

krco



Black/African Immigrant & Refugee
Student Success Project



IRCO's mission is to promote the integration of refugees, immigrants and the community at large into a self-sufficient, healthy and inclusive multi-ethnic society.

www.irco.org

Black/African Immigrant & Refugee Student Success Program Model

WE ASSIST African students in **improving their academic achievement** by addressing issues such as:

- **attendance,**
- **chronic absenteeism,**
- **disproportionate discipline,**
- **family engagement,**
- **and key transitions** from elementary to middle school, middle to high school, and high school to post-secondary.

WE SEEK to establish replicable **systems of change** to **increase students' academic achievement through bilingual bicultural Academic Advocates** on-site at schools to compel student engagement and parent involvement, student leadership trainings in conflict resolution, and culturally informed



Core Service Components Youth Advocacy

Relationship Based Youth Advocacy-

Bilingual/bicultural youth advocates work with a caseload of students to support academic achievement through:

- 1) Individualized support and goal setting
- 2) In-Class supports
- 3) Social and Emotional Supports with a focus on positive cultural identity, conflict resolution and future orientation

Academic and Enrichment Programming:

After-School Academic Group Activities 1-3x weekly

Enrichment Activities: (I.e. sports, dance, cooking, fieldtrips, conferences)

Summer Programming: 4-6 week intensive academic summer school



Project Update

Relationship Based Youth Advocacy-

A team of 10 bilingual bicultural advocates hired that reflect student/family populations served.

Collectively, languages spoken include: Amharic, Oromo, Tigrigna, Lingala, French, Swahili, Somali, Maay-Maay, Arabic, etc.

- To date: 199 youth are enrolled in project activities

Academic and Enrichment Programming:

- After-School Academic Group Activities 1-3x weekly .
- Group activities have been underway since Fall term at all school sites.

Enrichment Activities:

- **Students have had the opportunity to participate in soccer teams, fieldtrips and conferences**

Summer Programming:

- We are currently working closely with our district partners to



Project Update: Program Highlights

Elementary Cohort In Depth Staff Development Training and observation:

- Staff trained in lesson planning, development stages, social emotional skill building, and key domains in the YPQI, and PBIS. Next year will focus on Middle and High School.

IRCCO BASS: Know your Rights conference
Exploring Conflict Resolution through the Arts
Fieldtrip to Portland State University
Coming Up: College and Career Conference



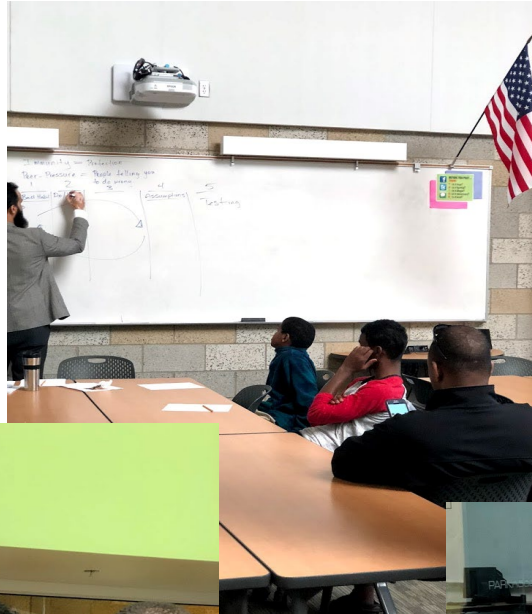
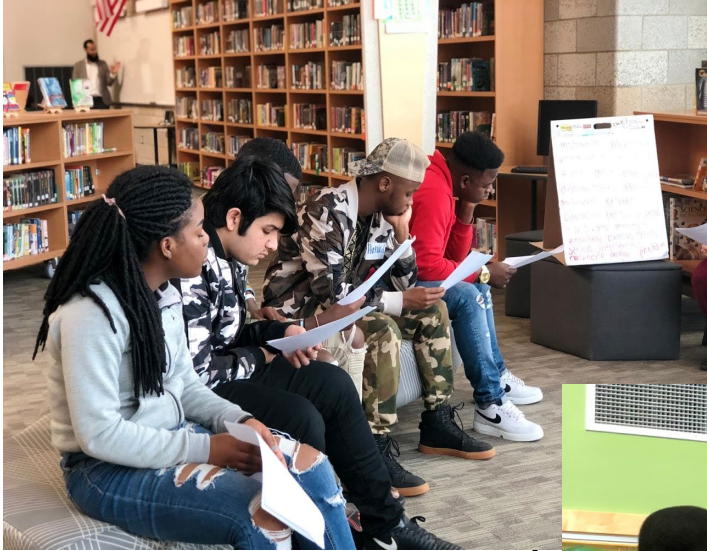
After School Group Activities



