



Be Great-Graduate Initiative

1. **Purpose:**

The “Be Great-Graduate Initiative” was provided to the Southwest Boys and Girls Club to provide community mentoring, academic intervention, and culturally specific supports for a cohort of White Center youth who were identified as high risk.

2. **Description of services provided:**

Boys & Girls Club provided regular programming, support, and mentorship that engaged and supported each youth recruited for the program to work towards high school graduation and post-secondary goals.

Overall, 62 youth completed the Be Great- Graduate mentorship program and all 62 students advanced to the next grade or graduated. 16 high school students participated in the program and all 16 graduated. 10 of the seniors will be attending college in the fall of 2022.

Boys & Girls Club coordinated with school-based contacts (teachers, counselors, and other support staff) to ensure the student’s school-based needs were reflected in their service plans and that the student’s successes were communicated back to schools. Boys and Girls Club also supported participants to develop post-secondary plans and connected youth to resources to support them in working towards these goals.

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

Students who were eligible for services were identified as needing additional support by their respective schools.

Beneficiaries in 2021-22 School Year:

Number of School Districts:	1
Number of Schools:	6
Number of Students:	62
Number of Educators:	N/A
Other:	N/A

Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 0

Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 1

FY22 Funding:	State Appropriation:	\$70,000
	Federal Appropriation:	\$0
	Other Fund Sources:	\$0
	TOTAL (FY22)	\$70,000

4. Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?

No

5. State funding history:

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2022	\$70,000	\$70,000

6. Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:

N/A

7. Programmatic changes since inception (if any):

Boys & Girls Club of King County implemented Peace & Healing community circles. This was a way for youth to have an open discussion on what was going on with them, how they were feeling, and what is happening overall in their lives at school and at home. This was started mid-contract to assist with students struggling with mental health, school workload, or home life. The Peace & Healing circles proved to be beneficial as students were sharing their coping tips.

8. Evaluations of program/major findings:

Overall, 62 youth completed the Be Great-Graduate mentorship program this year, and all 62 are advancing to the next grade or graduating at the end of the 2021-22 school year.

16 high school senior students participated in the program and 10 of these seniors will be attending college in the Fall of 2022.

9. Major challenges faced by the program:

N/A

10. Future opportunities:

Boys & Girls Club of King County hopes to bring more behavioral health services to their clubs and to include more schools in the Be Great – Graduate mentorship program.

11. Statutory and/or budget language:

ESSB 5693, Sec. 522(26) - \$70,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 is provided solely for the southwest boys & girls club to provide community mentoring, academic intervention, and culturally specific supports through the "be great-graduate initiative" for a cohort of White Center youth identified as high risk.

12. Other relevant information:

N/A

13. Schools/districts receiving assistance:

See [OSPI's grantee list](#).

14. Program Contact Information:

Name: Dixie Grunenfelder
Title: Executive Director, Student Engagement and Support
Phone: 360-878-0138
Email: Dixie.Grunenfelder@k12.wa.us