

TOGETHER  
CHICAGO



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CHICAGO

EDUCATION

**IMPACT**

**REPORT**

**2018-2021**

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## EDUCATION

### MISSION

We collaborate with churches and faith-based organizations to support educational impact in the Chicago Public Schools.

### PROGRESS TO DATE

- Together Chicago has partnered with more than **18 schools** and over **80 tutors and mentors**
- **More than 700 students** impacted through our programs



### HOW WE MEASURE SUCCESS

- Academic improvement
- Character development and social-emotional learning
- Improved classroom and school culture
- Annual growth of school and church partnerships
- Increased influence and trust with CPS leadership



- Adopt-A-School Initiative Partner
- Official CPS Vendor
- Austin
- Englewood
- Grand Boulevard



**Together Chicago exists to be a catalyst for lasting transformation in the City of Chicago.**



#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Supporting job creation, business recovery and growth in distressed communities in Chicago.



#### EDUCATION

Improving educational outcomes through mentorship and dedicated partnership between churches and local schools.



#### VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Equipping churches to be at the forefront of violence reduction in their community.



#### GOSPEL JUSTICE

Catalyzing the development of local, community-based justice centers in partnership with local churches.



#### FAITH-COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

Fostering seasonal rhythms of united prayer and collective action among churches and faith-based organizations.

### ADOPT YOUR SCHOOL

Help churches adopt schools through the **4 C's** process, which allows partnership to launch within 30 days:

- Clarify - School Needs / Church's Capacity
- Campaign - Share Vision with Key Leaders
- Commit - Concrete Plans, Made Together
- Collaborate - Doing & Assessing the Work

### INITIATIVES

#### TUTORING

Volunteers from local churches participate in after-school programs to support school tutoring.

Offered primarily to 2nd and 3rd grade students with focus on Reading and Math.

#### MENTORSHIP

Weekly character development support with academic check-ins.

Entire class, small affinity groups, and individual student activities to support grades K-12, emphasis on grades 3, 6, and 10.

#### STAFF & FAMILY SUPPORT

We offer character and spiritual development tools, training, and other resources to support school staff and the families they serve.

### HOW TO PARTNER WITH US

#### INDIVIDUALS

Please contact us by completing our interest form online at [togetherchicago.com/edu](http://togetherchicago.com/edu)

#### ORGANIZATIONS / SCHOOLS

Please email Damien Howard at [Damien.Howard@togetherchicago.com](mailto:Damien.Howard@togetherchicago.com)



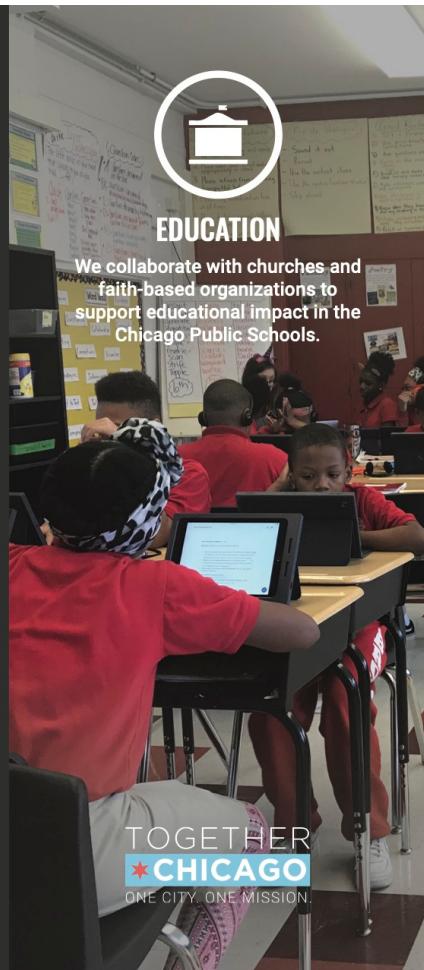
#### EDUCATION

We collaborate with churches and faith-based organizations to support educational impact in the Chicago Public Schools.

#### Education Advisory Board Members:

- Alan Conley - CPS Office of Faith Based Initiatives
- Al'Alai Israel-Dor - Progressive Baptist Church
- Angela Sims - Child Evangelism Fellowship
- Christabel Yamoah - Park Community Church (S Loop)
- Davida Bynum - Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church
- Diane Gibbs - City Church Chicago
- Jonathan King - Child Evangelism Fellowship
- Kayla Flemons - Young Life
- Lauren Akinlawon - Reborn Ministries
- Madeline Holler - Soul City Church
- Marilyn Rhames - Teachers Who Pray
- Michael Goggins - Willow Creek Church
- Robert Mason - First New Mt. Olive Church
- Rosie Starks - Apostolic Faith Church
- Shawn Procter - GRIP The School

[TogetherChicago.com/Education](http://TogetherChicago.com/Education)



# LEAD QUESTION

Answering the following question has been the driving force behind our mentoring efforts:

Can Together Chicago prove that when the Chicago church body (volunteers and staff from churches, faith-based organizations, or with no organizational affiliation) adopts schools that school children are positively impacted, the culture of schools improves, and families of schooled children are positively impacted?

