

the Vision

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Link Howard, CEO of Powerlink, Mayor Dave Bing, Gregory Kelsner, and Kristina Marshall, CEO of Winning Futures, pose with eighth grade students from Detroit Public Schools at the Greg Kelsner Basketball Camp.

MAKING AN IMPACT IN DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

As we celebrate our 17th year, we are proud to announce our expansion into the Detroit Public Schools (DPS)! This year, we hosted mentoring programs at two DPS schools.

The impact has already been amazing. One mentee, Edward, spontaneously stood up in class to share: "When I first heard about the program, I didn't think I would like it. I was not making good decisions and was not passing any of my classes. Now, my mentor is like a big brother to me. He gives me good advice and keeps me focused." Today, Edward has A's and B's in all of his classes!

We also partnered with Gregory Kelsner, Detroit Pistons Broadcaster on FS Detroit and former Detroit Piston, to implement Winning Futures into his summer basketball camp. Together with Gregory, Sodexo, Powerlink, and the DPS Foundation, we launched our first camp in DPS

at Renaissance High School. We had 80 eighth graders from all over the district learning basketball skills, along with participating in our "Shoot for your Goals" program where they set goals, explored their strengths, built positive support teams, and planned for a successful year in high school. Over 75 adults volunteered as Goal-Setting Coaches.

At the camp we had a great surprise - Mayor Dave Bing spoke to the students about what it will take to turn Detroit around, and that it depended on each of them. Mayor Bing reiterated what they had been learning all week from Gregory Kelsner and Winning Futures: education comes first!

Our goal is to increase the number of students in DPS we serve by recruiting more business sponsors and mentors. Please support us to make this happen! Call (586) 294-8449.

AWARDS AND HONORS

17TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS NIGHT

At the celebration of the 17th Annual Awards Ceremony, 50 students were honored as over 150 parents, educators, volunteer mentors, and local businesses celebrated them. Twelve of the students received scholarships totaling \$24,500. To date we have awarded over \$1.5M in scholarships!

One student who plans to use the scholarship to begin working on his five-year plan at Macomb Commu-

nity College this fall said, “I am so excited to receive this award. It inspires me to continue to work hard as I move towards college, and it will help me make my dreams a reality.”

Special honors went out to **Detroit Public Schools** as a new Educational Partner, and the **Detroit Tigers Foundation** with the 2011 President’s Award.



MENTORS OF THE YEAR HONORED

The Winning Futures *Mentor of the Year Awards* are presented to individuals from each of our mentoring sites to honor their outstanding commitment and the difference they make in the lives of the students they mentor.

One of our Harper Woods mentees stated about her mentor, **Kimle Mitchell**, “My mentor Kimle was a huge inspiration. I wasn’t too keen on the idea of college, but she helped me get comfortable with the idea. With her guidance, I filled out my FAFSA and college applications. When I didn’t get accepted to my college of choice, I heard her voice in my head telling the story of her own college troubles, but she made it and I knew I could do it. Keeping my faith, I



enrolled in community college knowing I couldn’t give up. I’ve never had anyone in my life like that who would take the time out of their day and help a girl trying to make it in life.”

The 2011 award recipients are:

- **Don Drabik**, Drabik Safety Surveys & Consulting *Community High School*
- **Regina Goodman**, Goodman Venegas Insurance *Warren Mott High School*
- **Molly Hilton**, independent contractor of marketing *Cousino High School*
- **Marvin Mathis**, Kelly Services *Fredrick Douglass Academy*
- **Kimle Mitchell**, Positive S.I.S.T.E.R.S. *Harper Woods High School*
- **Dinita Pearson**, DTE Energy *Detroit International Academy*
- **Dylan Tanaka**, Champions of Success *Warren Mott High School*

CEO WINS “WONDER WOMAN” AWARD



Winning Futures’ CEO, **Kristina Marshall**, received the Women Officials’ Network *Wonder Woman Award* for being a “distinguished advocate for youth”. The Women Official’s Network is an organization of elected officials, present and past, which promotes women leaders in the public sector.

Kristina received this award along

side former Michigan Supreme Court **Justice Maura Corrigan** (pictured), **Barbara Bonsignore**, and **Geri Rinschler**.

Kristina works tirelessly to make the voices of children locally, statewide, and nationally heard by lawmakers, educators, and the community as a whole.

