

# The WVI Dolphin Foundation Leadership and Life Skills Mentorship Program



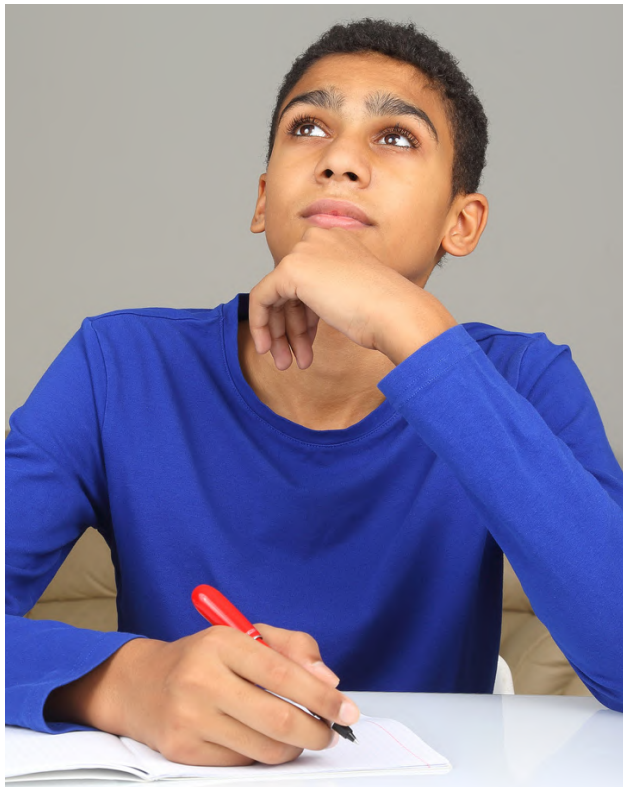
The WVI Dolphin Foundation is pleased to have earned GuideStar's Gold Transparency Certification.





The WVI Dolphin Foundation (WVI DF) is a (501 (c) 3 not for profit organization in support of underserved and Blue and Gold Star youth, Veterans and Sports for Good Initiatives. [www.wvidolphin.org](http://www.wvidolphin.org)

We inspire those who are fortunate to pivot toward “give back” – wherein they can utilize their prestige, wealth, and power to make a disproportionate impact on underserved youth and veterans.



Our WVI Dolphin Foundation and partners have developed a unique hybrid in - person and virtual **Leadership and Life Skills Mentorship Program** wherein volunteer mentors including celebrity athletes, veterans, and accomplished business entrepreneurs and executives – support underserved High School aged youth, Blue and Gold-Star children – ages 15 – 18 – by sharing their remarkable stories of overcoming adversity within the character development component of the program.

In tandem, compelling program modules are focused on STEM, job readiness training, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, Leadership as Service, and more.

# The WVI Dolphin Foundation Leadership and Life Skills Mentorship Program

**Our mentees are exposed to opportunities in :**

- **Cybersecurity and AI**
- **Wind, Solar and Power**
- **Climate Management**
- **Networking**
- **Financial Literacy**
- **Leadership as Service**



# OUR LEADERSHIP AND LIFE SKILLS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM PROVIDES:

- 1. A succinct overview of STEM career paths as stated above.**
- 2. Clarity on the training and specific resources required to attain success through the following:**
  - **Networking** – Mentees learn the value of making connections in professional settings, by developing core values such as Leadership as service, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy. Mentees will also learn to professionally represent themselves to become serial connectors.
  - **Job Readiness** – Mentees learn resume writing tips and interviewing skills. This behavioral based module teaches the essential forms of business etiquette, as well as the steps of an interview process, how to prepare for company meetings, researching ahead of time, and then performing during the interviews.
- 3. Hands on professional guidance to co-create individual career action plans.**

We co-create with our mentees their career action plans which are accessible through their profiles created on our website platform. These career action plans are revisited and evolve throughout their participation in our program, culminating in their receiving a certificate of achievement.
- 4. Upon the completion of 3 modules, mentees earn Leadership Certificates** that will boost college / trade school applications and job opportunities. Mentees are required to choose 2 in person modules to attend, and 1 virtual module available online – see below. Upon the completion of their modules, mentees receive a Leadership Certificate that will boost their college / trade school applications and/or job opportunities.
- 5. Certificate Awardees receive direct introductions to internships, and potential employers** sourced from our robust WVI Dolphin Foundation ecosystem.

# 2023 Modules:

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**CAREER DEVELOPMENT: JOB READINESS at the Roc Nation School of Music, Sports, and Entertainment**  
*February 2023 (COMPLETED, and AVAILABLE DIGITALLY)*

Mentees learned the essential forms of business etiquette, resume writing tips and interviewing skills. We focused on how to research and prepare for employer meetings, the steps of an interview process, and how to conduct a successful interview!

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**SUSTAINABILITY: CLIMATE CHANGE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY** at the Brookhaven National Laboratory  
*April 2023 (COMPLETED, and AVAILABLE DIGITALLY)*

Mentees explored careers in the Advanced Energy career track including wind industry, solar industry, power transmission industry. In this module, they also interacted with professionals and top leaders who are experienced.

