

BETTER TOGETHER BENEFIT
MAY 4, 2022 | HIGH FIVE GR



PROGRAM

Welcome to Affinity's signature event of the year! For those joining virtually, the program will begin promptly at 7:10pm.

WELCOME

Rachel Humphreys, Development and Communications Director

EMCEES

Isabel Landero, Student at Lee High School
Cass Salas, Mentor at Lee Middle School

MATCH SPONSOR

Denise Kingdom-Grier, Mars Hill Bible Church

VIDEO FEATURE

Audrey Harvey, CEO of BCBSM Foundation
Sharalle Ankrah, New Executive Director of Affinity
Emily Juarez, Student Mentee at Burton Elementary

PANELISTS

Fuad Hasanovic, Board Member and Mentor
Yesica Robinson, SWCC Parent and School Partner
Yanitza Vargas | Burton Alumna

VIDEO FEATURE

Luisa Juan + Amanda Moore, Burton Elementary Match
Leo Juan + Conner Morse, Burton Elementary Match
Alma Ramirez, Parent of Luisa and Leo

FUND-A-NEED

Jatnna Abreu, Board Member and Mentor
Madeline Aguillon, Former Board Member and Mentor

CLOSING REMARKS

Rachel Humphreys
Isabel Landero, Student at Lee High School
Cass Salas, Mentor at Lee Middle School

APPS

Chips and Salsa
Chicken
Quesadillas
Empanadas

BUFFET

Tacos:
• Steak/Asada
• Pork/Al pastor
• Vegetarian
Side of rice and beans

OPEN BAR

Chardonnay
Cabernet
Pinot Grigio
Budlight
Oberon



EMCEES

CASS SALAS

Cass is an avid community volunteer, in addition to being a mentor to a 7th grader at Lee Middle School they are passionate about supporting unhoused residents of Grand Rapids, breaking the stigma around mental illness, caring for animals, and facilitating conversations about highly intersectional topics.

In their day job, Cass has worked in the restaurant and service industry for over 10 years. Their skills range from CNA, server, to event planning and self-proclaimed declutterer. A common thing about Cass is their service mindset, bringing dignity and hope to community members, and holding space for a judgment free perspective to learn from others.

Since becoming a mentor Cass says, "It reminds me of how to listen, teaches me all the ways I don't know the world, and invigorates my soul." They have also been an integral part of building the Lee Middle Mentoring Program through their work on the Middle School Mentoring Steering Committee.



ISABEL LANDERO

Isabel is a 9th grader at Lee High School. They are a very driven student and are extremely active in their school community. They love performing, having been in musicals, plays, and band. Isabel plays the Oboe and has also been part of the drumline. They enjoy the constant challenge and mastery of playing instruments and in the future want to attend the University of Michigan and play in the marching band.

Education is very important to their family and they will be a first generation college student. Their dad is from Mexico and mom is from Estonia. Their family emigrated to the US to be able to give their kids a better life. Spanish is a big part of their family and after visiting family in Mexico it became one of Isabel's goals to become more fluent.



Isabel is a passionate and driven leader who continues to maintain a 4.0 while balancing extracurriculars and work. In addition they are a member of the Student Advisory Council. Which most recently involved taking pictures at the High School's Ground Breaking Ceremony and being a representative for student needs. When they're not at school or performing, Isabel plays on the school soccer and volleyball teams, and also works weekends at Burger King.

Their leadership and work ethic in Middle School was recognised by Principal Andy Steketee and was one of three students personally invited by him to be part of the Middle School Mentoring Steering Committee.

They joined the MSMSC to help students who may be struggling. Even though Isabel has never had a mentor of their own, they wanted to make sure others would benefit from the program.



FUND-A-NEED

Scan the QR code at your table

Donate Online: pledge.to/2022-better-together-benefit

Text **BETTERTOGETHER22** to 707070

Mail a Check (payable to Affinity Mentoring)

Affinity Mentoring PO Box 888317

3970 S Greenbrooke Dr SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49588

SUPPORT LOCAL STUDENTS

\$5,000

Provides 1 year worth of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training for our staff, mentors, and partners to learn how DEI principles and tools can help improve mentoring relationships and support students and families.

\$2,500

Ensures six families are provided with holistic support and resource navigation of mentoring and beyond by highly competent, empathic, bilingual staff members for one year.

\$1,200

Provides 60 hours of direct mentoring supervision during virtual, hybrid or in-person mentoring by our highly trained and experienced staff.

\$500

Offers 20 hours of equity based barrier reduction for Site Coordinators to provide training, make referrals, and ensure that matches have everything they need for a healthy relationship.