INSIDE THE CLASSROOM

BACK IN PONTIAC! BY: DENNIS KENDELL, NINTH GRADE TEACHER AT PONTIAC HIGH SCHOOL

We are grateful that Winning Futures, **the POH Riley Foundation, and United Way** have implemented a mentoring program for our ninth graders. The program is AWESOME! At the very first mentoring session, my students were hooked. I have never seen them engaged and interacting the way they were. This is definitely progress for them. It amazes me to see them working with the mentors and engaging with each other in a positive way.



By the end of this pilot program, **75% of students improved their focus in my class, 90% improved their**

attitudes, and almost all of them increased their self-esteem.

My one truant male student is now attending class on a regular basis. One student who did no work in my class is now completing assignments.

The behavior of one of my classes (as a whole) is now more studious. They still talk and play, however, when it is time for work, they work!

This program is just GREAT!

MY MENTOR INSPIRED ME TO PURSUE MY DREAMS! BY: MICHAEL, WINNING FUTURES MENTEE AT COMMUNITY HIGH



My five year plan is very thorough; I see myself working in a non-profit organization as a motivational youth speaker. I will use my passion for writing and music to inspire kids to

understand that they can accomplish whatever they put their minds to.

There are numerous things that have inspired me to do this such as concerts, bands, and even family members. However, my mentor, **Dennis Liegghio** (founder of Know-Resolve), really helped me become more open about my dream. He has a band and inspires students through his music and talks about suicide prevention. **The day he played for our class truly inspired me.**

Mentors DO make a difference! Sign up today to mentor in Birmingham, Detroit, Harper Woods, Pontiac, or Warren. Contact Taquaryl this summer at (586) 698-4387 or taquaryl@winningfutures.org

EARNING MY MENTOR'S JOB! BY: JOAN MANTINI, WINNING FUTURES MARKETING COORDINATOR & 1999 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

In 1998 as a senior in high school, I met my Winning Futures mentor, Laurie Tarter, and finally knew what I "wanted to be when I grew up." In class, Laurie exposed me to a lot of careers I was unaware of and I really looked up to her as a role model.

When Laurie asked me what I wanted to be, the answer was obvious... **I wanted to be Laurie! So I bluntly said "I want your job!"** Laurie's reply was simple, "If you set your goals high and take steps to achieve them, you WILL have my job one day."

Keeping a positive attitude like my mentor, I set off to accomplish the

steps we had written down. While in college, I was hired as Winning Futures' Program Coordinator. Soon after, Laurie trained me to facilitate middle school programs. I was right on track with my five-year plan.

After gaining experience, I moved up to high school facilitation. The only aspect of Laurie's job I had yet to accomplish was Marketing. This year, I was asked by Winning Futures to take over that component too. Mission accomplished!

With Laurie's support, I was able to get where I am today. She has taught me that having a positive attitude, a written strategic plan, and a strong

work ethic really does pay off.

It is easy for me to facilitate these lessons to students because I am an example of how the program works!





OPENING DAY PARTY - SOLD OUT!

Our fourth annual Opening Day Party sold out with 800 people attending! The event at the Gem Theatre on the Detroit Tiger's opening day raised more than \$60,000 for our RARE Everyday Hero Scholarship Program and Winning Futures Mentoring Programs.

This exclusive invitation only was held for the clients, employees, and potential clients of the event sponsors. Thank you to our sponsors



Former Tiger Frank Tanana and former Piston Ray Scott encouraged the crowd to support Winning Futures!

for making this our largest fundraising event ever!

It is not often that legends of different professional sports teams come together, but thanks to our new partner, the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame, we had many "Hall of Famers" attend our VIP lunch.

Select industry sponsorship opportunities are available for 2012. Call (586) 294-8449 to learn more.



Crain's Detroit Business

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RECRUITING BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2012 - CALL TO LEARN MORE

Corks & Forks Tickets and Sponsorships now on sale ~ November 12th at Big Rock Chophouse. Call (586) 294-8449 or visit www.WinningFutures.org. Last year we SOLD OUT!

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Contact Information: 27500 Cosgrove, Warren, MI 48092 ~ (586) 294-8449 ~ www.WinningFutures.org

Winning Futures
RARE Everyday Heroes
27500 Cosgrove
Warren, MI 48092

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