Role of Intermediaries in a Community Building Strategy

This is a role the Tutor/Mentor Connection takes to draw needed resources to ALL tutor/mentor programs in Chicago on a more consistent basis. It’s a role any leader can take.

This presentation is part of a series of Tutor/Mentor Institute, LLC outlines intended to explain the concepts and actions of the Tutor/Mentor Connection (T/MC) which we hope will duplicate in other cities.
Kids living in inner-city poverty face challenges that most kids do not have.

- Computer generated maps, like this, can show where poverty is most concentrated and were poorly performing schools are located.

- These are the neighborhoods where kids are being left behind.

See additional maps like this in the map gallery at http://www.tutormentorprogramlocator.net/programlocator/default.asp
Youth in Poverty need extra help.

It takes 25 years for any child to move from birth to the first stages of a job, career and economic self sufficiency.

Youth living in concentrated poverty face extra challenges and more barriers.
Tutor/Mentor Programs are places youth can get help

In a structured program a youth can connect with volunteers, learning opportunities, technology, intern opportunities, friends and more.

Without a place to connect with volunteers, these connections seldom take place.
We operated one of these programs in the Cabrini Green area of Chicago from 1975 through June 2011.

Based on our experiences leading one program we saw a need for the Tutor/Mentor Connection, to help similar programs grow in all poverty areas of Chicago.
To SUCCEED
We must recruit business leaders who will use their resources in PULLING Youth to Careers

T/MC Goal:
Help inner-city youth reach Careers.

Each industry has reason to invest in this strategy:
For instance, the HealthCare industry faces severe shortages of healthcare professionals and a high cost of emergency room services in inner-city neighborhoods.

To SUCCEED
We must help tutor/mentor program leaders, volunteers, schools and parents be more effective in PUSHING Youth to Careers

School-Time Programs
Pre-K, K - 5th, 5th - 6th, 6th - 8th, High School, Career Track

3-5 PM Non-School Programs

After 5 PM and Weekend Programs
This experience benefits youth, volunteers and the business community

“During over 35 years of leading tutor/mentor programs, I’ve seen many lives changed as a result of their involvement. “

Daniel F. Bassill, President,
Founder, CEO, Tutor/Mentor Connection, Cabrini Connections, 1993-2011
Founder Tutor/Mentor Institute, LLC
However, there are not enough of these programs in most cities.

Furthermore, there is an uneven distribution of such programs in poverty areas of any city.

This map shows distribution of tutor/mentor programs in Chicago. Make your own map using www.tutormentorprogramlocator.net
Not every program is equally good at getting resources.

While all tutor/mentor programs need volunteers, dollars, etc., not every program is equally effective at getting these resources on a regular basis.

Yet, if the youth served by a program are to succeed, a tutor/mentor program must be able to grow and survive.
The T/MC seeks to help existing programs grow, while helping new programs form to fill voids.

This means that while program leaders are trying to find resources to help their programs grow…

the T/MC is leading efforts to draw these resources to programs in every poverty area of the city, or near every poorly performing school.
What do we mean by “help”

All tutor/mentor programs have common needs:

* volunteers
* public visibility
* operating dollars
* technology
* training/learning
* leadership

The shaded areas of this map of Chicago are the areas of most concentrated poverty.

Make your own map using www.tutormentorprogramlocator.net
Help needs to be distributed to youth and programs in every poverty neighborhood.

Those Who Can help

T/MC Tutor/Mentor Institute, LLC

The shaded areas of this map of Chicago are the areas of most concentrated poverty.

Without the aid of maps like this it is almost impossible to know if resources are being distributed to every neighborhood.
Almost anyone can help

- volunteers
- donors, foundations
- businesses, professionals
- hospitals
- faith groups
- universities, educators
- media
- artists, writers, film makers
- elected leaders
- celebrities
- youth
- seniors

Those Who Need help

Without leadership and encouragement, those who can, don’t offer help on a regular basis. Nor do they distribute it to programs in every poverty neighborhood.
Actions of the Tutor/Mentor Connection

- maintains a database of tutor/mentor programs
- creates maps that show where they are needed
- hosts information on Web
- leads on-going public awareness intended to draw these resources to every tutor/mentor program in the city and suburbs of Chicago.
Events that draw resources to tutor/mentor programs

- Aug/Sept. Volunteer recruitment campaign
- Nov. Leadership Conference
- Jan National Mentoring Month (hosted by Mentor/The National Mentoring Partnership)
- May Leadership Conference
- eConference and online forums
Anyone can be a leader.

Can you, or your business, take this role?

Can people in faith communities, colleges, social groups, take this role?

Can you connect your network to programs in other parts of Chicago? Can you help increase resources for all programs in a geographic region, and thus for YOUR program?
Our goal is to enlist volunteers from different industries who will become leaders that help our 7th graders get to careers by age 25.
Leadership Roles

Form a Volunteer Team to provide leadership within your company, mobilizing resources to support all tutor/mentor programs in a city (Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to Youth Program is an example of this within the Chicago legal community – http://www.lawyerslendahand.org)

Begin a Communications Program – use internal and external communications to tell employees and customers about need for tutor/mentor programs in the same way your advertising tells them of products and services a company offers. Link to Program Locator at www.tutormentorconnection.org
Leadership Roles

Help collect data on area programs – while other cities around Chicago have a need for such programs, we don’t know what programs already exist or what areas, age groups, they serve. While we do this in Chicago, this type of support is needed in every city.

Form a learning community – encourage idea-sharing among those who are involved, so that everyone’s experience is improved. Recognize employees who are already involved in the tutor/mentor sector.

Add Tutor/Mentor Programs to workplace fund raising. Enable employees to designate Cabrini Connections and other programs where they serve for payroll deduction contributions.
Leadership Roles

Join Tutor/Mentor Connection on-line forums – volunteers can take a role in shaping T/MC events and actions, and in sharing this work with similar groups in other cities around the world.

Draw from corporate talent, technology, innovation – use your resources to improve the on-line connection between those who can help and those who need help.

See: http://tutormentor.blogspot.com/2008/02/ceo-summit-focuses-on-recruiting.html

Apply this thinking to other social service sectors and other communities where your company does business.
Don’t just provide information that non profits need to learn, then apply…

Those Who can help

YOU can take this leader role.

Those Who Need help

Recruit volunteers who already have needed skills, and who can apply these talents as volunteers in nonprofits throughout the city where you do business, and where this help is needed.
Visit our web sites to learn more. Learn how this leadership process can be a service learning project, an internship, a PhD program, or the project of a team of corporate or faith-based volunteers.

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Start today. Be a leader forever.