stable and provide for my family. My dad talks to me a lot about going to college and always makes me promise to pay attention in school and work hard.

I am excited about the possibility of going to college. I'm also scared about not liking it or wasting a lot of money for no reason.

A mentor who gets me and knows how to teach me to succeed would be really nice.

”



**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
JOURNALISM**

DARREN JONES



“

My parents are deceased and that is hard to accept. It took me a while to learn that there was more to me than I was allowing myself to be. I like music and writing because they open doors to corridors in me that I keep hidden. Helping others helps me heal.

”





**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
REAL ESTATE**

ABIDE KAO



“

The perfect ending for me in a mentoring relationship would be to have a champion who supports my dreams and helps me realize my potential. I really want to be financially stable.

”



**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
FASHION DESIGN**





“

It would be such a game changer to go to college and graduate. I have two elder siblings who went to college but didn't finish. A mentor could help me graduate college and get a good career. I need someone who can help me see what I want to pursue and how far I can go.

”

NATALIA LAZO

“

Earlier this school year, I was part of the team that brought the first soccer championship trophy in over five years to my school. I want to feel like a champion again.... in college”

My uncle graduated college in 2018 and became the first person in my family to do so. I look up to him and want to follow in his footsteps.

”





**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
ENGINEERING**

JOHN P. MANYAKA

“

My art is the one thing that I'm most passionate about. I have a creative older sister-in-law who is my inspiration and why I got in to art.

It would be very motivational to have the right mentor. I would have someone who supports me and encourages me to reach higher and help me whenever I need assistance.

”



ACADEMIC INTEREST: GRAPHIC ARTS



A portrait of a young woman with long dark hair in a braid, wearing glasses and a black t-shirt, smiling in a library setting. The background shows bookshelves filled with books. The image is framed by dark blue vertical bars on the left and right sides.

**LISBETH
OLIVAR-CABALLERO**



“

It would be good to have a mentor because having someone who already went through that would be a relief, they know what they're doing and would be able to support me.

”

ACADEMIC INTEREST: BUSINESS & COMPUTER SCIENCE



ROCIO QUINTANILLA



**ACADEMIC INTEREST:
FORENSIC SCIENCE**

EVELYN MARTELL





“

I've had to grow up on my own and have learned about leadership and everything that comes with it on my own. I've been on the other side of opportunity and want to do all that I can to help my community.

”



LUIS RUIZ



**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
FORENSIC
SCIENCE**



“

A dream mentor would be that one person that pushes me to be more than I think I can be. I have a bad habit of doubting myself and then blaming myself when I fail to live up to my potential. I am struggling with chemistry and know that I will need it to pursue my forensic science degree in the future. I also need help learning to not give up so easily.

”





“

College means a lot to my family. My older sister is currently at Trinity Washington University and she is my role model.

I'm interested in studying law but don't know which type of law to focus on. A mentor might guide me to the right type of law to pursue. When I think about my future, I get excited about what is possible. I also fear what I don't know and that I might make bad decisions if left by myself. I am sure that a mentor would know all these things.

”

**CHRISTIAN SANCHEZ -
MORALES**



**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
SCIENCE**



“

It would be great to have a female mentor who is already doing what I want to study after I graduate from Bell. They could even help me with my college essays and pick the right college.

”





**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
NURSING**

NAILAH SALEEM





“

Objection, your honor! That's something that I've always wanted to say. Being able to walk into court representing my family's name, Solorzano, would be such a great gift. I'd love to go from the family that no one knows, to the family that no one forgets.

”



**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
LAW**

GRACIELA SOLORZANO



**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
GRAPHIC
ARTS**

TABITHA VASQUEZ-REYES

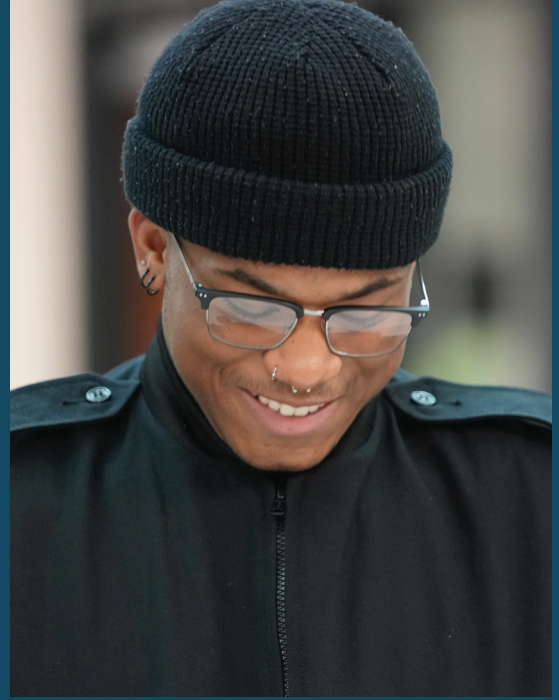


“

It would be amazing to have a guide to work with and help me get into college, to thrive while there and graduate with a college degree that I can use. When I grow up, I want to be able to do the same thing for others.

”





CURTIS YOUNG

**ACADEMIC
INTEREST:
CHEF OR REALTOR**



“

I'd like to be a chef, because I've always enjoyed cooking. It's fun, and it's allowed me to express myself as I experiment and try new things. I'd also be interested in becoming a real estate developer. A lot of my mom's family are in the industry, and they've taught me a lot about the business and it's (caught my attention/reeled me in). My ideal mentor would be someone who can relate to me, who is fun and gives me energy to face the world and do my best.

”



Get in touch

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