



A Legacy of Innovation & Impact

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ 6:00 P.M. ■ John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum

For more information on Sponsorships, or to reserve your seat or table, please contact Pat Bonner-DuVal:
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Bethel Institute was founded in 2009 to encourage and enable all funders interested in supporting effective youth and family programs, social justice programs and community based programs an opportunity to do so. While enjoying a supportive relationship with the church, Bethel Institute is a non-sectarian organization. The Institute obtained its 501 (c)(3) status in 2010. The mission of Bethel Institute is "to provide educational and social services to high-risk youth and families in Greater Boston in ways that measurably transform their lives and the communities in which they live." Bethel Institute provides direct program services focusing on more than 400+ youth and their families. Over the past five-years we have also partnered with more than 16 nonprofits and public agencies, and four public schools. We also provide space and intermediary services for five partnering nonprofits whose services complement the Institute's mission.

1. **The Math and Science Scholars Program** started in 2014 as a summer program. Now the program provides year-round services for up to 80 low-income students in grades 4-8 who attend Greater Boston Public Schools. This co-ed program uses a fun, project-based curriculum to provide math instruction/tutoring, hands-on experiments, robotics, games, engineering design projects, speakers and field trips to support learning. The program's approach to learning as an adventure helps to engage, inspire and improve students' academic performance in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering concepts and Math) subjects. To date, 75% of the participants have made major improvements. An additional 17.5% have increased their test scores resulting in a 93% academic success rate. Approximately 60% of our youth are now interested in learning more about STEM careers.



2. **The Mediation and Wellness Program** began in 2015 and is a peer mediation program. It operates in partnership with two Boston Public District high schools. This social and emotional skills based learning program focuses on reducing violence, name calling, trauma, bullying and cyber/sexting which affect our youth's ability to focus on academic studies. The program trains 20 youth annually as peer-leaders to work with staff to identify brewing issues. In the school year 2017-2018 it reached 470 youth. The program also works intensely with approximately 100 youth annually on a variety of trauma and grieving issues and encourages youth to study, plan for college, pursue their passions for math and technology, and adopt new wellness lifestyles.

3. **The In Your Corner Program** is a new collaborative effort with nonprofits, a public high school, and public agencies. In 2016, the Mass Department of Youth Services reported that 61% of young men in the juvenile justice system are reconvicted within the first six-months after release. Too many simply matriculate at age 18 to the State's adult correctional system. The goal of this program is to disrupt this 'prison pipeline'. It adds new layers of support to strengthen adjudicated teen-males' academic, social, emotional and decision-making skills and assist them in transitioning out of the juvenile justice system while making a successful re-entry into family and community life. Northeastern University is committed to assisting the Institute in evaluating this new program.

Partnership Highlights

1. **The Albert Brown Scholarship Fund** is a partnership with a donor from Bethel AME Church who established the Fund in honor of her late husband; a very active member of the church. The Fund assists needy college students in making the major transition from high-school to college.

2. **Massachusetts Community Outreach Initiative (MCOI)** is a faith-based 501(c)(3) organization created in 2013 with the mission "to nurture, protect, encourage and assist men and women in transitioning from incarceration to the community." Using resources from churches, synagogues, mosques and community agencies, MCOI provides positive spiritual mentoring and support services for 80 to 100 inmates annually both prior to and after their release. Outcomes for MCOI are encouraging. While recidivism rates in Massachusetts are 32%, MCOI's recidivism rate is 7%. One participant said, "Prison nearly killed my soul. It was God that kept me. . . He sent MCOI to encourage me. This is why I'm connected to MCOI."



3. **A Father's Legacy**, formerly the Fatherhood Training Program, began in 2003 as a partnership with the District Court and the probation systems. The program assists parolees in: engaging with their children and families; learning how to co-parent; and living within the law to serve as role models for their children. The program's success in lowering recidivism rates spurred the replication of the program throughout the Massachusetts Department of Probation. It became a Bethel Institute program in 2015 and focused on sustaining the partnerships and expanded to provide services to any non-resident father.

4. **Volunteer Program:** There are 9 leadership volunteers on Bethel Institute's Board and Generation Excel's Advisory Board, 61 professionals and 6 teens volunteer for Bethel's programs. Volunteers participate as advisors (6), program and event planners (4), speakers (21), Fatherhood Trainers (2), school personnel (10), junior summer camp counselors (6), and workshop facilitators (12). These volunteers truly enrich program services while helping to reduce operating costs.

Other Partnerships Include

