## **AmeriCorps Promise Fellows:**



# Closing the Graduation and Attendance Gaps in Minnesota

Across Minnesota, AmeriCorps Promise Fellows serve students in grades 6-12 with supports designed to keep them engaged in school, attending daily and on a path to graduation.

1159
Youth Served
in 2022/23

the number of additional days of school attended by students who recieve the support of a Promise Fellow (according to a 2022 Impact Study)

Promise Fellow strategies for student engagement:

**Caring Adult Mentoring** 



Service & Service-Learning



**Out of School Supports** 



Graduating from high school opens the doors of opportunity for young people– leading to higher levels of employment, increased wages and better health.

Earnings increase with more educational attainment; on average, "full-time workers age 25 and over without a high school diploma had median weekly earnings of \$689, compared with \$838 for high school graduates (no college) (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022.)





**Greater MN: 21 sites** 

**Suburban: 9 sites** 

**Metro: 29 sites** 

Our Ask: HF 3535/SF 3832: \$1 million per year to supplement federal funding and provide youth with evidence-based interventions during their transitional years.

Contact: Minnesota Alliance With Youth • www.mnyouth.net • info@myouth.net

### **AmeriCorps Promise Fellow Model**

#### **Early Warning Indicators**

Promise Fellows work with students in grades 6-12 to develop a plan to keep them engaged in school and on-track for high school graduation, drawing on a menu of research-based, data-driven activities informed by leading research in dropout prevention. Research by Dr. Balfanz at Johns Hopkins University shows that by using the Early Warning Indicators of disengagement from school; Attendance, Behavior, and Course Performance (the ABCs), students can be identified during middle school as having a 75% or more likelihood of dropping out of school. Promise Fellows work with site-based Youth Success Teams to identify youth to receive support using the ABCs.

#### **Evidence-based Interventions**

Promise Fellows implement interventions aligned with the National Dropout Prevention Center's "Basic Core Strategies" identified as most effective in reducing school dropout.





Out-of-School Time supports: activities that involve students in after-school clubs, activities and tutoring. Research shows that fostering participation in afterschool activities leads to increased achievement, attendance, pro-social behavior, and school connection.

academic achievement and attendance.

service-learning on early indicators of dropout risk, including students' commitment to school, their

#### State Investment in Evidence-Based Supports for Youth

Ready for School 3rd Grade Reading 8th Grade Math High School Graduation Post-Secondary School













