Since 2005, the Zeta Rho Foundation, through a partnership with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. has provided a bi-weekly Inner City Male Mentoring program targeting inner city males at the middle and senior high school levels. The Inner-City Male Mentoring Program seeks to connect at-risk boys to better social, economic, character, and educational opportunities. Mentoring is provided at both school based and community based settings.

The program matches college educated, professional African American mentors with at-risk boys of color. The goal is to:

- Reduce the likelihood of juvenile delinquency, drug abuse, & truancy
- Increase the likelihood of positive outcomes for mentoring participants
- Improve School Attitudes and Performance
- Build Confidence, Character and Positive Citizenship

The program targets youth of color, serves over 150 youth, and provides over 1,500 hours of volunteer face to face time with youth. The program helps young people to develop important life skills, learn about the world of work, plan for the future.

Sponsored By The Zeta Rho Foundation, Inc.
Administered by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
The Need

Studies indicate that mentored youth earn better grades, have higher graduation rates, increased communication skills and self esteem, and exhibit improved peer/family relationships. Unfortunately, young men of color, especially those who live in poverty, have limited access to positive role models. Young males of color have the worst grades, the lowest test scores, and the highest dropout rates of all students in the country. When these young men don’t succeed in school, they are much more likely to be incarcerated, unemployed, estranged from their families, in poor health, and less productive citizens.

California Governor, Arnold Schwarzeneggar recently declared mentoring as a logical, cost-effective prevention strategy that provides youth with positive, caring role models who help them succeed and become productive, contributing members of society. In a recent survey, the California Mentor Foundation found that 98.4% of youth involved in mentor programs stayed in school; 85% did not do drugs; and 98% did not get involved in gangs. school; 85% did not do drugs; and 98% did not get involved in gangs. This report noted that there was a positive impact in virtually every program in the study, and recommended that mentoring be used as a strategy to reduce academic failure, alcohol and drug abuse, teen pregnancy, violence and gang participation. A recent analysis by the Big Brothers-Big Sisters of Los Angeles (2003) estimates that current mentoring programs are only reaching 3% of these youth.

About the Inner-City Male Mentor Program

The goal of the Inner City Male Mentor Program is to match college educated, professional African American mentors with at-risk boys of color; reduce the likelihood of juvenile delinquency, drug abuse, truancy, and other problem and high-risk behaviors among participating youth. Mentoring is provided on a bi-weekly basis at school and community sites. Each session lasts from one to two hours. Participating youth also benefit from a minimum of one community life enrichment field trip each quarter. Excursions have been to professional sporting events, educational centers, plays and movie theaters, and area based theme and amusement parks.

The program focuses on social education, positive citizenship and school performance. Academic emphasis is placed on attendance, homework completion rates, citizenship, and grades. Students are required to submit grades to identify and monitor academic performance. In addition, surveys, interviews and standard questionnaires are given to Mentors, Participating Youth, Parents/caregivers, and Principals and site directors at regular intervals to provide feedback and monitor success of the youth and the program.
About the Zeta Rho Foundation

The Zeta Rho Foundation (ZPF) is a volunteer, community based non-profit organization. The foundation’s mission is to remove the barriers of race, poverty, ignorance and despair through mentoring, educational support, health care awareness and community engagement for targeted youth and adults. Organizational milestones and accomplishments are as follows:

- **Since 1982**, the foundation has hosted the annual Omega Salute and Scholarship Banquet where recognition, scholarships and scholastic support are provided to graduating African American male high school seniors. To date, scholarships have been provided for over 300 young men; over $300,000 in scholarships has been awarded, with over $25,000 per year awarded since 2006.

- **Since 1999**, the foundation has provided the Ernest E. Just Youth Marine Science Program targeting minority middle school aged youth. The primary goal of this program is to expose targeted youth to the marine science field, and to stimulate interest, build confidence and subject matter mastery in the science disciplines. Minorities are grossly underrepresented in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines. Several program participants have entered college and pursued degrees in these subjects.

- **Since 2005**, ZPF has provided bi-weekly Inner City Male Mentoring program targeting inner city males at the middle and senior high school levels. Last year, more than 150 minority boys benefited from the Zeta Rho Foundation (ZPF) Inner City Male Mentor Program. The success of the program has resulted in several schools and community organizations seeking mentor partnerships with the Zeta Rho Foundation.
THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

The Inner-City Male Mentor Program would not be possible, were it not for the support and resources of the following organizations that share our commitment to youth and education.

TOYOTA

Making a Difference

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
(Zeta Rho Chapter)

Small Gifts, Make BIG Differences...

The Recurring Gifts Program is convenient for you, and the most cost-effective means of fundraising for the Zeta Rho Foundation, allowing us to make and keep commitments to at-risk youth.

Because your gift is automatic, your gift provides a steady flow of funds to plan field excursions, purchase supplies and equipment, and coordinate tutorial services for many underserved youth of color.

To set up your recurring gift today, please visit the Zeta Rho Foundation web site at www.ZetaRhoFoundation.org and click the Donate Now button.

Your support is greatly appreciated. Whether it is cash, or volunteering of your time or in-kind resources.

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