



# Children Uniting Nations

## Academic Mentoring Program for At-Risk and Foster Youth



### Program Design

The Academic Mentoring Program was designed to provide the student with supplemental academic support while also building self-esteem, life skills, and confidence. Prior to the start of the mentoring relationship, the youth's academic performance will be reviewed to determine the students' level of achievement in all subjects. The selected youth will be given surveys to document their academic and social progress. The student's teachers and family members will also provide feedback to highlight the needs and progress of the students in the program. The mentor, in conjunction with the youth's teachers, counselors, school administrators and program staff, will work together to ensure that the student receives the proper ongoing academic support.

### Requirements to Be a Mentor

- \* 1 year academic commitment, 1-3 hours per week
- \* 18 years or older
- \* Complete an application, interview, and training
- \* Clear criminal background check and TB Test

Children Uniting Nations is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing quality mentoring relationships for at-risk and foster youth by recruiting, training, and supporting volunteer mentors. Working in partnership with **LAUSD/Beyond the Bell** and the **Department of Children and Family Services**, brings an academic mentoring program designed by experts in the foster care and mentoring communities to identified LAUSD schools. The program was created based on the following facts about outcomes of youth in foster care:

- \* Poor school attendance rates
- \* Less likely to perform at grade level
- \* More likely to have behavior and discipline problems
- \* More likely to be assigned to special education classes
- \* Less likely to attend college
- \* Sub-standard academic performance perpetuates already low self-esteem and can contribute to violent behavior
- \* Increased school violence causes disruption in the learning environment for all students
- \* Today's youth are in need of role models



Mentoring includes activities designed to boost a child's school achievement by building a meaningful relationship and providing ongoing encouragement and academic support. Other opportunities such as **field trips**, **workshops**, and **special events** are provided to the mentor/mentee matches throughout the year.

School-based mentoring is situated on site **during the weekday, after school**, or on **Saturday mornings**.

### Current Schools:

**Gompers Middle School**  
**Bethune Middle School**  
**Drew Middle School**  
**Markham Middle School**  
**John Muir Middle School**  
**Virgil Middle School**  
**Foshay Learning Center**

We are also expanding to other elementary, middle, and high schools in the near future!

For more information, contact Adrienne Popeney:  
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