

BOYS  **S2MEN**
MENTORING



GCORLANDO.ORG/BOYS2MEN

Boys 2 Men offers boys a safe place where they can talk about what is really going on in their lives and a community of mentors and peers who listen, believe in them and help them make better choices. We recognize, that good men are not born...they are built, shaped and molded during their childhood and adolescent years by the adults in their lives. What if no man is there to teach him, to be his role model, his guide? The most important factor of whether a boy will thrive or struggle during his teenage years is determined by the quality of the male role models in his life. The most at risk boys have the most dysfunctional male role models. Whether a boy's father died, abandoned him or is emotionally unavailable, a teenage boy without a man to guide him will lose his way. Countless statistics document the fact that fatherless boys are far more likely to drop out of school, abuse drugs, join gangs or go to prison than boys with father.

Boys 2 Men provides these boys with men who show up and care. Not just one man, but a community of male role models who offer the hope, support and guidance boys need to stay on the path to their dreams. *"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."*

We are experienced in working with the young men from all walks of life. Our experience includes, but is not limited to, teaching life skills, attending parent teacher conferences, attending courts hearings to speak with judges on the behalf of the young men as well as providing community service opportunities. Many of these young men have completely made a change in their life and graduated from high school due to positive male mentorship. We are now looking to impact even more young men in our community as the demand is great.

Every week Boys 2 Men mentors will show up at the facility to offer boys:

- A community of mentors and role models who listen, encourage and believe in them.
- A community of men who model integrity, accountability, compassion and respect
- A community where boys are empowered to speak their truth and are encouraged to take responsibility for their choices
- A community where boys feel supported, listened to and valued
- A community where boys see their peers are facing similar challenges and that they are **NOT ALONE** in their struggles.

Program activities will include weekly meetings that combine learning, fun, leadership opportunities, peer mentoring and self-esteem building exercises. All meetings are facilitated by one or more Boys 2 Men staff members and supported by volunteer mentors. There will also be additional activities and homework assistance provided as needed.

The Boys 2 Men program is an annual program that is designed to follow the young men into high school. The meetings follow a 52-week curriculum designed to help teenage boys cope with typical problems and issues at home and school, and bring awareness and intention to the important choices all boys face in their adolescent development. Some activities will include, but are not limited to, field trips to colleges, visiting the offices of mentors, community service projects, homework assistance via a homework help line and individual assistance from those who have offered to be available for tutoring, attending parent teacher conferences and sporting events.