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# ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024

CAREER INTOUCH INC.

# COMPANY OVERVIEW

## VISION

The vision is to provide a bridge for all students to access the tools fundamental for academic and personal success. With soft-skills, we will increase the retention of our students and instill what it means to be InTouch. The importance in community, the power in self-awareness and the pursuit of your purpose will allow for all of us to begin gearing towards a brighter future.

## MISSION

Our mission is to provide a platform that enables all students to lead by example through providing a message that is Informational, Motivational, and Inspirational (*I.M.I*). We cultivate new experiences for the youth to increase student success and mobility.

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Our vision is to enhance student retention and understanding through soft skills, nurturing a sense of community, self-awareness, and purpose-driven living.

Our mission is to craft a platform that empowers students to become exemplary leaders, armed with informational, motivational, and inspirational resources. We are committed to fostering novel experiences that bolster student achievements and facilitate their journey towards greater educational and life mobility.

# OUR VALUES

## EMBRACING STUDENT CENTRICITY

At the heart of Career InTouch Inc. lies our unwavering commitment to being "Student Centric." We have engineered a dynamic platform that fosters peer-to-peer guidance, enabling mentors to connect deeply with the unique needs of students. This approach has proven to enhance the relationships we nurture, resulting in heightened student engagement and productivity. By placing student needs at the core of our mission, we ensure that their success is always our primary focus.

## EPITOMIZING GROWTH AND LEARNING

Our brand stands as a beacon for personal development and hands-on learning. We at Career InTouch Inc. are advocates for the cultivation of growth mindsets and the continuous enhancement of skills. Our holistic approach to education emphasizes the experiential dimension of learning, allowing us to create an inclusive environment that inspires lifelong personal development. We hold a fundamental belief that true failure is not in falling but in refusing to rise. It is this conviction that drives us to support individuals relentlessly on their path to personal and academic greatness.

## A CULTURE OF EMPOWERMENT

The ethos of Career InTouch Inc. is intricately woven into "Our Platform," which is the cornerstone of our organizational culture. Our InTouch Mentors, drawn from the very communities we serve, offer an authentic insight into the demographics and dynamics crucial to our programs' success. We have cultivated an Alumni Structure that allows past students to contribute meaningfully to their alma maters, acting as vital connectors between faculty and the student body. Leveraging their experiences, they guide peers towards triumphs, both academic and personal. Our platform is a testament to our dedication to community engagement and the empowerment of every student we have the honor to serve.

- 1. Embracing Student Centricity:** We're deeply committed to a student-focused approach, providing a dynamic platform for peer-to-peer guidance. Our mentors are dedicated to meeting the unique needs of each student, enhancing engagement and productivity, and ensuring that student success remains at the forefront of our mission.
- 2. Epitomizing Growth and Learning:** We stand as champions of personal growth and experiential learning. Advocating for the cultivation of growth mindsets, we foster an environment that nurtures skills enhancement and inspires continuous personal and academic development. Our belief is that the only true failure is not in stumbling but in choosing not to get back up.
- 3. A Culture of Empowerment:** Our culture is built on the principle of empowerment, with our platform being the bedrock of this ethos. Our InTouch Mentors, who are alumni from the communities we serve, provide authentic connections and guidance, enabling students to navigate their academic and personal journeys successfully. This framework underscores our commitment to community engagement and the empowerment of our students.



## SERVICES



Career InTouch Inc. centers its operations on nurturing student success through comprehensive mentoring programs. With a sharp focus on students navigating the crucial transition from junior high to high school, *The I.M.I Program* bolsters soft skills vital for academic and future career success. Through peer-to-peer mentorship and experiential learning, we forge pathways for at-risk youth, fostering resilience, adaptability, and personal growth. Our efforts are quantified by ambitious goals, including improved disciplinary records, higher graduation rates, and enhanced student engagement, all contributing to a resilient, informed, and inspired student body poised for success.

Career InTouch Inc. enacts a holistic approach to student development through *The I.M.I Program*, focusing on near-peer mentorship and active learning. Our tailored mentorship empowers students to develop vital soft skills, enhancing personal growth and lifelong learning aspirations. The I.M.I Club is central to this mission, offering workshops and sessions aimed at fostering social, emotional, and career skills. Mentors, drawn from the local student body, leverage their shared experiences to guide and inspire, serving as crucial links in the educational journey from classroom to community.



- Career InTouch Inc. delivers a multi-faceted approach to student development, emphasizing the transition from junior high to high school with The I.M.I Program. This initiative underscores the importance of soft skills, peer mentorship, and hands-on experiences to equip at-risk youth with resilience and adaptability for academic and career success.
- Our holistic services extend through The I.M.I Club, providing workshops and sessions that nurture social, emotional, and professional competencies. By setting ambitious benchmarks for discipline, graduation rates, and engagement, we're crafting an environment where students are not just informed and inspired but also ready to thrive in their futures.



# PROGRAM BREAKDOWN

Over the past two years, Career InTouch Inc. has significantly developed its programs, with an eye on expansion in for the 2024-2025 academic school year. *The I.M.I Program*, a cornerstone in our efforts, operates in Bailey Middle School, Miller Middle School, and Kingston High School, and plans to broaden its reach to include more female students, particularly girls of color. This initiative aligns with our goal of diversifying education and mentorship opportunities.

Previously, the "3 Pillars of Success" program at John F. Kennedy Elementary School catered to third and fourth graders, focusing on experiential learning and personal growth. However, due to financial constraints, this program has been discontinued.