PSU Fieldtrip



Conflict Resolution Conference



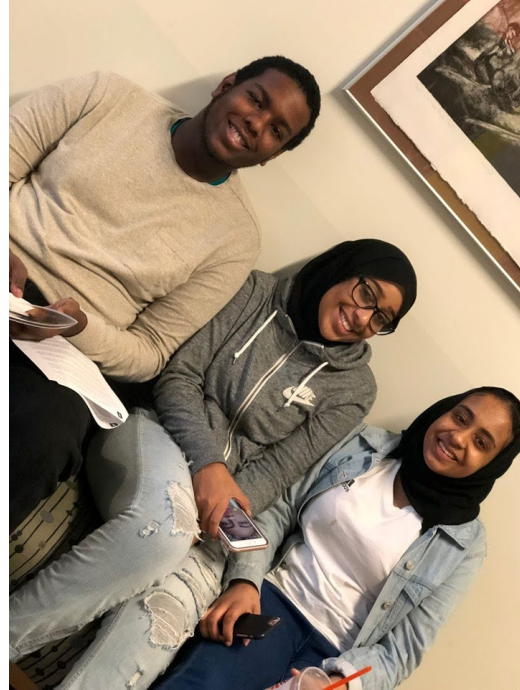
Conflict Resolution Conference



Know Your Rights Conference



African Film Festival



Core Service Components

Family Engagement

Family Engagement: Bilingual/bicultural staff empower parents to support their child's academic success and advocate for their child/ren through:

- 1) Culturally and linguistically specific school to home and home to school communication
- 2) Parent group activities that focus on key school related or other relevant topics
- 3) Individualized support/referral to resources (i.e. rent/utility assistance, food, healthcare etc.)



Project Update

IRCO /BASS Advocates have supported 105 parents/caregivers through:

- School to home and home to school communication
In home learning supports
- Monthly Parent Engagement Activities/Events hosted at IRCO and School Sites



Parent Group Activity (photos)

Program Highlights: Mother's sewing group.

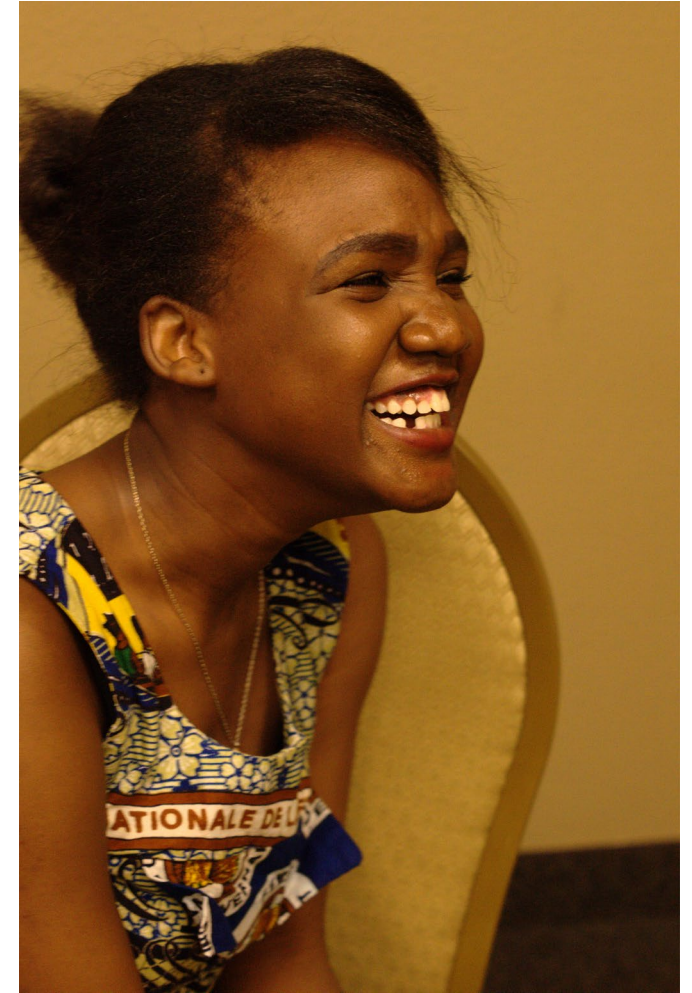


Core Service Components

School staff training and support

School staff support:

- Bilingual/bicultural staff, support professional development for school staff around
 - culturally responsive pedagogy,
 - restorative justice,
- knowledge of African immigrant and refugee cultures and communities through **trainings for school staff, regular school day and in-class supports, hosting cultural events at schools.**



Project Update: School staff training and support

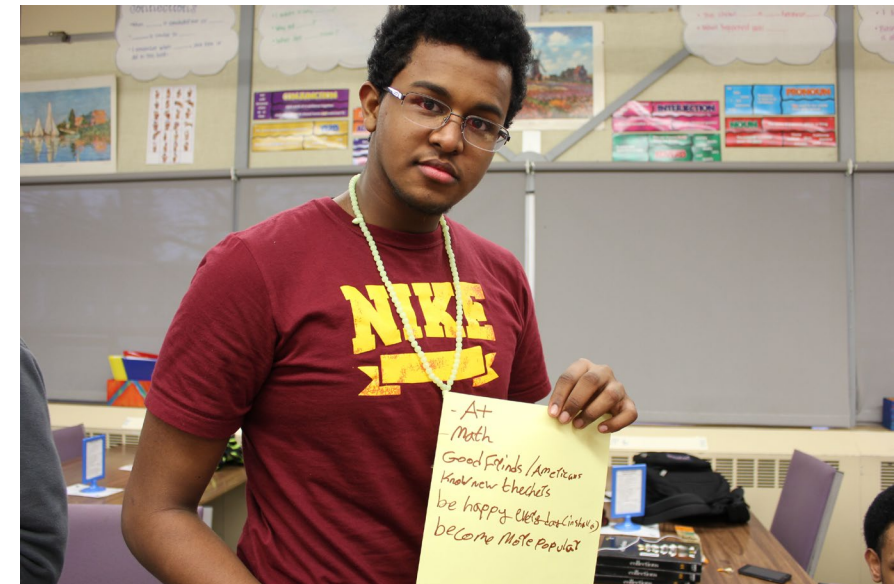
- School staff trainings have already taken place in Reynolds and David Douglas school districts for approximately 40 staff.
- IRCO BASS staff are working closely with school partners to lead two 8 hour trainings for school staff and leadership in our partnering districts.
Expected dates 4/17 and 4/19.
Core topics will include:
 - culturally specific and responsive practices especially as it relates to Discipline and Special Education in schools.
- Expecting 40 + school staff to attend on each day.



Attendance

IRCO Youth Advocates monitor attendance:

- 1) Individually with students and families through regular in-person check-ins
- 2) Connect with school staff/secretaries for updated records
- 3) Facilitate school to home and home to school communication with families around attendance
- 4) Support families with existing resources that may impact student attendance (i.e. health, childcare, etc.)
- 5) Educates youth/families about school attendance expectations in U.S. schools, help school staff better understand perspectives of African youth/families as it relates to attendance and absenteeism



Key Transitions

IRCO Youth staff support 5th-6th and 8th-9th grade transitions through:

Individualized support and goal setting that incorporates:

- goals and information around middle/high school and future orientation

- Fieldtrips to their feeder middle/high school

Summer programs

- hosted and middle high schools that include incoming 6th/8th graders

- Inviting school staff from middle/high schools to present to 5th/8th graders

Parent Engagement

- around expectations in middle/high school



Schools Served

Reynolds: Alder, Glenfair and Davis Elementary
Reynolds High School

David Douglas: Gilbert Park, Lincoln Park, Ron Russell
Middle School, David Douglas High School

Parkrose: Sacramento ES, Shaver ES, Parkrose MS,
Parkrose HS

Gresham Barlow: Gresham HS



Number of Students Served by School

IRCO-ODE BASS Student Chart- 1st Quarter Report	# of Male	# of Female
Parkrose School District		
Parkrose High School	9	6
Parkrose Middle School	3	4
Sacramento Elementary School	7	0
Shaver Elementary School	2	0
David Douglas School District	0	0
David Douglas High School	25	19
Ron Russell Middle School	13	0
Lincoln Park Elementary	6	3
Gilbert Park Elementary	11	5
Reynolds School District		
Reynolds High School	12	22
Alder Elementary School	6	4
Davis Elementary School	4	7
Glenfair Elementary School	8	6
Gresham Barlow District		
Gresham Barlowe High School	2	5
Total	108	81

Questions?