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**STEM: INFO-TECH, CYBER SECURITY & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE** at Pier 57, New York, NY  
*September 29, 2023*

Learn about Info-Tech opportunities including: job types, salaries, and educational resources including GOOGLE CODE NEXT

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**CAREER DEVELOPMENT: NETWORKING** at the NYPD Brooklyn Community Center  
*October 19, 2023*

Build connections with the WVI DF's network of professionals and learn to represent yourself for success in the workforce!

# WVI DF VALUED PARTNERS



## 1. **Google HQ Code Next Program on Info-tech, Cyber Security, and AI intelligence career opportunities.**

Our STEM module on Info-tech, Cyber Security and AI Intelligence was held at GOOGLE'S NYC HQ based Code Next Labs on Tuesday, September 20. Please click here to view [photos](#) and a [summary of this successful module's outcomes](#).

## 2. **NYPD Office of Community Affairs and the NYPD Community center**

Over the past 2 years we have developed a strong collaborative relationship with the NYPD Office of Community Affairs – which closely partners with us to source a growing number of prequalified mentees from across NYC's underserved neighborhoods.

In addition, we have hosted three of our Leadership Program post COVID modules at the [NYPD Brooklyn Community Center](#) in East New York -- and hosted over 25 mentees from the NYPD Explorers program at our Google HQ CodeNext Info-tech Module in September 2022, and over 40 mentees at our recent Brookhaven National Labs Sustainable Energy module – see below.

*Thanks to this partnership we have served over 100 mentees in - person, with the additional support of local precinct Youth Community Officers (YCOs) who are actively involved.*

# WVI DF VALUED PARTNERS

*(continued)*

## 3. Roc Nation School of Music, Sports, and Entertainment on the LIU Brooklyn Campus

We held our first mentee graduation ceremony at the Roc Nation School of Music, Sports, and Entertainment – founded by Hip Hop Legend Jay Z - on October 18, 2022.

Our partnership with Roc Nation emerged from our Leadership as Service module on March 22, 2022 – where we were joined by their Director of Roc Nation Strategic Partnerships. Our mentees learned about the career opportunities that this school supports through a robust curriculum – and series of important available full four year undergraduate scholarship opportunities.

**ROCNATION** HOPE SCHOLARSHIP  
SCHOOL OF MUSIC, SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT

**Another key 2022 module speaker was former NFL 2 X Super Bowl champion Perry Williams** -- a faculty member at the Roc Nation School of Music, Sports, and Entertainment.

As a result of this partnership, we received an exclusive opportunity for our mentees to attend the Roc Nation Summer Academy as day students at a reduced rate. Click to see [Roc Nation Academic information](#) and their [Roc Nation Hope Scholarships](#).



# WVI DF VALUED PARTNERS

*(continued)*

## 4. Brookhaven National Labs ( BNL ) Program on Climate Change and Sustainable Energy careers in Wind, Solar, and related fields

Brookhaven National Laboratory delivers discovery science and transformative technology to power and secure the nation's future. Primarily supported by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science, Brookhaven Lab is a multidisciplinary laboratory with seven Nobel Prize-winning discoveries, 37 R&D 100 Awards, and more than 70 years of pioneering high tech research.

This year over 40 of our mentees attended our Sustainability module at BNL in April and July. Students were given a private tour of the Light Center, and were introduced to a panel of senior executives from the Sustainability and utility fields. They were surprised to learn about the lucrative and interesting career opportunities and internships available to them in the areas of wind, power and solar.

In addition, Southampton High School, National Guard, and Brooklyn Think Tank Matters enrolled mentees into our Leadership Mentor Program.

*WVI Dolphin Foundation's success can be attributed in part to the generosity of our sponsors, to whom we are extremely thankful.*

nationalgrid



J.P.Morgan





# THE WVI DOLPHIN CODE OF CONDUCT IN ACTION

Over 32 accomplished business people volunteer as mentors and speakers to support our mentees.



Our 5 partners support our logistical needs and provide space, food & beverage, and transportation for our mentees.



# SUCCESSFUL TRACK RECORD

**Our Leadership and Life Skills Mentorship Program has introduced our program to over 200 youth through 6 successful modules focused on Leadership as Service, Youth Sports Education, Financial Literacy, Entrepreneurship, and Info-tech.**

- **Over 200 mentees follow our program and are in our database -- growing**
- **70 engaged mentees have created profiles on our platform**
- **In 2022 we mentored a cohort of over 25 students**
- **12 students earned their program graduation certificates in 2022 – and are now Program Ambassadors.**
- **We are on track to graduate 33 students in 2023**
- **45 mentees attended our Job Readiness module in February 2023. 7 of these mentees are either serving in the National Guard or are in military families.**
- **65 mentees attended the BNL Sustainability module on Climate Change and Renewable Energy in April and July 2023**
- **Our program mentorship was successful via the 32 successful business people who participate and volunteer in our program modules.**

# WE'RE AT A CRITICAL INFLECTION POINT

**Our program is now at an important inflection point and ready to scale!**



Having built this leading edge Leadership and Mentorship program over the past two years -- with your collaboration -- and additional funding of at least \$100 to 500 k as situation warrants, we are now prepared to scale the program exponentially.

