

Spring 4-25-2012

## Open Minds

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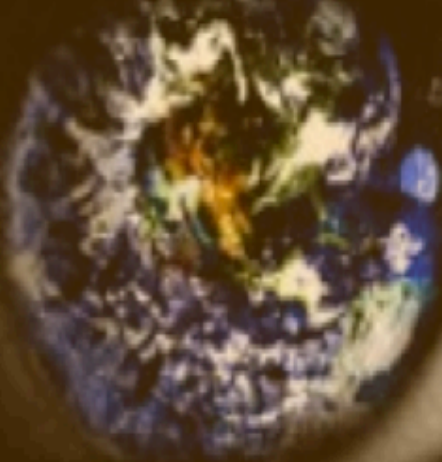
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# OPEN MINDS

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Genesis Reed  
Snow Nguyen  
Kiara Benson



# + Purpose

- Foster Teens are subjected to
  - Homelessness, higher rates of unemployment, poverty, and incarceration
  - Narrow exposure to skills
- Foster Teens in Dallas as of May 2011
  - 3,194 children and rising
  - 25 percent are between ages 14-17



# + Purpose



# + The Mission

- Recruited 15 foster teens to Open Minds
- Matriculate foster teens in higher learning institutions
- Establish mentor relationships and resources
- Promote for academic, career, and social success
- Become a Non-Profit Organization
  - incorporate more teens in a wider range



# + Achievements to Date

- Partnership with Buckner Foster Agency
- Established a list of young adults in the foster care system
- In the process of recruiting
  - SMU Mentors
  - Community Mentors
    - Based on career goals and aspirations



# + Achievements to Date

## Personal Development

Etiquette  
Cooking  
Internet Etiquette

Healthy Mind, Healthy Body

Life Skills:

- Budgeting (Finances, Savings Acct)
- Goal Setting
- Speech (Communication)
- Personality Assessment
- Organizational Skills (Myers-Brigg Test)
- Friendships and Support Network

## Academic

SAT/ ACT Prep

Study Groups (Resources Sessions)

College:

- Applications (Common App, etc.)
- FAESA Readiness
- Extra Curriculums
- Relationships (Teacher/Student, Counselor/Student)

## Career

Career Assessment

Business Attire

Professional Skills

Resume

In-Field (Career) Experience

## Activities

- College Tours
- Community Service (Once a Month)

### Possibilities (Ideas)

- Library Visit (Library Cards)
- Funzies
  - o Six Flags, Hurricane Harbor, Main Event)
- Fitness (Mud Race)
- Ice Cream Social
- Baseball Game

# + Next Steps

- Final Mentor Recruitments
  - Mentor Training and Workshops
  - Establish general contracts and list of expectations/ guidelines
- Find Resources
  - SAT/ACT preparations
  - Partner with Hegi Career Center
- Allocate Funds
  - Extend opportunity for community donations and involvement
  - Review Budget
  - Apply for additional grants
- Finalize website design

