Self Enhancement, Inc.
annual report 2013
IT TAKES A VILLAGE
Self Enhancement, Inc. (SEI) is dedicated to guiding underserved youth to realize their full potential. Working with schools, families and partner community organizations, SEI provides support, guidance and opportunities to achieve personal and academic success. SEI brings hope to individual young people and enhances the quality of community life.
In 2012, thanks to your generosity, we helped thousands of youth on the path to realizing their potential. We helped them transition from middle to high school, and from high school to college. We helped them develop new skills, like learning to build a boat, fill out a job application, write a college essay, and make an award-winning short film. We gave them opportunities to participate in Drum-Line, sing in the choir, and play basketball, volleyball, football and run track as we cheered them on.

At Self Enhancement we say it takes the right “who” to carry out this work. The right “who” is the more than 40 SEI program staff [we call them Coordinators] who work in twelve elementary, middle and high schools in Portland Public School district’s Jefferson cluster. They provide “24/7” support to help youth meet their academic, social and personal goals. They make sure that youth have a parent/guardian who is informed, engaged, and supported when and where needed. The right “who” is the staff at SEI’s Community and Family Programs, ensuring that services and resources are available and accessible— from energy and housing assistance to parenting classes, foster care support, domestic violence support services, fatherhood initiatives, and much more. The right “who” is SEI’s administrative staff, managers and staff at Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN) sites, the Academy faculty, kitchen staff and facilities staff. The right “who” is the SEI Board of Directors, Foundation Board, Academy Board, volunteers and it’s our community partners.

Recently, I had the honor and privilege of being the keynote speaker at Oregon Business magazine’s 100 Best Nonprofits to Work for in Oregon. In my address I touched on the tireless work that those in the nonprofit community do for the less fortunate in the world, and how essential their work is. The truth is, it takes all of us to help a child learn to build a boat, play the drums and graduate from high school.

Here at SEI, we have created a village filled with the right “who” but it’s going to take more than that to level the playing field, to close the achievement gap and to ensure that low-income youth of color are afforded the same opportunities to thrive and become positive contributing citizens. The village has work to do and I know we can count on you.

Tony L. Hopson, Sr., President and CEO

SEI’s youth development model spreads east to Reynolds and David Douglas to serve shifting demographics

Jefferson High will graduate the very first class from SEI’s Whole School Model

2014
OUR VILLAGE

- Jefferson
- SEI Academy
- Benson Polytechnic High
- Grant High
- Boise-Eliot
- Woodlawn
- Sabin
- George
- Center for Self Enhancement
- SEI Academy
- Ockley-Green
- Chief Joseph
- Faubion
- Vernon
- Beach
- Jefferson
- King
- Ockley-Green
- Boise-Eliot
- Benson Polytechnic High

Legend:
- SEI serviced school
- Community + Family Programs Service Zones
- SSES Schools
SEI Services

- **In-School**
  Coordinators are based on site and become an essential part of the fabric of the school, serving as a teacher, mentor and parent for their assigned student caseload.

- **After-School**
  SEI offers after-school programs at the school site and at the Center for Self Enhancement. Opportunities include academic support, social + life skills, arts + performance and sports, health + wellness.

- **Parent Engagement**
  SEI’s Parent Coordinators act as an advocate for each student’s parent/guardian to help address potential barriers to maintaining a healthy family environment and positive home and school relationship.

- **Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN)**
  A full-service neighborhood hub where the school and partners from across the community come together to make sure students and families have the necessary services to be successful.

- **Whole School Model**
  Every student can participate in the SEI program. This effort can turn around a low achieving school to a high performance school.

**ADDITIONAL SERVICES:**
SEI offers five weeks of full-day Summer Programming to keep students on track. Activities include academic enrichment, exposure opportunities and work readiness experiences.

SEI’s Post High School Transition Service Coordinators maintain a mentoring relationship with students and assist in continuing education support, career counseling, employment preparation, college entrance exams/applications and basic life skills.
1981
Tony Hopson, Sr. begins SEI as a 1-week basketball summer camp (high school boys)

1982
1-week basketball summer camp (middle school boys)

1988
SEI expands to year-round programming, 3 middle schools + Jefferson High School

SERVICES
- Domestic Violence
- In Home Safety + Reunification
- Parent Child Development
- Parenting Class

FAMILIES SERVED

COMMUNITY + FAMILY PROGRAMS
- Employment Services
- Domestic Violence Program
- ISRS Program
- Fatherhood Program
- Parenting Class
- Parent Support Group
- Parent Child Development
- Energy Assistance
- Housing Program

CFP's collaboration with the Community Works Project

WRA programs
- CFPA
- NIPOVETRY
- Family Stabilization
- Employment services
- SEI's collaboration with the Community Works Project
- Domestic Violence Program
- ISRS Program
- Fatherhood Program
- Parenting Class
- Parent Support Group
- Parent Child Development
- Energy Assistance
- Housing Program
SEI’s Community + Family Programs (CFP) has been a part of SEI since 2005. CFP’s primary goal is ensuring families are safe and stable and provided with the resources, support and wrap-around services needed to meet their social, emotional and economic needs. CFP’s services address economic and race-based disparities by providing a continuum of services that are culturally specific for families in need.
I joined SEI in 9th grade as part of the Whole School Model and am now a senior at Jefferson High. Once enrolled, I was paired with my coordinator - Aanen Trelstad. Since then, I have been a part of many SEI events, trips, and exposure activities including taking classes at PCC and participating in the Nike Product Creation Experience.

