

Helping Hands Vision

Vision is not seeing things as they are,
But as they will be...

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

*Achievement
Motivation
Excellence*



SUCCESS

*Personal
Academic
Leadership*

RELATIONSHIPS

*Mentors/Student Partners
Parents/School
Community*

Project Goals

Role models from the school and the community are paired with students in grades 3-8 who have the potential for success in school, but who, for whatever reasons, are not reaching their potential and are at risk of school failure. Dr. Bridges identified four key negative factors hindering development of the African-American male student:

- ♦Lack of touchable role model
- ♦Fluctuating relationships with females
- ♦Low involvement in school
- ♦Poor academic skills development

Counteracting the negative influences that hinder the African-American male student development is one of the key goals of the program. Other goals the project include:

- ♦Developing academic skills
- ♦Building positive self-esteem
- ♦Creating strong interpersonal relationships
- ♦Developing leadership qualities

Helping Hands Vision

The Wake County Public Schools **School/Community Helping Hands Project** embraces the concept – “all students can learn and become a productive citizen in society.” It attempts to engage the African-American male child, who has consistently lagged behind in school achievement, to fully access educational opportunities.

Through its after-school mentoring activities, the Helping Hands Project provides personal development and academic enhancement services to the African-American male child. Adult role models called personal models serve as a mirror of personal achievement and motivation, while enabling students and their parents to effectively utilize educational and community resources for positive student outcomes.

As one observes students with their personal models, one will see African-American boys taking pride in themselves, resulting in more attention to grooming and to personal character development. Students will begin to have a greater appreciation for knowledge through their participation in a kaleidoscope of academic and development activities. One will also witness students having a genuine appetite for learning as they initiate and facilitate self-directed learning activities.

The African-American male child will rise to the challenge in the “pursuit of excellence,” becoming student leaders in their schools and communities. They will serve as mentors to their peers.

The community will begin to embellish this project through various partnerships and sponsorships within the business and corporate sectors. The Helping Hands Project will serve as a beacon and satellite for school systems and community-based organizations throughout the state and nation, while we effectively find solutions to elevate and bring parity to the African-American male child. We will serve as ambassadors in the care and uplifting of the African-American male child’s development.

Mission:

The mission of the School/Community Helping Hands Project is to provide academic and personal development support services to African-American male students, while enabling their parents to effectively utilize educational and community resources, which would enhance positive student outcomes.