

Lincoln Foundation – Executive Summary 2010-2011 Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program®

Program Description and Participants

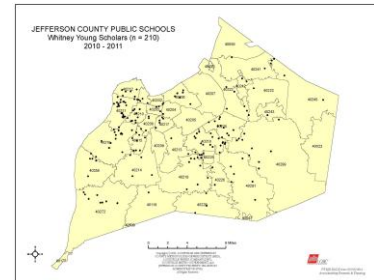
The Whitney M. YOUNG (Youth Organized to Understand New Goals) Scholars Program recruits academically talented, economically disadvantaged seventh grade students in the Louisville Metro area, and over a six year period, prepares them for high school graduation and successful transition into college. This preparation includes:

- Introducing more structure into the Scholar's personal environment
- Enhancing the Scholar's self-esteem
- Facilitating parental/guardian advocacy for each Scholar
- Enhancing cultural awareness
- Maintaining and improving the Scholar's academic performance
- Developing the Scholar's values, character, and ethics
- Providing positive peer and mentor interaction for the Scholar in a stimulating environment that is conducive to learning

Evaluation Results

Summary Table

Grade Phase	Program Retention Rate	Program Attendance	# Scholars Suspended	School Absenteeism	Pre-Post Content Test	KCCT Comparisons
12 th grade Phase 16	94%	No Change	No Change	Increased (1.3)	NA	Outperformed District in Writing
11 th grade Phase 17	90%	No Change	No Change	Increased (1.3)	Increased ACT Scores	Outperformed District in Math, but Lower in Science and Social Studies
10 th grade Phase 18	95%	Increased	Increase (1)	Increased (2.4)	Increased Shakespeare	Outperformed District in Reading
9 th grade Phase 19	83%	Increased	Decrease (3)	Increased (1.8)	Increased Writing	NA
8 th grade Phase 20	83%	No Change	Increase (3)	No Change	Increased Math	Outperformed District in Reading, Math, Social Studies, and Writing
7 th grade Phase 21	NA	78%	4	5.0 days	Increased Science	Outperformed District in Reading, Math, and Science
TOTAL	89%	Increased	Increased	Increased	*****	*****



Commendations

- 100% of all Senior Scholars accepted and anticipate attending college,
- 93% of all scholars, and 95% of the Senior scholars, said that they would recommend WYSP to other students (the remaining students marked that they were “unsure” if they would recommend WYSP; no scholar said that they would not recommend WYSP)
- 90% of the senior scholars said they felt “very prepared” or “prepared” for taking college coursework ,
- Even though many of the objectives were unmet the majority showed statistically significant growth from the pre-test to the post-test, and
- 94% of the scholars said that they “enjoy learning.”

Recommendations

- Continue working on getting a higher percentage of parental participation, especially in the Spring (the number of parental participants drop from an average attendance of 102 in the Fall to an average attendance of 81 in the Spring) and completion of survey,
- Continue working towards each phase meeting their goal,
- Continue getting a balance of students from a variety of schools, and
- Continue working on science for 11th graders with a focus on ACT and for 10th graders with a focus on Biology End-of-Course.