



CITY OF SOUTH BEND

PETE BUTTIGIEG, MAYOR

Office of the Mayor

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EDUCATION FOUNDATION JOINS SOUTH BEND MENTORING INITIATIVE

Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Common Council Member Gavin Ferlic (At-Large), and community activist David Buggs will be on hand at 3 p.m., Tuesday, September 17, at Madison Primary Center, 832 N. Lafayette Blvd., to welcome the Education Foundation's Mentor Program into the City of South Bend Mentoring Initiative.

The Education Foundation joins Big Brothers Big Sisters as part of the Mentoring Initiative, which Buggs serves as chairman. The initiative is committed to doubling the number of mentors for local children to 500 over the next two years.

The Education Foundation's Mentoring Program matches students in the South Bend Community Schools with mentors. Such mentorships have been shown to increase students' chances for academic and personal success while decreasing their risk of engaging in dangerous or violent behavior.

"Mentoring programs have consistently proven to be among the most beneficial interventions for at-risk youth," Mayor Buttigieg says, "The Education Foundation and Big Brothers Big Sisters have provided an outstanding service to the community through mentoring. With the support of the City of South Bend Mentoring Initiative, I know they can have an even bigger impact on the lives of our children."

The Education Foundation and Big Brothers Big Sisters offer separate mentoring opportunities. The Education Foundation's Mentoring Program asks mentors to volunteer one hour per week during the lunch period at the student's South Bend school. Big Brothers Big Sisters program asks mentors to spend a few hours a month outside of school with their "Little."

For information on both the Education Foundation and Big Brothers Big Sisters' mentoring programs, visit www.mentorsouthbend.com.