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Positive Directions: Drop Out Prevention Program (Family Health Center of Worcester)
South High Community School
170 Apricot Street, Worcester, MA 01603

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Organization Description:
Family Health Center of Worcester is a full-service health center open to all residents of Worcester and surrounding areas. Our mission is to improve the health and well-being of all residents in the Greater Worcester area, especially culturally diverse populations, by providing access to affordable, high quality, integrated, comprehensive, and respectful primary health care and social services, regardless of patients' ability to pay.

Family Health Center offers family medicine, maternal child health, behavioral health, vision services, dentistry, nursing, a Walk In Center for urgent and primary care same-day visits, a low-cost pharmacy, lab, radiology, school-based health centers, refugee / immigrant health services, teen health clinic, ADHD clinic, INS clinic, an optical shop, flu vaccine clinics, health education and promotion, HIV counseling and testing, and public health programs for the early detection and prevention of disease.

Positive Directions is a drop-out prevention program that targets incoming 9th graders who are at high risk for high school dropout due to attendance, behavioral, academic and social issues. We intervene with twice a week tutoring and recreation at the YMCA, case management and community involvement.

CBL Opportunities:
Afterschool Tutoring Program
Meeting once a week, CBL volunteers provide homework help and mentorship to the Positive Directions youth. The tutoring program meets on **Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:45 to 3:15 pm**. The program needs approximately 5 tutors (per day) to work with these youth. Volunteers must be comfortable initiating a tutoring mentorship with teenage students. An outgoing personality will be useful in this role. A CORI background check is required and volunteers must attend an orientation session before beginning.

Afterschool Recreation Program
Meeting once a week, CBL volunteers will support that Positive Directions case manager in providing recreation for the students, leading or facilitating activities such as: fitness, team sports, rock wall climbing, swimming. The recreation program meets after tutoring on **Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00pm.** This program needs 3 recreation volunteers (per day) to work with these youth. Volunteers must be comfortable in the areas of fitness and recreation as well as competent in a leadership role with teenagers. A CORI background check is required and volunteers must attend a program orientation as well as a YMCA orientation before beginning.

Positive Directions encourages CBL volunteers to combine an afterschool tutoring session with an afterschool recreation session in order to build strong relationships with the students. It is also possible to tutor twice per week or volunteer with the afterschool recreation twice per week.

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Please Note: Students who have self-initiative will be most successful at this site. The students participating in the Positive Directions program are resistant to the programming and often do not have homework with them. Thus, in order to build relationships, it will take extra effort on the CBL student's part to begin conversation with the students.

Pre-Service Requirements: CORI, Orientation

Volunteers needed: After School Tutoring – 4-5 per day; Recreation – 3 max per day