



Graduating Students, One Community at a Time

Program Description:

AIM High, a program of Center for Companies That Care, is a long-term structured program dedicated to dramatically improving college graduation rates among at-risk, urban youth by matching teams of employees with minority high school students to ensure they graduate from college prepared for careers. Students begin AIM High in 9th grade and are supported by the program until they complete a four-year college degree. From 2012 to 2014, AIM High will work with 250 students from high school campuses on Chicago's South and West Sides, their parents, Chicago area businesses, and colleges across the nation. With funds from AT&T Aspire, AIM High will enroll a larger 9th grade cohort this year and add 100 low-income students.

AIM High's holistic, 8 Pillar Curriculum addresses known potholes on the road to college and incorporates personalized support and education to fill gaps left by overburdened schools and families. Students participate in: long-term relationships with a mentor team, monthly college and career-focused Touchpoint Large Group events, a weekly Leadership Institute, internships, college visits, an incentive program, the Early Warning Indicator process, and Alumni programming.

AIM High's unique attributes increase its effectiveness, which include:

- Additional college-fit curriculum for high school seniors that includes individualized college counseling.
- Interactive College Simulation to prepare students for the financial, social, cultural and academic experiences.
- Focused on college completion utilizing a structured, curriculum.
- On-going support for AIM High students in college.
- Family participation.
- Ease of participation for employers.
- Long-term student participation.
- High ratio of mentors to students.
- Bi-weekly student monitoring and evaluation.

AIM High alumna, Shaiesha Moore poses at her high school graduation with mentors Diane Weber and Sen Sundaramoorthy of UHC. Shaiesha is a Gates Millennium Scholar and a junior at Georgetown University.

AIM High has already dramatically increased the percentage of low-income students who will earn baccalaureate degrees by building students' social capital and opening their eyes to college and career opportunities.

- **91 percent** student retention in the program.
- **50 percent** graduated high school with academic honors.
- **40 percent** attend More/Most-Selective colleges.
- **70 percent** family involvement.
- **97 percent** matriculation to college and **100 percent** persistence in college.

"AIM-High has been a great experience. I've been with them since 10th grade, and I've gotten to do a lot of things with them. I got interested in Purdue University in the first place on the AIM High College Bus Trip. I also did an internship where I was around a bunch of professional people who influenced me about what I am going to do now. I am going to Purdue University for Mechanical Engineering. I would definitely recommend AIM High to other students because it is a way to get African American students off the streets and doing something constructive, better their lives, and it's also a good way to network and get to know professional people."

AHMAD W., AIM High student and College Junior, Purdue University



Students:
250



Funding:
\$300,000