\$250

Provides health and safety supplies for students and mentors in our Mentor Centers.

\$100

\$100 takes one student off the waiting list: provides a background check, interview, screening, 3 hour pre-match training for one mentor.

\$50

\$50 provides mentoring match supplies for 5 matches/year. Books, pencils, games, arts and craft supplies, notebooks/paper, activities, flash cards, office supplies, etc.

OUR TEAM



SHARALLE ANKRAH
Executive Director



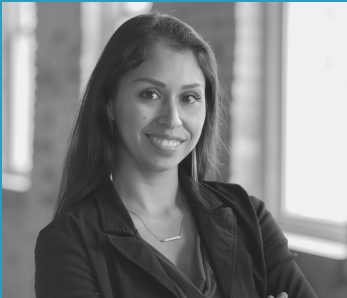
LAUREN ENOS
DEI Committee Coordinator



RACHEL HUMPHREYS
Communications and
Development Director



MAYRA RODRIGUEZ
Office Coordinator



ROCIO MORENO
Program Director and
Burton Site Coordinator



ANGELA REYNA
Lee MS & Burton Site
Coordinator



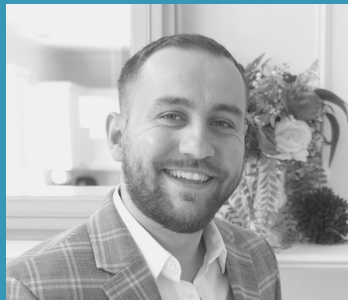
KEYLA ARAUJO
Godfrey EL and ECC Site
Coordinator



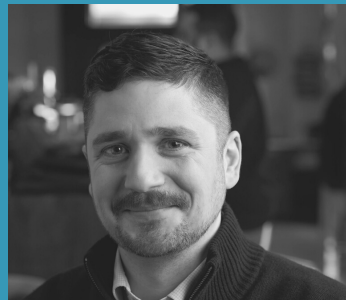
MONICA ZAVALA
SWCC Site Coordinator



JOHN ROBINSON
President



FUAD HASANOVIC
Vice President



BEN BORISCH
Treasurer



MALAINA WELDY
Secretary



JATNNA ABREU
Events Committee



FRANK ACOSTA
Events Committee



ANDREA BLUE
Governance Committee



MARCIA BOYCE
Finance Committee



VERONICA BRADFORD
Governance Committee



ABIGAIL BRUINS
Donor Committee



JASON LOEPP
Finance Committee



CHRISTINE MWANGI
Governance Committee



JOIN US

BECOME A MENTOR

One Hour, Once a Week.

Meet during the school day at one of our six partner schools
[one hour x once a week x one academic year].

MENTORING SITES

Grand Rapids Public Schools

- Burton Elementary School
- Burton Middle School
- Southwest Community Campus Elementary

Godfrey-Lee Public Schools

- Early Childhood Center
- Godfrey Elementary
- Lee Middle School

RESOURCES

Our onsite, bilingual (English/Spanish) staff support the mentoring relationship and provide books, games, activities, and crafts.

APPLY NOW FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR
affinitymentoring.org/mentors/

BECOME A COMMUNITY PARTNER

We're Better Together

ADVOCATE

- Offer employees the opportunity to mentor
- Volunteer for an event or community program
- Promote Affinity widely in networks

SUSTAINER

- Invest with a financial contribution
- Sponsor a program event and/or fundraiser
- Donate supplies and/or in-kind gifts

CHAMPION

- Both advocate and financially support Affinity
- Offer employees the opportunity to mentor
- Make a financial gift or sponsors an event

START THE CONVERSATION

Rachel Humphreys, Communications and Development Director
rhumphreys@affinitymentoring.org
616.215.0888

EVENT SPONSORS

MATCH SPONSOR



GLITTER BOOTH SPONSOR

LEADERSHIP SPONSOR



EVENT SPONSORS

TABLE SPONSORS



COMMUNITY CONNECTORS





VENDORS

EL GRANJERO MEXICAN GRILL*

DISTINCTIVE CATERING

GENESIS CONSULTING*

HIGH FIVE GR

ISABEL MEDIA STUDIOS*

**Denotes a Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) Owned Business. We are committed to reinvesting funds back into the community we serve. One way we do this is by prioritizing vendors that are BIPOC owned, female owned, and/or in the zipcodes in which our partner schools reside.*

MISSION + VISION

MISSION

Facilitate equitable growth in academics, social emotional skills, and self-esteem through mutually beneficial mentoring relationships. We believe in cultivating a brave space that amplifies the voices of young agents of change in a diverse and inclusive community.

VISION

Be a leading nonprofit for fostering belonging alongside young people, families, and community.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL

