

Partnership Agreement
between
Heights-Hillcrest Regional Chamber of Commerce (HRCC)
and
Open Doors Academy (ODA)

Definition and Goals

The Heights-Hillcrest Regional Chamber of Commerce and Open Doors Academy have formed a working partnership in order to implement the Community Connectors mentoring program for ODA high school students in Cleveland Heights/University Heights, and secondarily, for ODA high school students in the Cleveland Metropolitan and Euclid School Districts.

The goals of the program are to “strengthen communities, encourage mentoring opportunities, and create new pathways for civic engagement that will result in higher educational achievement, higher levels of well-being and health, and workforce readiness.” The initiative utilizes social connectedness to “impact school performance and economic productivity while creating new ways for schools to promote a positive, goal-oriented, and hopeful atmosphere for success.” It is a particular goal of the program to involve faith-/values-based organizations, and businesses.

The other partners in the Open Doors Academy Community Connectors program are the Cleveland Heights High School, the YWCA of Greater Cleveland (for program evaluation), and Forest Hill Presbyterian Church in Cleveland Heights. The partners constitute the ODA Community Connectors Leadership Team.

The partnership will go into effect dependent on receipt of funding from the Ohio Department of Education, and will remain in effect for the allotted three years of state funding, to be renegotiated, as agreed by all parties, for an additional period of time after the initial three years.

Commitments: Open Doors Academy

Under this Partnership Agreement, Open Doors Academy is responsible for the following tasks or duties.

1. Direct programmatic, administrative, and financial management of all aspects of the Community Connectors program, serving as the lead applicant.
2. Convening quarterly meetings of the ODA Community Connectors Leadership Team for purposes of program review and consultation.
3. Sharing all evaluation data/findings with members of the ODA Community Connectors Leadership Team.
4. Between meetings, providing members of the Leadership Team with regular updates about program events, progress, challenges, and needs.
5. Compensating the Heights-Hillcrest Regional Chamber of Commerce \$10,000 annually for marketing and promotion of mentoring opportunities to its 300+ organizational members, through inclusion of articles in the HRCC newsletter, tabling at HRCC events, announcements at HRCC meetings, and other strategies as deemed effective and appropriate.

Commitments: Heights-Hillcrest Chamber of Commerce

Under this Partnership Agreement, the HRCC is responsible for the following tasks or duties.

1. Ensuring attendance at quarterly ODA Community Connectors Leadership Team meetings by HRCC Executive Director Angela Pohlman or her designee.
2. Regularly promoting/marketing ODA Community Connectors volunteer mentoring opportunities to HRCC members, through an array of strategies and tactics and at key HRCC business expo events, with the goal of recruiting at least 50 active mentor participants in the program.

Commitments: Joint

Under this Memorandum of Understanding, Open Doors Academy and the HRCC are jointly responsible for the following tasks or duties.

1. Be knowledgeable about the goals and objectives of the Ohio Department of Education Community Connectors Initiative.
2. Advocate the program to the community.
3. Assist with evaluation activities related to administration of the grant and implementation on the program.

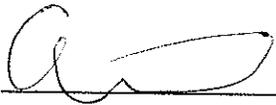
Management, Dispute Resolution, Duration

1. The length of this Partnership Agreement shall be the three years of the Community Connectors initiative.
2. In the event of a dispute or disagreement, all parties will make every effort to resolve the dispute or disagreement through direct dialogue.
3. Should either party wish to dissolve the Partnership Agreement, he or she will communicate that wish to the other party, first verbally, to be followed by a written statement to that effect.
4. Notice of desire to terminate the Partnership Agreement shall be given at least 60 days in advance of the intended date of termination.

Signatures, Dates



Angela Pohlman
Executive Director
Heights-Hillcrest Chamber of Commerce
Cleveland Heights, Ohio



Annemarie Grassi, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer
Open Doors Academy
Cleveland, Ohio