

College Positive Mentoring: Planting the Seeds of School Success & College Access

Michigan's Premier Mentoring Conference
November 14, 2012

Purpose of Presentation



Mentoring to increase college access



MMCCC

Mentor Michigan College Coaching Corps

- Mentor Michigan
- Michigan Campus Compact
- MMCCC Program Staff
- Plus, 36 AmeriCorps Members

Partners Involved



We Believe...

Michigan's Student Pipeline

For every 100 of Michigan's 9th Graders

- 71 graduate high school
- 42 Enter college
- 28 are still enrolled their sophomore year
- 18 Graduate within 150% of time

(Michigan College Access Network, 2012).

The Need

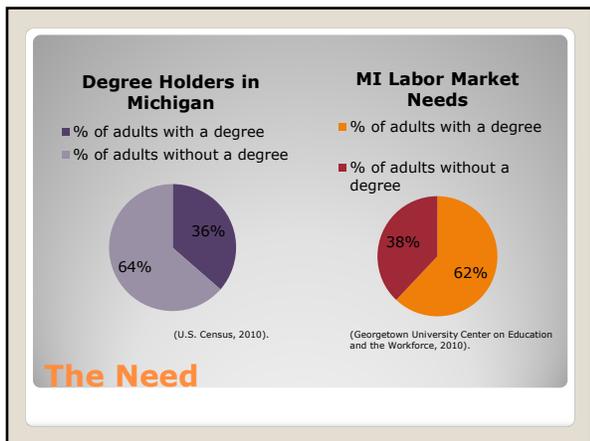
Graduation Rates

Student Group	Rate
Students from low-income families	40%
Other students	60%

College Enrollment Rates

Student Group	Rate
Students from low-income families	33%
Other students	67%

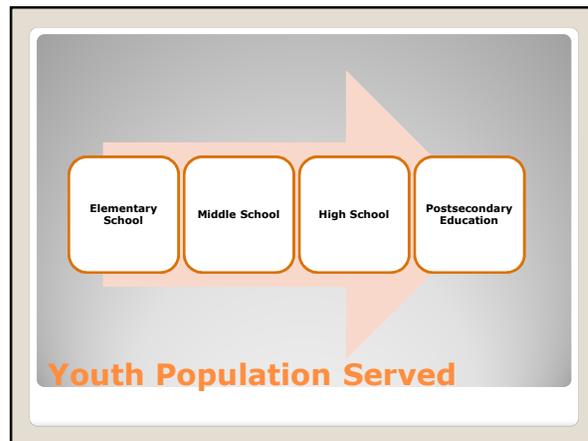
(Bedworth et al., 2006).



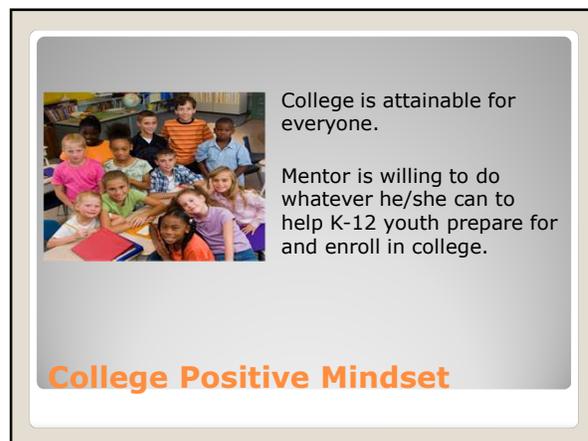
- Fosters college aspirations
 - Builds self-esteem
 - Motivates students academically
 - Provides information about academic standards and norms for college-going
 - Decreases behaviors impeding academic success and continuation
- (Center for Higher Education Policy Analysis, 2009).
- Mentoring as a College Access Intervention**

- Research shows students who engage with a mentor for a sustained period of time are more likely to attend post-secondary institutions ([Gandara, 2001](#)).

Mentoring as a College Access Intervention



- Developed by Mentor Michigan and Michigan Campus Compact in 2011
 - **Exposes**
 - Mentees to college and career-focused resources and opportunities
 - **Empowers**
 - Youth to consider education beyond high school as a realistic option
 - **Equips**
 - Young people to plan for and attend postsecondary institutions
- College Positive Mentoring**





The term "college" refers to:

- Colleges and Universities (4 year)
- Community and Junior Colleges (2 year)
- Vocational, Technical, and Business Schools

Definition of College

College Positive Motto

Not: Are you going to college?

But: Where are you going to college?
and
How can I help you get there?

- **Social Capital**
 - College is not attainable
 - Lack of family support
 - 1st in their family
- **College Knowledge**
 - Applying
 - Visiting Colleges
 - Majors
- **Academic Preparation**
 - ACT or SAT
 - Study habits
 - School attendance
- **Affordability**
 - FAFSA
 - Loans
 - Scholarships

Addressing Barriers to College

- **College Positive Mentors:**
 - Offer encouragement and support
 - Promote college-going mindset
 - Expose mentees to resources that make college a realistic option
 - Equip mentees with tools and knowledge to explore and pursue higher education
 - Draw healthy boundaries between the role of the mentor, mentee, and mentee's parent(s)/guardian(s)

What is the Mentor's Role?

College Positive Mentors are...

Resources, NOT Experts!

College Positive Mentoring Toolkit

<http://www.michigan.gov/mentormichigan/0,4618,7-193--257240--,00.html>



Community-Based Matches



School/Site-Based Matches



Need access to a computer with internet

CPM Toolkit

1. Elementary School Students
 - Conversation Starters and Tips
 - Match Activity Ideas
 - Reading Materials
 - Ready-To-Use Match Activities
2. Middle School Students
 - Conversation Starters and Tips
 - Match Activity Ideas
 - Reading Materials
 - Ready-To-Use Match Activities
3. High School Students
 - Conversation Starters and Tips
 - Match Activity Ideas
 - Helpful Websites and Resources
 - Ready-To-Use Match Activities
4. Additional Resources
 - Talking Points About Your College
 - Where Can You Learn Job-Related Skills?
 - Explore Possible Careers
 - Overview of Internet Resources
 - Ways to Pay for College
 - Frequently Asked Questions
5. Glossary of Terms



Building a College Positive Mentoring Program...

What are the elements of running an effective mentoring program?



How can the elements of an effective mentoring program be geared towards college access?



Next Steps

1. [Download the CPM toolkit](#)
2. [Get trained as a CPV online](#)
3. [Sign up for MCAN's e-newsletter](#)
4. [Find an LCAN in your area](#)
5. Mentoring to Access Corps (MAC) AmeriCorps program



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