



Introducing #ProgramLIT

This new mentoring section, #ProgramLIT (Leaders in Training) located in the Exhibit Hall will give students an opportunity to visit with Houston's top mentoring organizations, like Big Brothers and Big Sisters, SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers), Playworks, the National Black MBA Association, Inc., Prospanica - National Society of Hispanic MBAs, and others. Our partners will offer opportunities in formal mentoring, group mentoring, team mentoring, one-to-one mentoring programs and informal mentoring.

But there's more! In the Panels area, Big Brothers Big Sisters is excited to share knowledge around the importance of mentoring. We are thrilled that they will be facilitating two information sessions at this year's *Career and Education Day*. Join Big Brother Big Sisters and listen to individuals who have been mentors (Bigs) and mentees (Littles) as they share their personal stories and the impact that mentoring has had on their life. Spanish and English sessions.

Data

In 1995, Public/Private Ventures (P/PV), Inc. concluded an 18-month study of Big Brother/Big Sisters after allowing Sherman et al. (1997) to report their early findings. The P/PV study examined a randomized sample of 10-to-16 year-old youth in eight cities. The findings included the following:

- Among African American and other minority youth, the mentored youth were 70 percent less likely to begin using drugs.
- Mentored youth, especially minority Little Sisters, were significantly less likely than controls to begin drinking alcoholic beverages during the study period.
- Mentored youth were less likely to skip classes and were more likely to feel competent about doing schoolwork. They also experienced a modest gain in grade point average during the study period. The largest positive effects again were found among minority Little Sisters.
- Unlike controls, mentored youth indicated improved family relations, measured by gains in trust between parent and child during the study period. This effect was strongest among white Little Brothers.

FMI please contact #ProgramLIT Co-Chairs:

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