I have maintained a cumulative 3.5 GPA since joining SEI, utilized SEI tutorials throughout my high school career and have participated in every Blue/Gold card trip. Aanen has been a constant source of support and motivation. I have valued learning the SEI Standards, and truly use them in my everyday life. The Standards are helping me on the path to becoming a Positive Contributing Citizen: the goal for SEI students.

My future feels successful and I aim to attend a top level University. Without the opportunities, relationships and exposure SEI has provided me, getting to the next step would be a much bigger challenge. I feel fortunate to be a part of SEI.

TYRONE WHITE, JR.

Tyrone White, Jr. has been a SEI student since second grade. He is a 2008 graduate of Jefferson High School. He proceeded to enroll at an Air Force Prep school to prepare for college both athletically and academically and completed the program in May 2009. From there, Tyrone attended Utah State University with a basketball scholarship, eventually transferring to Cal State Bakersfield where he was a Roadrunner forward. He averaged nearly 11 points and 4 rebounds while leading the Roadrunners in three-point shooting in 2012-13. In the spring of 2013, Tyrone graduated with a degree in Liberal Studies.

 Upon graduation, he signed a professional basketball contract to play overseas for Keravnos Strovolou in Cyprus’ Pro A League in a small island-nation in the Mediterranean Sea located between Syria and Turkey. Tyrone hopes to play professional ball as long as he can and dreams of one day opening up a youth program similar to SEI that focuses on sports and academics.

DJ GONZALEZ

I joined SEI in 9th grade as part of the Whole School Model and am now a senior at Jefferson High. Once enrolled, I was paired with my coordinator - Aanen Trelstad. Since then, I have been a part of many SEI events, trips, and exposure activities including taking classes at PCC and participating in the Nike Product Creation Experience.

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The SEI Academy is recognized as a Model School meaning it is among the Top 5% of Oregon Title 1 schools.

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- African-American
- Multi-Racial
- Hispanic
- Economically Disadvantaged

STUDENTS PASSING MATH STATE STANDARDIZED TEST

SEI Academy

Portland Public Schools

Oregon Public Schools

2009-10 5th Grade
2010-11 6th Grade
2011-12 7th Grade
2012-13 8th Grade
In 2010, Portland Public Schools invited SEI to expand its longstanding partnership at Jefferson High School (Oregon’s only majority African-American high school) to become part of the district’s Redesign Initiative. The goal is to increase graduation rates while promoting equity in access and achievement through a school-wide transformation emphasizing rigor, relationships and college/career readiness. In response to this request, SEI developed and piloted its Whole School Model (WSM) framework at Jefferson.

Ninety-eight percent of the students participating in the WSM at Jefferson are identified as academic priority students based on low grades, poor attendance and low scores on statewide assessment tests. Students “on-track” to graduate is a significant predictor of on-time high school graduation.
This graph is based on the Portland Public Schools enrollment reports received January 2013 demonstrating the rising trend for WSM students at Jefferson on-track to graduate.

The percentage of students on-track to graduate increased between the end of their freshman year and the first quarter of their sophomore year. This same trend can be seen between the sophomore and junior year.
My name is Anna Robertson, I am a junior at Jefferson High School. I have been in SEI since my freshman year. I had just been diagnosed with a chronic disorder called Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome and learned that I wouldn’t be able to play sports, dance, stand for very long or do many other things. Being told before you’ve even had your first day of high school is devastating. I needed help. I needed support, and SEI gave that to me.

This summer at the SEI summer program, my heart rate spiked over 170 beats per minute, and my coordinator, Mr. Commodore came in and stayed with me until I felt better. He hasn’t just helped me, he’s been my family as well. My parents worry that something might happen to me while I’m off at school without them, but Mr. Commodore makes them worry a lot less. He is one of the people my parents trust completely to keep me safe, and so far, he has.

I’m unbelievably grateful for the numerous things SEI has done for me, and will do for me in the future.

Ms. Sarah Lawrence has been my coordinator through high school and is a prime example of what a coordinator should be. She holds me accountable. I appreciate the work she has done and how she always has my back. I know I can call her any time of day.

In 2014, I will graduate from Jefferson High School and attend Gonzaga University on a full-ride scholarship.

I will always be thankful to SEI for making me feel at home (for 11 years and counting)!
Thank you to the following government funders for supporting SEI:

Portland Public Schools
Portland Children’s Levy
State of Oregon Department of Education
State of Oregon Department of Human Services
Multnomah County Department of School and Community Partnerships

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*For audited financials, please visit www.selfenhancement.org
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