

THE HEMI HERALD

THE HIGHER EDUCATION MENTORING INITIATIVE NEWSLETTER

* *SPECIAL EDITION* *

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About This Special Issue

In the past year, HEMI has experienced a tremendous amount of growth. The program has witnessed the inception of its fourth mentor/mentee cohort, has been recognized for its achievement on local, state and national platforms, and has opened new partnerships and alliances to best serve both mentors and mentees. As such, this edition of the HEMI Herald will highlight those who offer continuing support as well as introduce several new resources and opportunities that will continue to assist mentees on their pathways to independent, successful outcomes. The final two pages of this edition are dedicated to these community partnerships.



The goal of HEMI has also been amended to reflect the evolving needs of our youth. Throughout the years, we have learned that our mentees could benefit from exploring an employment training track. As a result, we have identified resources in which we can refer mentees for individualized support (see page 6).

Looking Forward: The HEMI Mission

The HEMI program provides Hamilton County foster youth a long-term mentoring relationship that begins in high school. HEMI is focused on the awareness, preparation and completion of **post-secondary education and/or training** ultimately enabling youth to enhance their lives and communities.

HEMI Announces Student Scholarships for 2013

As many of you know, *The Kentucky Derby: Run for the Roses* is an annual fundraiser, dedicated to solely support HEMI. This fundraiser is greatly supported and sponsored by **Hamilton County Commissioner, Greg Hartmann** and many community partners.

Due to the great support from our community, HEMI was able to raise \$12,000 through our annual fundraiser, *The Kentucky Derby: Run for the Roses* event for student scholarships!

Due to this fundraiser, the HEMI program received many donations from people who are dedicated to ensuring that HEMI students have the necessary support, as they pursue their education or training programs.

This year, we are able to offer scholarships to HEMI students who are currently seniors in high school or for those who are currently enrolled or enrolling in post-secondary education or training programs. The scholarships will be divided and dispersed based on the number of applicants, financial need and eligibility. The scholarships are to be used towards tuition and other expenses associated with post-secondary education. **Applications are to be postmarked by Tuesday, January 1, 2013.** Please contact the HEMI program coordinator to receive an application for a HEMI student.

Recipients of the scholarship awards will be announced at the Celebration Dinner, January 31, 2013 (See page 3 for details).

Save the Date!

Thursday, January 31st, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m.
Annual HEMI Celebration Dinner
Kingsgate Marriott

(See page 3 for more details)

Saturday, May 4, 2013

4:30-7:30 p.m.
The Kentucky Derby: Run for the Roses

HEMI Holiday Party To Cap Off Big Year

HEMI has announced its annual Holiday Party to celebrate all the progress and success this past year has brought mentees, mentors, and the program. This year's event will occur **Thursday, December 6th, 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at the People's Church**. Gift cards will be presented to all mentees in attendance. The event will require some creative minds for the events planned during the party, so come prepared! All those attending will be treated to a holiday feast provided by City BBQ, a HEMI favorite. Please join us to start off the holiday season and celebrate a year of growth and accomplishments to be remembered for some time! RSVP to the HEMI Program Coordinator: annie.schellinger@uc.edu or 513-556-4368.



HEMI Action Group Secures Housing for Students

We are very pleased to announce that the HEMI Housing Action Committee (consisting of HEMI mentors and partners from the University of Cincinnati, Lighthouse Youth Services, The Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile Jr. / U.S. Bank Foundation, and Ron and Phyllis McSwain's Insured Success Foundation) received notice that **HEMI will be receiving 15 housing vouchers through the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) for our students.**

The HEMI Housing Action committee submitted an application to CMHA, which was approved and will ultimately provide 15 site-based housing vouchers for HEMI students who are emancipated. This means that 15 apartments will be dedicated to HEMI students to reside in, while pursuing post-secondary education or training. This program will be available to HEMI Students who agree to follow CMHA / Section 8 Housing Guidelines, stay engaged with their mentor, maintain Financial Satisfactory progress and are willing to receive case management services. Case management services will be provided by the newly appointed, HEMI Housing Specialist, David Durr through Lighthouse Youth Services. The HEMI Housing Specialist will work closely with the HEMI program to ensure that students' needs are being met.

There are many details to finalize with this project, but we are so pleased to announce this special opportunity! This is very exciting news and illustrates some of the amazing work our action groups and community partners can achieve.

