Opportunity for the class of 2023!

Summer Search’s overarching goal has long been to help young people from low-income backgrounds graduate from high school, matriculate to a post-secondary education and successfully earn a 4-year college degree within six years. Our services include:

1) Year-round mentoring by full-time, professional staff who encourage students to reflect on their experiences to better understand themselves and to prepare for their futures.

2) Two summer enrichment experiences for high schoolers (wilderness experience, international service trips, pre-college academic programs, or internships) that put students into highly challenging, unfamiliar environments.

3) Support and advice for high school seniors as they plan for and transition to college or another post-secondary pathway.

4) Continued mentoring as needed, connections to internships and career coaching for up to six years after high school.

The Challenge:
Typically by this time of the year, the outreach team would be in high schools recruiting students and conducting information sessions. Due to COVID-19, our school partners are juggling remote learning and in person learning, a delayed start to the school year, and many other uncertainties.

As we work to shift our recruitment processes to be completely virtual, we know our ambitious goal of admitting up to 140 sophomores will not be easy. While we intend to continue leveraging relationships with school existing partners, we will need to get our program in front of more folks who are directly connecting with high school students in Greater Boston.

The Request:
Now more than ever, we need to expand our engagement to community partners who might have more capacity to help us recruit high school sophomores. If you know sophomore students you think is a good fit for Summer Search, please share the application link with them. You are also welcome to connect with Martina Durant, Director of Outreach and High School Program, at MDurant@summersearch.org to make an introduction.

I’ve attached the recruitment calendar for this year, which shows what we are hoping this year can look like. Here are some highlights:

- You can view our updated student video here: https://bit.ly/3k1etcN
  - With subtitles in 3 languages

- Online application is open: https://www.summersearch.org/apply
  - Note: There are two parts to the application. Students have a section they will need to fill out, sign and submit. Once their part of the application is complete, a link will automatically be sent to the parent/guardian whose contact information they provided. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will need to fill out the second half of the application, upload income documentation then sign and submit.

• **We won’t be doing interviews this year.** Instead students will be accepted based on their application and will get 7 weeks to try out mentoring before fully enrolling.
  • We will have a waitlist again this year.

please reach out to Martina and let her know what we can do to connect with your sophomore students in a way that doesn’t add extra work for you.

We appreciate your support and look forward to welcoming the class of 2023 to Summer Search!