## ANNUAL QUESTIONS AND IMPACT RESULTS

### 2018-2019 Question:

Can adult mentors positively impact the grades of Chicago students (primarily from schools on the South and West sides of Chicago)?

### 2018-2019 Impact Results:

**462 students were served by mentors. We saw dramatic improvements with grades and standardized test scores (as reported on the next page).**

### 2019-2020 Question:

Can Together Chicago train mentors to positively impact Chicago children? & Can trained mentors make a positive impact upon children, schools, and families?

### 2019-2020 Impact Results:

**1185 students were served by mentors. This year of services proved that we can train school staff and community-based mentors to support the social and emotional development of students.**

### 2020-2021 Question:

Should parents be included (and even prioritized) as mentors trained to positively impact kids, schools, and communities?

### 2020-2021 Impact Results:

**21 trained mentors reached 420 students, during the pandemic. This year, we learned that parent training is a huge void in our schools. We are now confident that our SEL Mentor Training is effective for parents, school staff, and community-based mentors. Parents reported better relationships and increased self-reflection after being trained.**

# SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) MENTORING SUCCESS

During the **2018-19 school year**, we successfully tested and implemented our mentoring program in **six Chicago area schools**. Our cumulative sample size from these six schools was 462 students. We served students ranging from preschool to 12th grade in high school.

Final grades were collected per student, per subject for the first semester before mentoring intervention. Following grade collection, we executed our **SEL Mentoring strategy** over a four-month period.

When final grades were collected after our mentoring Intervention, **we calculated a 42% increase in passing grades** across our 462 students. **We helped 107 failing students end their semester with ALL PASSING GRADES.** Consistent failure can start a path towards school dropout and disengagement. Our mentoring helped students increase academic and life confidence.

In fact, Ms. Love's third grade class at Mollison Elementary showed an **increase in Math and Reading (standardized test) scores in 15 of her 16 students.**

Ms. Jones' third grade class at Brown Elementary showed a **61 point classroom increase in (standardized test) Reading scores and a 66 point classroom increase in Math scores.**

#MentoringMatters

During the execution of proof-of-concept phase from **2018-2021**, we received **\$86,000** from Chicago Public Schools desiring our mentoring programming in their schools.

## EVALUATION PLAN

As our program continues to expand across Chicago, we understand the need for a continued effort on an in-depth reporting process to maintain the efficacy of our product.

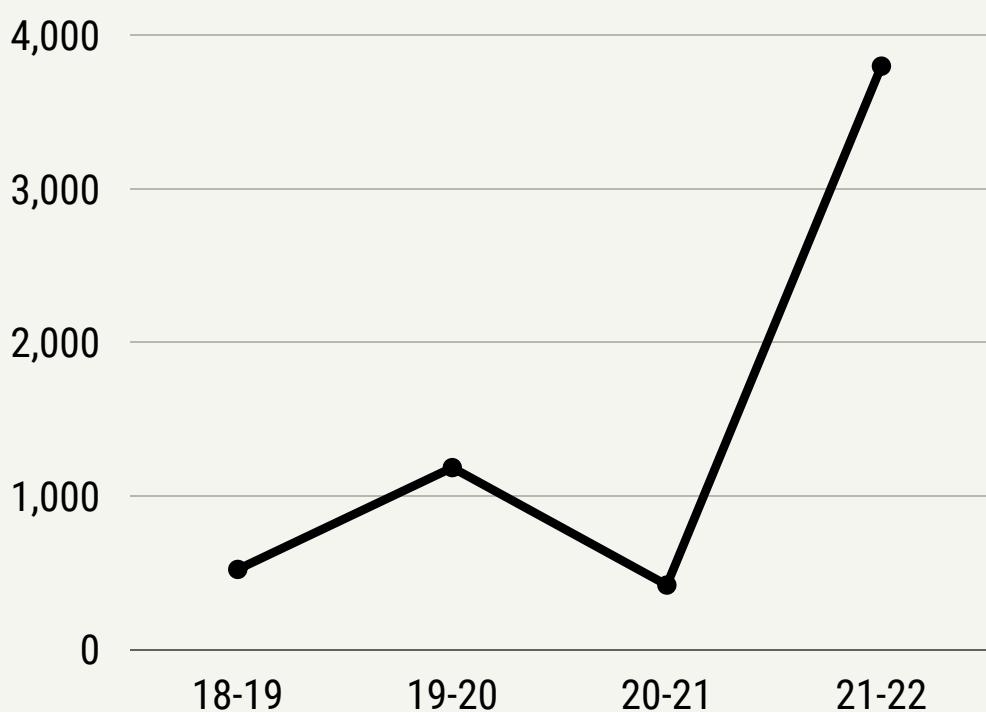
**We anticipate the following findings:**  
When we train more mentors (100), who mentor more students (3800), school cultures will be transformed.

