

## **Latino Youth Mentoring Initiative Fact Sheet**

**Purpose:** To give teens that are committed to education and community an opportunity to coach and mentor young children and families.

**Who: MENTORS** - Twenty 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade Latino students will be selected through an application process from Hermiston High School, Umatilla High School, McLaughlin High School, and Riverside High School as youth mentors.

**PARTNERS** - An advisory board in all four locations consisting of a School Principal; Counselor; Volunteer, Career, ESL and At Risk coordinators; City Representative; Police Department Representative; Latino Business Owners; Parents; and Civic Club Representatives will be established.

**When:** September 2004– May 31, 2005. After the project is developed, implemented and evaluated we anticipate the Youth Mentoring program will be absorbed within the various community programs and will continue to be implemented and successful.

**Where:** Student's will provide mentoring preferably in the existing Head Start centers. Mentors will accompany teachers on home visits, work in classrooms, but also have the opportunity to become involved in all the facets of comprehensive services provided by each community. Mentors will be actively engaged in various Health, Mental Health, Nutrition, Education and Safety components of their choice, that will increase their awareness of various resources and services.

**How:** Recruit and retain Latino youth that are demonstrating desired leadership skills, committed to mentoring and becoming a positive role model to younger children and families. Recruit and retain advisory board members that are outstanding community professionals and parents that are committed in making a positive difference in the lives of youth and children.

**Why:** Decrease drop out rates, teen pregnancies, language and cultural barriers, Increase reading skills. Become a positive role model for the family and younger child.

***Benefits:*** *Through this program, young children and adolescents will be introduced to positive role models.. Impressionable young children will have an example of someone that is a person of integrity and has good leadership and high achieving skills. Mentors will receive credit for the Leadership course and career internship through the schools. The students will learn about family dynamics, social interaction, conflict resolution, literacy, community and individual leadership and become productive citizens in the community.*