

Mentor ME



UMOJA MENTOR ME PROGRAM

Mentoring: “A wise and trusted counselor or teacher.”

A major reason students drop out of college is due to feelings of isolation or alienation. Mentoring is a practice that allows students to make a more personal connection with someone who can offer support, guidance, and encouragement while dealing with the challenges of managing school and life. Many Umoja programs offer mentoring for students in a variety of formats that may include faculty and staff mentoring, mentoring from the community, and peer mentoring.

OUR PURPOSE

The Umoja Mentor ME program will work to specifically reduce the achievement gaps of African American, Latino, and other populations that require additional and sustained support in hopes of improving success and retention. This mentoring program would use the mentoring model of the Umoja Community and the Puente program to enhance the motivation and success of our students. In a survey conducted by Dr. Madison regarding the needs of African American students 98% of the students who responded concluded that external and internal motivation was needed for them to be successful.

THE OBJECTIVE

- Need #1: Improve student retention and productivity in the classroom
- Need #2: Provide students with opportunities to see success in action
- Need #3: Provide opportunities for students to cultivate social skill sets
- Need #4: Provide students with an ally

PROPOSED MENTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The mentors' goals will be:

- Become familiar with services and resources on campus
- Meet with mentee(s) a minimum of nine hours per semester, 18 hours over the academic year
- Acquaint your student with your educational, career and professional expertise
- Be a caring and sensitive listener
- Encourage the academic and personal success of your mentee

- Serve as a positive role model and encourage the achievement of higher education
- Support your fellow mentors by sharing your mentor experience
- Attend scheduled training, programs, and orientations

REQUIRED RESOURCES

- Recommendation #1: Part-time mentor coordinator who would:
 - Under the direction of the Umoja Coordinator, the mentor will serve as a role model to the students in the Umoja Community. Their goal is to meet with their protégée bimonthly to ascertain their academic status, refer them to support services on campus (i.e. tutoring) and interface with the counselor regarding any concerns which may arise.
- Recommendation #2: Provide the Umoja Students with cultural and academic activities that will foster growth, maturity, and social responsibility. Funding required

RATIONALE

Stated in the NVC equity Plan.

The Plan



THE MENTOR

An Umoja Mentor will serve as a role model to the students in the Umoja Community. Some of the requirements of an Umoja Mentor are:

- Being familiar with services and resources on campus
- Attending mentor training
- Meeting with mentee(s) a minimum of nine hours per semester, 18 hours over the academic year
- Sharing your educational, career and professional expertise
- Being a caring and sensitive listener
- Encouraging the academic and personal success of your mentee
- Serving as a positive role model and encourage the achievement of higher education
- Supporting your fellow mentors by sharing your mentor experience
- Attending scheduled training, programs, and orientations