**We anticipate the following impact:**  
With a sample size of 3800 students, we will see a 50% increase in school attendance and academic performance, 100 trained mentors engaging Chicago students, and an increase in positive cultural change for 40 schools.

**42%**  
**INCREASE IN**  
**PASSING GRADES**  
**FOR GREATER**  
**ACADEMIC & LIFE**  
**CONFIDENCE**

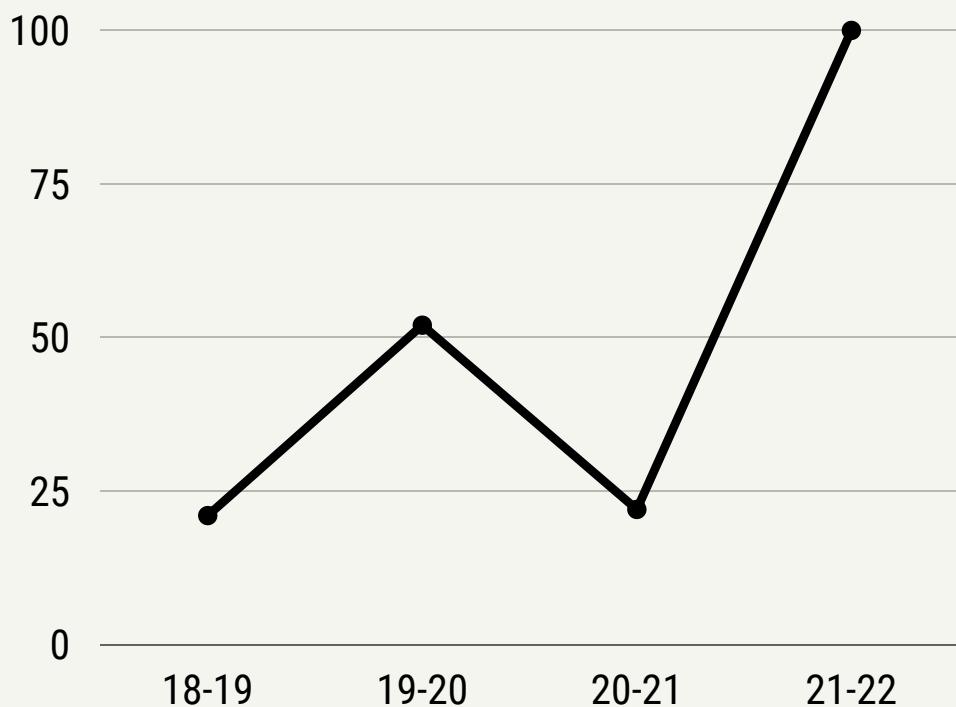
# HOW MANY STUDENTS IMPACTED

\*21-22's projection can be reached with your continued support



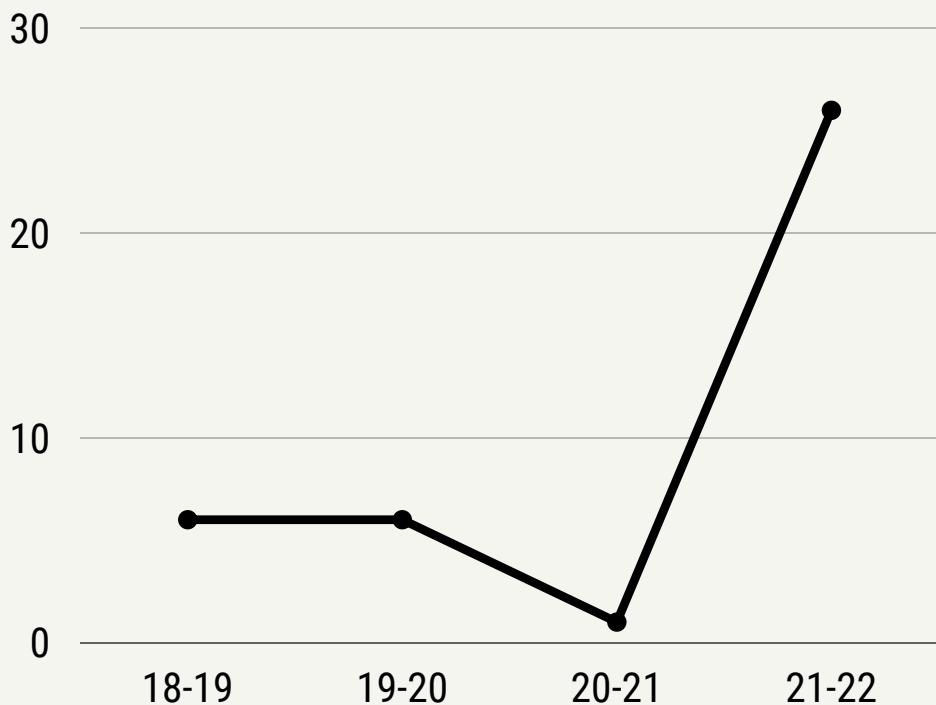
# NUMBER OF TRAINED MENTORS

\*21-22's projection can be reached with your continued support



# NUMBER OF CHURCH PARTNERS

\*21-22's projection can be reached with your continued support



# WHAT THEY ARE SAYING



## CHAMIKA JONES

Chamika was the 2020-2021 Parent Champion at her school and will be the champion next school year. This program teaches parents to use Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and mentoring strategies at home with their children.

Chamika said...

***"I would not have made it through the pandemic if it was not for this program."***

## ANDREW (PSEUDONYM)

Andrew was a fifth grade student from Pirie Elementary school during the 2018-2019 school year. He was mentored by Lawrence. Lawrence was trained, by our organization, to push into 4 different schools to offer school based mentoring.

Andrew said...

***"Lawrence is somebody I can relate to. I can't always talk to my teachers or parents. I feel like Lawrence understands me and I look forward to every Tuesday [when he comes to our school]."***

## IYSHA JONES

Iysha is the principal for Doolittle Elementary School.

Iysha said...

***"It has been a pleasure working with Damien the past two years. He has helped us secure a strong partnership with a local church, seven graduate level interns, and mentor training for parents."***

***"For the 2021-2022 school year, Damien is helping us to secure 10 interns to mentor students at every grade level, he will train 3 parents, and he will help to train staff members."***

**" I WOULD NOT HAVE  
MADE IT  
THROUGH THE PANDEMIC  
IF IT WAS NOT  
FOR THIS  
PROGRAM."**

# OUR 21-22 GOALS

1

## An increase in academic performance

Over the course of the 2021-2022 school year, we are confident that we can help to decrease the amount of failures with our group of 3800 mentored students. **We plan to see a 50% increase in the amount of passing students through our mentoring intervention.**

