

A Bridge to Last



After considerable deliberation, Hamilton County Job and Family Services (JFS) decided to discontinue the contract with the University of Cincinnati College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services (UC CECH) to administer the Higher Education Mentoring Initiative (HEMI) and the Youth Advisory Board (YAB).

This difficult decision was made based on both the uncertainty of the fiscal status and local organizational impact of the COVID -19 crisis. JFS is fully supportive of the importance and value of HEMI therefore bringing it in-house on 8/1/20. HEMI will undergo a period of program assessment to identify opportunities to sustain, grow and better coordinate with the other JFS programming.



With Gratitude

Hamilton County Job and Family Services expresses sincere appreciation for the passionate commitment to our foster-care youth provided by the University of Cincinnati College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services (UC CECH).

JFS Interim Director McCartney, Assistant Director Margie Weaver and the JFS staff are thankful for the partnership with UC CECH that nurtured HEMI for more than a decade. They provided a welcoming learning environment for HEMI students and considerable in-kind support for the program.



Dream Teams

Thank You

We are immensely grateful to the stars of HEMI: the mentees and mentors who have done—and are doing—the hard work building a bridge to the future.



Former JFS Director Moira Weir created and funded HEMI to focus on improving educational outcomes of youth in foster care. Now, in her current role as President & CEO of the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, she is unwavering in her commitment to this program. JFS is proud to partner with UWGC in the coming years and continue to grow and shape this program.



Let's Go!

Graduation = *Liberation*

HEMI can have immediate impact on the lives of students. The value of the commitment by program partners and mentors cannot be understated. The impact cascades over families and across generations. Education is a path to a better life for the participants, their loved ones and the society that will benefit from the gifts these graduates have to offer the world.

Together, we're supporting families and changing lives .





Mission

The Higher Education Mentoring Initiative (HEMI) provides Hamilton County youth a long-term academic mentoring relationship that begins in high school and is focused on awareness of, and preparation for, post-secondary education and training.