Please contact the HEMI program if you would like to recommend a student for this program now or in the very near future. We will have an initial application that students can complete.

Thank you and congratulations to everyone who helped make this happen!

A Special Thanks to:

Lighthouse Youth Services (Bob Mecum, Bonita Campbell and David Durr, Mark Kroner)
 Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority
 The Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr./U.S. Bank Foundation
 Ron and Phyllis McSwain's Insured Success Foundation
 New Life Furniture (Holly Young, Executive Director)
 Dr. Stephanie Cappel, CECH Director of Resource Development



Organization to Give 'New Life' to Student Apartments

HEMI is pleased to announce a new community partnership established as part of a collaboration for the new student housing opportunity.

New Life Furniture (NLF) is a ministry that focuses on collecting gently used furniture and delivering the items to families and individuals in need throughout the Greater Cincinnati area. The organization assists families in need by providing gently used furniture to help make their house a home. Those served by NLF have overcome homelessness, domestic violence abuse, house fires, evictions or many other situations and are beginning a new life.

NLF has graciously offered to furnish a new apartment for any mentee that participates in the housing program. This means that students will have a fully furnished apartment provided at little to no cost. This is a great opportunity for students to create a home of their own. HEMI is grateful for these resources that continue to emerge and support their communities!

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.nlfurniture.org/>



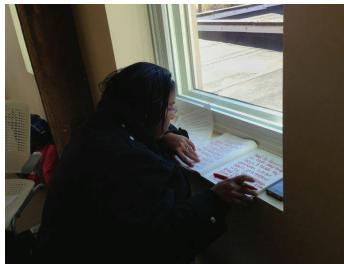
Gently Used Furniture for People in Need



A Day With Thrivera

On Saturday, November 17th, HEMI partnered with Thrivera, a non-profit organization that helps to ensure children have access to education and digital media tools to thrive in the current digital era. Its mission is to teach video storytelling, helping youth to discover their personal strengths from their own story. Thrivera has previously collaborated with The Academy of World Languages and Mt. Washington School in an effort to empower the student as the primary determinant in how their story evolves.

Thrivera founder Marvin Abrinica facilitated the event, guiding participants through the paradigm of the hero's journey and how to tell a story. The journey is comprised of a series of events that begins with a defining moment. The main character then must decide to act and negotiate challenges that shape new perspective and newfound strengths. This exercise provided students with a great framework to begin writing college admissions essays and develop introspective writing skills.



Later in the day, mentees were given the chance to write their own script, compiling and attaching events in their own lives into the format of the hero's journey. The day culminated with the filming of each individual's story, creating a short documentary that follows their path to today.

The day proved incredibly meaningful for all and provided some profound moments both on and off camera. Post production will begin soon to create an amazing collection of stories that only these students possess but have had the courage to share. This will culminate in the production of the first feature film about the HEMI, our mentees and mentors, and the community. The world premiere of the film will occur at the Celebration Dinner January 31st (see below for more details). We hope to continue to capture experiences of our mentors and mentees on camera. Thank you to all involved in this valuable experience!



For more information, visit:
<http://www.thrivera.org/>

Celebration Dinner Announced

HEMI is pleased to announce this year's annual celebration dinner to occur **Thursday, January 31st, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Kingsgate Marriott Conference Center at the University of Cincinnati**. This year's event will feature a night of elegance and a touch of class with a red carpet gala premiering HEMI's first movie production highlighting our mentors, mentees and community partners. This evening will also announce the recipients of the HEMI Scholarship Award (see page 1) for the coming school year. Professional photographers will be there to capture all the action! Join us to reflect on and celebrate a year of great progress and achievement! Please contact the HEMI program coordinator to RSVP: annie.schellinger@uc.edu or 513-556-4368.

HEMI in Action, A Mentor's Perspective

'I really believe in the power of the HEMI program to change lives'

Lee Armstrong is the Associate Director for International Programs in the Lindner College of Business at the University of Cincinnati. She recently described her experiences with her mentee, the challenges they have faced together, and her growth and determination as she pursues higher education. Below is her personal account of their story thus far.