2

## An increase in mentor engagement

**We anticipate that we will have at least 100 trained mentors, who will mentor 3800 students across the city of Chicago and beyond.** This will be a major increase from previous years and we are afforded this opportunity based on impact results from the past three school years. We will use attendance logs, surveys, and interviews to assess the level of mentor engagement.

3

## Positive impact on the school culture

As the amount of mentors and mentored students increase, "pro-social" behaviors will increase. This will help schools and classrooms to become more welcoming for all students and families. We will use surveys and interviews to assess our impact upon the culture of schools. **We anticipate that school staff will admit that the culture of their classrooms and schools are better because of mentoring.**



*Together Chicago exists to be a catalyst for lasting transformation in the city of Chicago.*

**\$92**

**Cost to mentor one student for a school year**

**3800 STUDENTS**

**Chicago students we will impact with your support during the 2021-2022 School Year**



*We need to bring on a training facilitator, administrator, and operations lead to train **100 mentors** and reach **3800 Chicago students**. For only **\$92** we can offer mentoring for a student from the South or West side of Chicago.*

**Please donate** to support this transformative vision. **Quality mentors are more important now than ever before.**  
*We believe that this work will bring reform to schools on the South and West sides of Chicago.*

**#MentoringMatters**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS:

**Clever Characters LLC** - designed the mentoring program to implement in Chicago and beyond.

**Together Chicago NFP** - the lead Chicago partner allowing this work to thrive in Chicago schools.

**Mark Chassman** - mentor and donor

**Willow Creek Church** - donor

**Chicago Education Partners** - Michael Goggins (Willow Chicago), Shawn Procter (GRIP Outreach), Marrella Black, Angela Simms, Jonathan King (Child Evangelism Fellowship), Diane Gibbs (City Church Chicago), Davida Bynum, Aurelia Daniels (Fellowship Chicago)

**Adler School of Professional Psychology** - provides interns, work-study students, and research interns

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**Damien Howard**  
Director of Education Initiatives

# WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN OUR PROGRAMS