In contrast, the "EntreSkills" program, targeting ninth graders, continues to thrive through our partnership with the Small Business Development Center of New York. This program offers comprehensive entrepreneurial education, preparing students for business challenges in a global context.

These efforts showcase our commitment to creating a diverse, skilled, and empowered student body, equipped to face future challenges. Our strategic vision for 2025 includes reaching out to 25 students, predominantly girls of color, across our middle school programs, furthering our mission of inclusive and impactful education.



## What have we been able to do in a year?

- Career InTouch Inc. has made remarkable strides in enhancing and expanding its educational programs, with ambitious plans for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Our flagship I.M.I Program, currently active in several schools, is set to extend its empowering reach, focusing on increasing the involvement of female students, especially girls of color, to foster a diverse learning environment.
- While we have seen the unfortunate discontinuation of the "3 Pillars of Success" program due to budgetary limits, our "EntreSkills" program for ninth graders is flourishing, offering entrepreneurial education in partnership with the Small Business Development Center of New York. Looking ahead, we aim to impact an additional 25 students in our middle school programs, prioritizing inclusivity and educational excellence to prepare a skilled and adaptable student body for the challenges of the future.



Company	Career InTouch Inc.			
Owner	Calief Housen			
		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 (2025)
<b>Schools</b>	4 Total			
JFK, JWB, MCM, KHS		2 Junior High + 1 Elementary	2 Junior High + 1 High School	2 Junior High + 1 High School
<b>Programs</b>	3 Total			
The I.M.I Program		29 Students	47 Students	72 Students
3 Pillars of Success		17 Students	N/A	N/A
EntreSkills			18 Students	18 Students
<b>Demographic (DEI)</b>	Gender + Race			
The I.M.I Program		100% Boys, 72% Students of Color	100% Boys, 70% Students of Color	35% Girls, 72% Students of Color
3 Pillars of Success		53% Girls, 94% Students of Color		
EntreSkills			100% Boys, 78% Students of Color	100% Boys, 78% Students of Color
<b>Peer Mentors</b>	3 Total			
The I.M.I Program		2 Mentors	5 Mentors	8 Mentors
3 Pillars of Success		2 Mentors		
EntreSkills			1 Facillitators + 2 Mentors	1 Facillitators + 2 Mentors



# YEARLY OVERVIEW

## PARTNERS:



Career InTouch Inc.'s strategic goals for the upcoming year revolve around three key objectives: to inform, to motivate, and to inspire. Our plan is to heighten awareness about the critical role of soft skills, match students with inspiring peer mentors, and offer diverse experiences that align students' skills with potential careers. We're dedicated to equipping students with essential soft skills through a Comprehensive Soft-Skill Development Mastery Assessment, fostering continuous learning, and empowering them with a sense of purpose. Our objectives are structured to ensure every student we engage with is prepared to excel both academically and personally.

*"Career InTouch was a wonderful transitional program. It was extremely beneficial having Career InTouch (Calief and Salah) in the Summer 9 program coming in with already established relationships with the students. The students felt safe with them and they were great mediators when we had to talk with students."*  
- Summer 9 Principal

### KINGSTON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FIVE PROGRAMS ACHIEVE RECORD ATTENDANCE

While the summer season may evoke thoughts of leisure and relaxation, the Kingston City School District (KCSd) is proving that learning remains a top priority. With great enthusiasm, KCSd announces a record-breaking attendance in its five summer programs catering to different grade levels, with over 1,000 students registered this year.

The summer programs, specifically designed for Kindergarten through Grade 5, Grades 6-8, Summer 9 (for incoming Grade 9 students), Grades 10-12, and Special Education, have seen an overwhelming response from students and parents alike. The District's summer school programming goes beyond traditional academics, as it offers students the chance to engage in real-world experiences through valuable partnerships forged with the community over several years. Some of these partnerships include Cornell Cooperative Extension, Peaceful Guardians, and Family of Woodstock for the Grades 6-8 program, as well as Wild Earth, Career InTouch, Youth Ensemble Theater, Go Beyond Greatness, and the Kingston Police Department for the Summer 9 program.

Kira Tutko, the Principal of Summer 9 and a dedicated Literacy Specialist at George Washington Elementary School during the academic year, expressed her excitement about the summer programs. "Summer 9 has kicked off very well," she remarked. "The kids come in smiling, look forward to the day's work, and a lot of times they even try to stay later!"

### The Impact of Career InTouch



Incoming Freshman at KHS



Career InTouch Inc. is poised for a transformative year ahead, laser-focused on three pivotal objectives: to inform, to motivate, and to inspire. Our roadmap includes raising the profile of essential soft skills, pairing students with motivating peer mentors, and curating diverse experiences that bridge the gap between students' abilities and prospective career pathways. With the implementation of a Comprehensive Soft-Skill Development Mastery Assessment, we are on a mission to nurture ongoing learning and instill a driven sense of purpose in our students. Our targeted objectives are meticulously designed to prepare students for excellence in their academic endeavors and their personal lives, ensuring they are well-equipped for the future that awaits them.



Thank you Kingston!



# THANK YOU

As we close this year's annual report, we extend our deepest gratitude to all our partners, stakeholders, and supporters. Your unwavering commitment and belief in our mission have been the driving force behind our remarkable achievements. The collaboration, support, and trust you have bestowed upon us have not only enabled us to reach new heights but also to make a tangible difference in the lives of the students we serve. Your role in our journey is invaluable, and we look forward to continuing this partnership, working together towards a brighter, more empowered future. Thank you for being an integral part of our story.