"I describe my mentee as a remarkable young woman. Since being matched with my mentee during her junior year of high school, I have seen her gain confidence in herself and her ability to achieve her dreams. This month, I went to visit her at Wright State University. It was very rewarding to see how excited she was about her classes, life in the dorm, the friends she was meeting, having her first paying job, and getting involved in clubs on campus. I am really proud of the choices she is making. As a staff member of the Lindner College of Business, I thought I had a good connection with students and understood where they were coming from. Being a HEMI mentor made me realize how little

I really knew about the college admission and financial aid process. It brought to home how scary it can be to move to school, leave behind friends who will follow other paths after graduation, and be responsible for your own finances.

My mentee is very resourceful and had support from her school counselor and teachers to push her towards college. Few mentees have this advantage. I hope that in some small way I contributed to her success. She pushed me into the 21st century by forcing me to learn to text to keep in touch. Now that she is in college, I plan to continue to be a support and give her guidance when she isn't sure where to go for an answer. The mentoring experience has made me aware of the obstacles some of our students are facing and the support that they may need to make it to graduation. It took me aback when my mentee was moved into her own apartment in January of her senior year. I thought she would lose all discipline to make it to college. She had to walk to school, grocery shop, and cook for herself. But she proved me wrong!"

Survey Says...

HEMI to distribute evaluation surveys to make the program a model for other communities

As mentioned in the previous issue of the Herald, HEMI is in the midst of devising a survey instrument for both mentors and mentees to capture their progress, successes, and challenges both as individuals and as a team. The results will inform evidence based practice that will continue to guide and expand services as well as create a replicable program model that may be implemented by other agencies and organizations nationwide to serve youth in their communities. A published work is planned to fill the gaps in existing literature to share our findings with those who have a vested interest in the outcomes for emancipated foster youth.

In addition, HEMI will soon be distributing mentor profile surveys both to improve recruitment efforts by better understanding who is in the program as well as efforts for support among mentors by recognizing interests and commonalities outside of HEMI.



HEMI has made much progress towards the completion of the mentee survey. This will be used in part to measure objectives of personal growth within the program to ensure their needs are being met. Alyssa Purvis from UC Degrees and Kara Graham, who has dedicated a great deal of knowledge and energy to data entry and the action group committees, have been able to contribute valuable input. The survey is being devised from scratch, using components of existing valid and reliable instruments to capture operationalized attributes. Dr. Gary Dick from the UC School of Social Work is also providing professional counsel, as HEMI draws near to launch the survey in early 2013. Thank you for your continued support and contributions to this ambitious project!

-Daniel Hargraves, HEMI Intern

A New Addition to the HEMI Team!

HEMI Welcomes Allesha Crawley from the University of Cincinnati School of Social Work

We are pleased to recognize Allesha Crawley, a graduate student within the School of Social Work at UC who will be interning with the HEMI program until May 2013. The School of Social Work Master's Degree (MSW) program requires 900 total hours of field experience. Allesha will be dedicating 17 hours a week with the HEMI program.

Allesha Crawley graduated from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor's degree in Social Work. She is currently pursuing her MSW with a concentration in Mental Health. Prior to relocating to Cincinnati and entering the MSW program, Allesha lived in Colorado and Maryland expanding her knowledge and gaining

experience in mental health and geriatric settings. Most recently Allesha worked for Choices, a domestic violence shelter in Columbus, OH, as a Legal Advocate.

Allesha's career goals focus on providing direct practice to women and children within our community. She would like to contribute to the mental and emotional stability of families in need; focusing on the psychosocial conditions that help people deal with the difficulties of life.

Her mantra is, "Life is not about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself".



Allesha Crawley, Master's in Social Work '14

Thank You!

Thanks to ALL of the HEMI Mentors for your continued commitment!

April Alford, Lee Armstrong, Valerie Bairnsfather, Billy Bohl, Ann Brown, Kathy Brown, Lottie Burnette, Karen Christopfel, Chantelle Cunningham, Nanci Daniher, Mary Davis, Cheryl Dean, Jeff Demaree, Janice Demmerle, Janet Elfers, Rudy Forsberg, Michael Geile, Teresa Geile, Amit Ghosh, Kara Graham, Awatef Hamed, Margaret Hanson, Lorrie Jenkins, Katrina Jordan, Jane Kelley, Ruchika Khetarpal, Lyn King, Pamela Kingma, Roy Kulick, Kate Livingston, Melissa Luttmann, Rich Lynch, Susan Marcus, Monica McCullough, Kathy Moller, Melanie Moon, Jessica Nethers, Joseph Nickel, Jack Painter, Sean Pollock, Dianne Rabe, Betty Rothgeb, Shayna Royal, Mary Rudemiller, Sylvia St.Cyr, Fritz Shadley, Greg Smith, Sandra Urquhart, Cheryl Van Houten, George Wharton, Catherine Willoughby, Kathy Winters, and Susan Wisner.

