

CASE STUDY



In 2023, the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), a nonprofit committed to supporting low-income students, first-generation students, and students with disabilities, launched the Career Opportunities Initiative (COI). The goal was to bridge the gap between college and career. This initiative provides mentorship opportunities, provides self-paced job skills training, and helps students secure internships that lead to full-time employment. Through partnerships with public and private employers, the initiative offers pathways to competitive careers.



INITIAL RESULTS

- Since 2023, COI has connected hundreds of TRIO students across 30+ colleges and universities to career mentors.
- Over 90% of students report that they:
 - were satisfied with their mentors
 - would recommend COI
 - felt more confident about success

ABOUT MENTORPRO

MentorPRO is an evidence-based mentoring platform that streamlines matching and reporting, drives engagement, and safely connects students to:

- Self-paced career training
- Trained career development mentors
- Internships and jobs
- Career and TRIO alumni networks



The Career Opportunities Initiative is a masterpiece. We couldn't have achieved this career development mentoring without MentorPRO's support. They are truly immersed in TRIO.



**TOMMY C. WALLS, JR.,
MSW, CHSM**

*National Director of Alumni Relations and
Career Opportunities
Council for Opportunity in Education*



COUNCIL for OPPORTUNITY in EDUCATION



CENTER for
EVIDENCE-BASED
MENTORING

PUTTING RESEARCH into ACTION



KEY STATISTICS

278

students served
across all cohorts

Most frequently selected goals:

- 🎯 Internships
- 🎯 Networking
- 🎯 Work-life balance
- 🎯 Financial literacy

Course completion rates across cohorts:

Connected Futures:
The Science of Building
Social Capital

109 students

Building Your Career
Identity

73 students

Setting Goals in Your
Personal and
Professional Life

91 students

In Summer 2023:

90% students were satisfied
with the support from
their mentor

92% would recommend
this program to others

95% students felt confident
that they'd be a
successful student



In Summer 2024:

1190
messages sent

99
Check-Ins
completed

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Students and employers can visit the COE website or contact Tommy Walls, COE's Director of Alumni Affairs and Career Opportunities, at tommy.walls@coenet.org or (202) 347-7430 ext. 306.