Effective immediately, our program recruitment partners are ready to generate a substantially increased number of pre-qualified mentees city wide – and our team poised to scale program capacity accordingly.

# FEEDBACK FROM MENTEES



## Jeremiah Smith, Mentees

*Age 17 - Bronx Aero Space High School*

I go to Bronx Aerospace High School. In my opinion the best part of the workshop was getting to see a tour of the building. What interested me the most was learning about the 36 different jobs that I could possibly work for in the engineering industry. I would love to pursue a career in sustainability that consists of helping people when they are in need which is why I applied for the FDNY to become an EMT.

## Andrew Souhrada, Mentees

*Age 17 - South Hamilton High School*

Through the mentors I develop a clear understanding of who I want to be, where I want to go, and what I have to do to achieve it. The combination of some understanding of different fields, keeping in mind the leadership, and having the mentors to guide me through the program leads me to become more involved in clubs. I am more involved in terms of helping my teammates on my sports team. I became a club president.

## Yassine Boukaissi, Mentees

*Age 18*

The WVI Dolphin Foundation has help me succeed in my highschool career through skills that they have taught me like resume building, how to speak in interviews, and how to really present myself in certain scenarios and networking skills, more about entrepreneurship and i was really able to receive a letter of recommendation from the WVI Dolphin Foundation and they attach that to my MIT admission and I got admitted. I am really excited about that.

# ACTION LEARNING EXAMPLE 1

## OUR RECENT SUCCESSFUL INFO-TECH MODULE AT GOOGLE'S NYC HQ

**On September 20, 2022, the WVI DF held our first STEM Module on Info-tech, Cyber Security & AI at the Google Code Next Lab – NYC HQ.**

This successful module opened opportunities for extended partnership with the NYPD Community Affairs – Explorers Program, mentee recruitment from the NYPD Housing Authority, as well as with Google Code Next.

Our module attendance comprised of 34 mentees, 7 volunteer mentors, and several NYPD volunteers:

### **Our Mentees:**

- 30 new kids – of which 28 signed up to the Leadership and Life Skills Mentorship Program through our online platform
- 4 returning mentees



# ACTION LEARNING EXAMPLE 2

## SUSTAINABILITY: CLIMATE CHANGE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AT BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABS

Special thanks to the Brookhaven team who hosted this module and handled the many logistics! AND the EMPOWER team for producing this [recap video](#).



# Graduation 2023 at Roc Nation

## Leadership Mentorship Program Graduation

On Tuesday, October 18 2022, our first cohort of 11 mentees graduated at the Roc Nation School of Music, Sports, and Entertainment. The WVI Dolphin Foundation will continue to support these mentees and introduce them to our extensive business and not for profit networks for internship and employment opportunities - and where appropriate provide reference letters to colleges or trade schools.



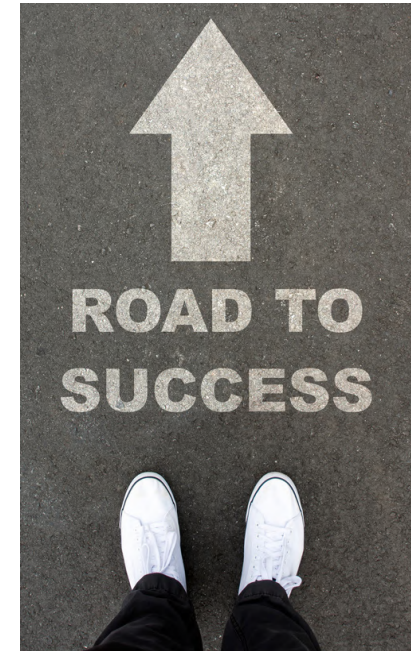
# Moving Forward

We are seeing measurable and consistent growth in program mentee attendance, new sign-ups, and module opportunities.

By reaching our 2023 fundraising goal of \$100k - \$500K for the Leadership and Life Skills Mentorship Program, we will graduate 30 mentees on Wednesday, November 29, 2023 - and expand our program's impact on our diverse youth.

## YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL:

Your generous financial support will allow us to continue to grow this program and enhance its impact and reach on our youth. We welcome your tax deductible donations, as well as your voluntary support.



**Our goal is to raise \$2.5 million over the next 3 years.** In order to grow and achieve our program grows we identified the highest needs from our budget. With your support, we can raise the funds that enable us to:

- Hire a part time program manager
- Continue to develop compelling program content
- Develop a high functioning digital platform and data management system
- Increase cohorts from one to four
- Secure long-term engagement of current and future mentee groups through events and digital platform
- Supply laptops and online platforms for students
- Enhance our digital footprint: social media, website and analogue marketing/ communications materials
- Secure locations, catering for all modules
- Provide speakers, graduations ceremonies, parent/student/mentor events that build community