Calendar of Upcoming Events, A Year in Preview, 2013

January (National Mentoring Month)

Tuesday, January 1, 2013

****Deadline for HEMI Scholarship Applications****

Thursday, January 10, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. HEMI Mentor Training: 'FAFSA'

Location: University of Cincinnati

Thursday, January 31, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. Annual HEMI Celebration Dinner

Kingsgate Marriott (please see page 3 for details)

February

****No Mentor Trainings will occur in February****

March

Thursday, March 7, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. HEMI Mentor Training: 'Parenting Resources Available to First Time Parents'

April (Child Abuse Awareness Month)

Thursday, April 4, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. HEMI Mentor Training: 'Employment Training Resources'

May (Foster Care Awareness Month)

Thursday, May 2, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. HEMI Mentor Support Group

Saturday, May 4, 2013

4:30-7:30 p.m. 'Run For The Roses: The Kentucky Derby Fundraiser'

Location: The Peterloos Estate

Summer (June, July, and August)

****No Mentor Trainings will occur during the summer months****

July

Thursday, July 11, 2013

3:00-5:00 p.m. ETV Session with Mentees

Location: University of Cincinnati

September

Thursday, September 5, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. HEMI Mentor Training: 'Educational Law'

October

Thursday, October 3, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. HEMI Mentor Training: 'Independent Living and Emancipation'

November

Thursday, November 7, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. HEMI Mentor Training: 'Privilege and Oppression'

December

Thursday, December 12, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. HEMI Dinner

We want your suggestions for HEMI program activities!

We are accepting creative ideas and will plan quarterly events that will occur in March, June and October. Past events have included The Amazing Race across the campus of UC, learning expression through art with local artist Cedric Cox, and attending the Festival of Lights. Help shape the next experience with our mentors and mentees! Just email your ideas to the HEMI program coordinator: annie.schellinger@uc.edu

All Events Occur at:

The People's Church

220 William Howard Taft

Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Unless noted otherwise

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Send in your stories about your mentoring experience.

Call (513) 556-4368 or send your news via email to the HEMI Program Coordinator.

We want to feature you!

Community Resources, Better Access for Best Outcomes

HEMI is constantly learning of the evolving needs and ambitions of our mentees. Through the work of our action group committees and direct feedback from the mentors and mentees themselves, we have established a comprehensive guide to community resources. There are many resources available to youth for personal and professional growth in the community in addition to services for those with specific needs. This information is intended to reflect some of the many resources that have proven to be helpful.

The sections are divided categorically to assist in helping find the most applicable services available in education, benefits, shelter, legal assistance, employment, mental health services, domestic violence, and support for parents and families ([please see this page](#)

and the following two pages for the complete list).

HEMI believes that the community serves as an integral partner for the success of each of its participants. The program hopes to continue to build relationships within the community. The program staff is available to connect a mentor or mentee with any of the services listed below, or to help identify new resources that may not be here. [Please do not hesitate to contact us for assistance](#). In addition, if you have any comments, suggestions, or additions to enhance this collection, please contact the HEMI program coordinator:

annie.schellinger@uc.edu or 513-556-4368.

Education

Ohio REACH

Ohio REACH addresses recruitment and retention of emancipated foster youth in Ohio's higher education system and establishes foster care liaisons at Ohio universities and community colleges.

Contact: <http://ohioreach.wikispaces.com>

Kids in School Rule (KISR!)

KISR! is a program for school aged youth in the custody of Hamilton County Department of Jobs and Family Services (HCJFS) or under HCJFS supervision who attend any Cincinnati Public School (CPS). KISR! does whatever is necessary to keep a child in their current school if they must move placements.

Contact: Sarah Mangan 513-946-1955

Gen-1

The Gen-1 Program provides first generation, Pell eligible, college students with the support needed to make a successful transition from high school to college and to maximize each student's opportunity for academic success in his/her first year of college.

