

**icouldbe.org** is a scalable online mentoring program that surrounds each student we serve with a team of five caring adults: three mentors in career fields of interest to the student, the student's classroom teacher and an ICB program staff person, all of whom focus on the individual student's academic achievement, career development and post-secondary preparation, resulting in statistically significant increases in self-efficacy among participants.

icouldbe.org has partnered with more than 200 public schools in low-income communities to help 19,000+ students discover their passions and realize educational and career goals. Independent evidence demonstrates that icouldbe.org's e-mentoring program, with its 30-Unit curriculum, shares the benefits of face-to-face mentoring – an exciting find as educators turn to mentoring as a classroom intervention and drop-out prevention strategy. Curricular pathways in *Taking Control of your High School Experience, Career Exploration, College Preparation* and *Financial Literacy* provide the foundation for measurable impact and provides at-risk students a leveled playing field for access to high quality educational resources.

Imagine an interactive technology platform similar to *Facebook*, but designed specifically for students to set and meet current and future academic and career goals, guided throughout by the support and care of an adult mentor selected by the student, from a career field relevant to each student's interests. This is icouldbe.org. Students have multiple opportunities to connect with mentors, regardless of location, eliminating transportation, geographic and time barriers.



25 East 21st Street, 6th floor New York, NY 10010 www.icouldbe.org

## Individualized Support

The icouldbe.org technology solution provides each student with a team of 5 caring adults to create an individualized pathway to college and a career: Three mentors from varying career fields, the student's teacher in the classroom and an icouldbe.org staff member work together to ensure each student receives the individual support and care they need to succeed.

# **High-Impact Mentoring for Students**

Program Successes and Qualifications:

- 10 years experience providing mentoring programs to at-risk students.
- 10 years experience managing volunteer mentors to work with at-risk youth.
- 30-Unit research-backed curriculum for high school students and a specialized pathway for middle school students.
- 200+ public schools in low-income communities across the US served.
- Up to 3 one-to-one mentors provided to each student.
- All mentors available for questions, discussions and advice for all students.
- Fully integrated program assessment evaluated by independent researchers
- Year-long mentee-mentor relationships, plus lifetime alumni status for all mentees to remain in contact with mentors.

# Safe and Secure Online Environment

- icouldbe.org conducts rigorous verification and triple background checks for all mentors
- Our technology uses proprietary filtering techniques, unmatched in other e-mentoring programs, to protect mentees and mentors, and is recognized by Harvard Law School's Berkman Center for Internet & Society

### **Cost-Effective**

• icouldbe.org offers flexible program options that keep costs manageable, providing mentoring at *less than 1/10 the cost* of most in-school mentoring programs

### Feedback from Teachers

- "I have students who are very capable, but lack exposure....icouldbe.org has given them a much broader range of educational and career possibilities and choices...creating better lives"
- "I used to have difficulty getting professionals to come to my classroom for our career day, icouldbe has really helped me bring career guidance to my students on a whole new level...now every day is career day"

### Feedback from Students

- "My mentor and I have been in touch for 4 years now, and she has helped me in so many ways with my career and life!"
- "I didn't think I could go to college. My grades were good, but no one from my family had been. My mentor helped me get ready to apply to college, and I got accepted and won a scholarship...I would never be here if it wasn't for him."

# **To learn more or take a virtual tour, contact:** Kate Schrauth, Executive Director <u>kate@icouldbe.org</u> 646-734-8133