

\$3.5 Million for the Parent Mentor Program

Building Parent Leadership to Bridge the Equity Gap

Parent mentors, mainly Latina and Black mothers, help fill persistent equity gaps in their children’s schools by volunteering in classrooms 2 hours/day. From this immersive classroom experience -- supported by weekly training on instructional practices and community resources -- the Parent Mentor Program cultivates a strong cohort of leaders at each school. Parent mentors support each other to pursue their dreams and unite the whole school community for long term change.

\$3.5 Million for the Parent Mentor Program would:

- Expand to an **additional 30 schools** – bringing the statewide total to **146 high-poverty schools**
- Train an **additional 240 parent mentors** – bringing the total to **1,150 parent mentors** in classrooms 2 hours/day
- Cut the adult : student ratio in half and increase personal attention to an **additional 6,000 low-income early childhood students** – **28,000 students total**
- Provide daily classroom support to **240 additional teachers** – **1,150 teachers total** in Illinois



Parent Capacity to Educate and Advocate for their Own Children Increases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of parents reading 5 days a week with their children increased nearly 15 times. (Collective Impact Consulting) • 92% of children of parent mentors graduated high school and, of these graduates, 87% enrolled in college and nearly all are persisting or have graduated. (LSNA Longterm Study)
Parent Workforce Development Improves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of parent mentor graduates have completed or made progress on their personal goals, such as gaining employment, learning English, going to college or earning a GED. (LSNA Post-Surveys FY17)
Both Bonding and Bridging Social Capital Increases for Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parent Mentor Program builds social capital as the number of parent mentors who talked with other school parents 5 days a week grew from 8.2% to 43.2%--a 500% increase. (CIC) • 94% of principals and 94% of teachers report that the Parent Mentor Program helps build trust between parents and staff. (FY17 Evaluation)
Low-Income Students Benefit from Increased Academic and Social-Emotional Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 96% of teachers and 94% of principals report that Parent Mentors help students improve in reading and math. (FY17 Evaluation) • Parent Mentors build positive relationships with students. (LSNA, calibrated classroom observations) • The rate of Latino students scoring above the bottom quartile on the ISAT in reading, math, and science declined faster than the district average between 2001 and 2013, in 5 of 6 Logan Square schools where the program existed during that time period. Across these 6 schools, the percent of Latino students scoring above the lowest quartile increased 28.4% during that time period. (ISAT, CPS)
Teacher Capacity Increases in High-Poverty Classrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistically significant increase in teachers’ own time for one-on-one instruction. (FY17 Evaluation) • 97% of principals and 98% of teachers report that Parent Mentors help build a welcoming and communicative school. (FY17 Evaluation)
Graduation Rates Increase over the Long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 1990 and 2009, for youth age 16 to 19, the dropout rate decreased from 23% to 9% in Census tracts around LSNA schools with Parent Mentors. (US Census, LSNA)

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Track Record: FY19 is Year 7 of the IL Statewide Parent Mentor Initiative. In FY19, the Parent Mentor Program is recruiting and training over **900 parent mentors** to work with **20,000 children** in the early grade classrooms across **116 high-poverty schools** in Chicago, Aurora, Bolingbrook, Calumet Park, Country Club Hills, Decatur, Dolton, East St. Louis, Elmhurst, Kankakee, Moline, Skokie, Summit, Riverdale, and Zion.

Note on FY19 Appropriations:
\$2,533,700 is our total state budget for the 2018-2019 school year.
 \$2.0M is in the FY19 state budget, and \$533,700 is from an FY18 Supplemental budget.

Therefore, “level funding” of the FY19 \$2.0M would be a 21% cut, resulting in the elimination of the program at 21 schools and the removal of 168 parent mentors from 4,000 kids’ classrooms.

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