

## **UCAN of Memphis**

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## External evaluation(s) supporting your organization's progress or results

Ninety-five percent (95%) of our mentees attend college or trade school after graduation (as reported by the schools). After attending the *Blazers and Pearls* program, our participants are surveyed regarding program effectiveness. Survey results indicate that 98% of high school program participants state they increased their knowledge of career readiness. According to our survey school faculty, 85% of our middle school participants saw a decrease in infractions (behavior/bullying issues) and a commensurate increase in their academic achievements (gpa) while in our program. Overall, we have a 90% program attendance rate during inschool sessions (on avg. each school has 13 participants), with 92% (avg. 65 students) graduating from the *Blazers and Pearls* program in all participating schools. High school seniors receive laptops and all students receive professional padfolios, funded by donations, local government and community grants.

With the help of local government grant funding from City of Memphis and Shelby County Government as well as funding from community grants and donations, we have been able to increase our in-school participation from 2 schools to 6 schools, with an average of 13 students per school. We have also been able to increase student and workshop participation from 250 to 4,150 students over a 3-year span.