



Winter 2013 Newsletter

The work of The Providence on Southmore (TPOS) is well on its way. We are enthusiastically approaching the end of the 2013 year with a great sense of accomplishment. We have formed our first cohort of students for which we are providing support services. We have also continued our work with the high school students in the Houston area by going into the schools to help students identify their interests, determine the colleges and universities that offer their needed programs, and begin their plans for post-secondary success. By the end of May 2014, we will have impacted the lives of over 100 students in the Houston area.

Additionally, we are extremely proud of our host of volunteers who help to ensure that our mission is realized. Academic Support volunteers from a variety of professions and backgrounds have teamed up with TPOS to make the vision of a five-year or less graduation completion rate a reality for every student that we serve. Each student has a curriculum schedule and the success of our services is measured by the number of our students who remain on track at the end of each semester. To date, that number is greater than 90%.

We are also excited about our upcoming fundraiser: Lucky Strikes for Singles Bowling Event. This event will take place at the Palace Bowling Lanes on Saturday, January 18, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The funds raised will support our programs.

Board of Directors:

Dr. Karla Brown – Founder/Executive Director
Mr. Johnnie Cheeks – Treasurer
Mrs. Terri Chiplin-Leach –Secretary

Mr. Chris Hudson
Rev. B. James Noel Sr.
Mr. Gerald Reece
Mr. David Washington
Ms. Nita Webber

Graduation in five years is the key!



GREAT NEWS!!!

**The Providence on Southmore
was recently awarded the
United Way's Community
Building Grant!**

**Remember TPOS, and give what you can
to ensure that we can continue to
work towards our mission-**

www.theprovidence.org Then: Click on DONATE

For your Calendar:	December: Worthing High School 6 th and 13 th	Januray: Worthing High School 10 th , 17 th , and 24 th Lucky Strikes for Singles 18 th	February TBD	March TBD	April TBD
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More ABOUT US...

The Providence on Southmore, Inc. (TPOS) a non-profit 501c3 organization in Houston, Texas has established itself as an organization aimed at assisting students attending universities in the Houston area with overcoming the obstacles that block many from completing their degree programs. Research supports the necessity for drastic efforts stating that the national graduation numbers for male students are unacceptable with African-American and Hispanic males falling nine percentage points lower than their female counterparts (College Board, 2010).

ONLY 21% of African-American and 25.8% Hispanic students graduate within six years (Nationally) *Source: Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA, 2011*

Mission Statement

The Providence on Southmore's Mission is to provide college students with support to ensure optimal conditions for completing their undergraduate degree programs within five years through: Post Secondary Planning/Placement, Degree Completion Support, Internships, Mentorships, Life-Coaching, and Volunteerships.

FUNDING:

The Providence on Southmore, Inc. staff members will match students with professionals that will serve as **mentors** that will direct their decision making as it relates to their area of professional interest. Mentors will commit to working with the matched student for the duration of the five-year program.

Students will have access to a **life coach** on a weekly basis to address the social issues (past/present) that exist and stand to hinder their goals. Students will gain and/or improve life-skills that will be instrumental in ensuring that optimal decisions are made to promote their success.

Academic assistance(tutorials) will be available to students to ensure that they are able to meet the demands of a full-time student. Individualized attention will be given to students by tutors to maximize their academic experience and to ensure that students maintain their schedule for completion.

An integral part of the program will be partnerships with local corporations in an effort to equip students with **internships** that will increase their employability upon graduation. Students will form relationships and gain experience in their areas of interest to build their networking capabilities.

In an effort to develop meaningful and positive connections with the community, **volunteerships** will be established. Students will select organizations to serve over the course of a twelve month period and will commit to one day per week.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

-Nelson Mandela

Give Today!

www.theprovidence.org

or

www.gofundme.com/TheProvidenceOnSouthmore