



WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

## Summer Programs

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### **Baldwin-Wallace College**

At-Risk Youth, Education, Youth Leadership, Summer Program

### **Barbara-Byrd Bennett Scholars**

The Barbara-Byrd Bennett Scholars are male students from the Cleveland Municipal School District enrolled in a four year program involving academic achievement, leadership development, community service and the Summer Academy. The goal of the Scholars program is to equip young urban males with the confidence, skills and knowledge to enter college on a level equal to that of their peers from surrounding high schools by responding to the unique developmental, psychological, social and academic needs of the students. Students are supported throughout the calendar year. The full-time Director, Americorps VISTA and undergraduate Baldwin-Wallace College student mentors have a daily presence during the week in the participants' school. The scholars are required to attend eight hours of leadership development activities during the academic year. Many of the activities occur at Baldwin-Wallace College, which provides them several opportunities to visit a college campus. Prominent African-American men representing education and businesses from Cleveland served as presenters at the second annual Leadership Conference in 2005. Each student has been assigned a mentor who is a professional African-American male working within the school district.

Community service provided by the scholars included coloring Easter eggs with children at the Ronald McDonald House, leading an exercise class for seniors citizens, preparing a meal for the homeless, and helping elementary students with homework at a community center. The highlight of this program is the 5-week intensive Summer Academy. The youth participated in 7 hours of academic coursework each day taught by Baldwin-Wallace faculty, daily study sessions, leadership development activities and recreation, including enrolling in the college course, Introduction to Physics. Despite the dismal statistics on graduation rates of inner-city African American males, the retention rate has been over 90% through the Scholars program.

For More Information:

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### Central Michigan University

Education, Mentoring, Tutoring, Youth Leadership, Summer Program

### **King Chavez Parks**

The King Chavez Parks program (KCP) at CMU is an annual summer residential career exploration and college preparation workshop for middle and high school students underrepresented in higher education. There were 210 middle and high school students that participated this past summer through this Central Michigan University (CMU) program. The KCP program has two primary goals: 1) to provide an opportunity for students to discover the potential of a college education and 2) to expose students to the information, knowledge, and skills they need to adequately prepare for college entry and success. Students live on campus for the duration of the program and interact with college mentors whom provide exposure to resources and services that are available to students at CMU. Students also receive information about career interests, the ACT, the college application process, financial aid availability, and effective study habits. Students benefit from increased exposure to opportunities that a college education can provide, increased preparedness for a post-secondary education, increased self-confidence and self-awareness, and the ability to set high standards for both academic and personal behavior. The community benefits from the participants who develop into successful students and citizens. Through the guidance of the KCP program, young people can better prepare themselves for our changing world and become active contributors to both global society and the local economy.

For More Information:

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### **Merrimack College**

At-Risk Youth, Education, ESL, Summer Program

#### **Accept the Challenge**

Merrimack College students mentor, tutor, and guide ESL students with financial need in goal-setting activities as part of the Accept the Challenge program to send them to college. Since 1986, Accept the Challenge (ATC), a program with administrative and program costs that exceed \$95,000 annually has assisted over 400 deserving students - 90% of which have gone on to college. As high school students, the participants attend classes after school and during in the summer while living on campus. In addition to meeting academic challenges, the 35-40 ATC students accomplish 160 community service hours annually. While in high school, ATC students are encouraged to identify the colleges or universities that are best suited for their goals and admission and financial counseling is provided. Students who choose to apply and are accepted into Merrimack College after graduating from the ATC program are guaranteed full scholarships. In 2005- 2006, 10 students were fully supported with tuition, room and board (\$354,000).

The Accept the Challenge program has been recognized nationally for its innovative and successful way of educating today's urban youth.

For More Information:

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### **Purdue University**

At-Risk Youth, Health/Nutrition, Mentoring, Youth Leadership, Service Learning, Summer Program

### **National Youth Sports Program At Purdue**

NYSP at Purdue University is a free, six-week summer day camp designed to give children ages 10-16 the opportunity for academic, health and nutrition, and sports instruction. The program targets low-income students who qualify for either free or reduced lunch programs as defined by federal guidelines. Purdue hosts program participants on campus for seven hours each day, five-days-a-week for six weeks. Participants receive instruction in various sports activities with innovative games used to increase aerobic capacity, strength, and flexibility. In all activities, campers learn self-responsibility, mutual respect, responsibility to others, teamwork, and other hallmarks of good citizenship.

Forty Purdue undergraduate and graduate students are paid a living stipend and are engaged in 200 hours of service learning in Purdue's NYSP. In addition to the leadership and/or teaching skills they bring to the program, the entire NYSP staff undergoes three days of special training on the needs of our campers and their families before camp begins. At the moment, service-learning credit is optional (HK 590N).

For the last two years, NYSP at Purdue has added another level of service learning. Each of the 20 camper teams is expected to give back to the community for three hours and then they learn about the social agency or site function before they leave campus. After the visit, they are asked to reflect on the experience in their computer/writing class. Service-learning sites for NYSP have included the YWCA Women's shelter, Trinity Mission, Community and Family Resource Center, Transitional Housing, Veteran's Home, and a number of assisted living and senior center homes.

#### For More Information:

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