



Mentoring Power Hour Creating Your Success Story

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Purpose: The goal of the activity is for students to engage in a fluid conversation with mentors, discussing the mentor's personal success stories and learning ways to create their own.

Event Description:

1. The Mentoring Power Hour is a one-hour activity where students and mentors interact to discuss challenges and obstacles that students may face.
2. Mentors sit with a table of students and lead a conversation according to the discussion topics given by CHCI (outlined below).
3. Every 15 minutes, mentors will rotate to a new table of students; mentors will move four times for the hour. Please note the table number in which you are assigned, when rotating proceed to the next *higher* number (i.e. table 4 mentor moves to table 5).
4. Mentors are not required to cover all topics and are free to go off topic as long as the purpose of the activity is met.

Who should serve as a mentor?

We want students to see that people who come from backgrounds similar to theirs have gone on to become successes in their communities; therefore anyone who is comfortable sharing his or her educational and career path is welcome to participate. While we prefer individuals who are already working professionals, college or graduate student volunteers are also welcome to participate.

Recommended Discussion Topics:

1. Were you the first person in your family to go to college? If so, what impact did this have in your pursuit of a higher education?
2. What specific challenges did you face in high school that you had to overcome to attend college (i.e. taking care of family, work, peer pressure, etc.)?
3. How were you able to overcome these challenges?
4. What resources were you able to find and use to help you complete high school and apply to college (i.e. after school programs, guidance counselors, teachers, etc.)?
5. What helped you succeed in school (i.e. mentors, family, friends, organizations, etc.)?
6. What one piece of advice would you give a current high school student that you wish someone had told you back then?
7. How did you select your college? How did you select your major?
8. How did you finance your postsecondary education?
9. If you received scholarships, how did you find out about scholarship opportunities?
10. What was your college experience like (i.e., did you participate in clubs, sports, volunteer work, Greek life; did you live on or off campus; did you work and if so, did you work on or off campus)?
11. How did your parents/family feel about you going off to college?
12. Did you participate in any type of internship/apprenticeship/work experience related to your major or career while in college? If so, how did this help you prepare for your career?
13. What one piece of advice would you give a current college student that you wish someone had told you back then?

Don't forget to bring your business cards!