Contact: <http://www.uc.edu/cechpass/gen1.html>

Judy Mause 513-556-3619

Christina Black 513-556-2080

UC Degrees Independent Alliance

The UC Degrees Independent Alliance Program provides educational and career support, guidance, and resources for those students who were or are currently in foster or kinship care.

Contact: <http://www.uc.edu/cechpass/csfy.html>

Alyssa Purvis 513-556-3045

GEARUP – Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness in Undergraduate Programs

GEARUP (Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness in Undergraduate Programs) is a federally funded program through the U.S Department of Education designed to increase the number of economically disadvantaged youth enrolled in and successfully completing post-secondary education. The GEARUP Program in Cincinnati is a partnership between UC and Cincinnati Public schools that provides current 9th, 10th, and 11th graders in eleven high schools with academic support and college and career awareness and exploration activities, and that promotes parent involvement and engagement.

Contact: <http://www.uc.edu/cechpass/gearup.html>

Denise Hewitt 513-556-3714

Gateway to Success

The Gateway to Success (Gateway) program provides students, age 18-21, who did not graduate from high school the opportunity to earn their high school diplomas and begin a career. The advantage of this career-based program is that students will complete coursework in a self-paced environment using on-line resources, software, and materials aligned to state standards.

Contact: <http://www.greatoaks.com/Adult/High%20School%20Diploma%20Options/Pages/Gateway-to-Success.aspx>

Terry Meinking, Program Coordinator, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College at 513-569-4984 or
meinkint@greatoaks.com

Nelda Sheaffer, Program Coordinator, University of Cincinnati Clermont College at 513-732-8968 or
sheafern@greatoaks.com

Community Resources, Better Access for Best Outcomes, Continued**Connect to Success (C2S)**

Connect to Success (C2S) connects out of school youth to student-driven and student-centered successful learning that leads to graduation, postsecondary education or certificated training, and gainful employment. C2S is a drop-out recovery led by Cincinnati State Technical and Community College and Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates.

Contact: <http://connect2success.org>

Mary Horan, Assistant Director, Intake Coordinator 513-569-1831 opt.1

Benefits**Ohio Benefit Bank**

The Ohio Benefit Bank is a program that allows trained Benefit Bank counselors to help individuals apply for public assistance programs.

Attention Mentors: If you have a mentee who has been emancipated and would like help with the Ohio Benefit Bank, contact Alyssa Purvis of UC Degrees: 513-556-3045

Contact: <http://www.ohiobenefits.org>

Shelter**Lighthouse Youth Services Shelter**

Lighthouse Youth Services on Highland provides shelter for single, unaccompanied males and females who are motivated to move from homelessness to housing. Eligible youth must be willing to participate in a thorough intake and assessment, development of an individual service plan, and attendance in weekly psycho-educational groups.

Contact: <http://www.lys.org/runaway.html>

513-221-3350

Legal Resources**Legal Aid**

The Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati provides legal representation, information, advice and referral for people in need of legal help.

Contact: www.lascinti.org/

513-241-9400

Employment**Cincinnati Works, Next Step Program**

Cincinnati Works, Next Step Program helps willing and capable people living in poverty that have been in Foster Care at any point, were adopted out of Foster Care, experienced Kinship Care, and/ or are exiting from Juvenile Justice. This program helps the aforementioned achieve economic self-sufficiency through employment by offering access to area employers while providing comprehensive support services.

Contact: www.cincinnateworks.org

Aimme Ryan 513-744-9675

Super Jobs

The SuperJobs Center assists job seekers in finding the right job through free educational workshops, career coaching and job leads.

Contact: <http://www.hcifs.hamilton-co.org/superjobs>

513-946-7200

Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates

The Jobs for Cincinnati Graduates (JCG) Program supports high school students who are aging out of the foster care system. The foster care specialist helps the aged out youth, for up to 24 months, meet their education and career goals and address barriers to success.

Contact: <http://www.jobsforcincinnatigraduates.org>

513-631-4400

Community Resources, Better Access for Best Outcomes, Continued**Dress for Success**

Dress for Success promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Dress for Success serves clients by referral only, and women must have an interview scheduled before receiving clothing.

Contact: www.dressforsuccess.org/cincinnati

513-651-3372

Cincinnati State Pathway to Employment Center (PTEC)

The Pathway to Employment Center is a “one-stop” career assessment, planning and placement center that is accessible to the community. By helping adult learners overcome obstacles that prevent timely completion of academic and career readiness, this Center aims to provide individuals with at least one credential that will demonstrate competency and skills to potential employers.

Contact: <http://www.cincinnatistate.edu/on-campus/ptec/ptec>

513-569-1500

Assistance League of Greater Cincinnati

Assistance League of Greater Cincinnati (ALGC) is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization dedicated to meeting critical needs of children and adults by identifying, developing, implementing and funding ongoing community programs. The ALGC has provided HEMI students with college starter kits especially designed to ensure students have the necessary school supplies.

Contact: <http://www.assistanceleaguecincinnati.org>

Mental Health / Therapeutic Services**A Home Within**

A Home Within strives to break the cycle of chronic loss experienced by so many foster youth by supporting the mental well-being of this highly vulnerable population. Free counseling is provided by volunteer therapists at no charge and with no time restrictions.

Contact: www.ahomewithin.org

888-898-2249

Parenting**Every Child Succeeds**

Every Child Succeeds (ECS) is a home visitation program that brings parenting skills, prenatal education, teaching tools, medical and nutritional insight to families in need. ECS aims to support and strengthen first-time parents as they develop their children with a greater ability to learn and thrive in our community.

Contact: <http://www.everychildsuccedes.org>

513-636-2830

Domestic Violence**Women Helping Women**

Women Helping Women is a unique provider of crisis intervention and support services for direct and indirect survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking. This program takes a leading role in educating the community to promote awareness and help prevent these types of abuse.

Contact: www.womenhelpingwomen.org

513-872-9259

Get Involved with HEMI

- Lend your skills, time or talents
- Serve on a HEMI Committee:
 - ~Event Planning
 - ~Action Group
 - ~HEMI Newsletter
 - ~Volunteer Activities
 - ~Student Support Services
 - ~Training
 - ~Fundraising

For More Information, Contact: HEMI Program Coordinator

Annie Schellinger, MSW,LSW
 CECH PASS
 PO Box 210002
 Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0002
 Phone: 513-556-4368
 Fax: 513-556-1037
 E-mail: annie.schellinger@uc.edu

HEMI Affiliates

We acknowledge and appreciate the important role that our affiliates play in supporting HEMI.

Our Affiliates are:

HEMI Advisory Board Members:

Greg Hartmann, Commissioner- Hamilton County Board of Commissioners

Moira Weir, Director- Hamilton County Job and Family Services

Greg Vehr, Vice President for Governmental Relations and University Communications- University of Cincinnati

Larry Johnson, Dean of the College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services- University of Cincinnati

O'Dell Owens, President of Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

Robin White, President and CEO- Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development

HEMI Steering Committee Members:

Scott Boone, Screening and Special Assessments Section Chief – Hamilton County Job and Family Services

La Saundra Craig, Director of Financial Aid- Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

Amy Hollon, Communications Specialist- Hamilton County Job and Family Services

Jon Quatman, Vice President of Performance and Outcomes- Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development

Annie Schellinger, HEMI Program Coordinator

Rayma Waters, Co-Director CECH PASS- University of Cincinnati

Margie Weaver, Care Management Section Chief- Hamilton County Job and Family Services

Kellie Wise, Director of Communications- Hamilton County Board of Commissioners

Alyssa Purvis, UC Degrees Program Specialist- University of Cincinnati

Neisha Wiley, Counselor- Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

Monica Benton, Hamilton County Job and Family Services Ongoing Caseworker and Educational Liaison

Sarah Mangan, Hamilton County Job and Family Services Ongoing Caseworker and Educational Liaison

HEMI Liaisons:

Kara Graham, HEMI Mentor, who assists with various program projects

Daniel Hargraves, HEMI Herald Editor-In-Chief, HEMI Intern, who is pursuing his Master's Degree in Social Work

Allesha Crawley, HEMI Intern, who is pursuing her Master's Degree in Social Work



OUR MISSION:

The HEMI program provides Hamilton County foster youth a long-term mentoring relationship that begins in high school. HEMI is focused on the awareness, preparation and completion of post-secondary education and/or training ultimately enabling youth to enhance their lives and communities.

