



April 14, 2015

Dear Friends,

I'm so pleased to share a small sample of recent and exciting happenings:

City Year partnership to provide opportunities to CSS peer leader alumni. Graduates of CSS programs are well-trained leaders who are committed to improving their schools and supporting their peers. CSS is pleased to team up with [City Year](#) to link our highly-skilled alumni with the opportunity to serve as City Year AmeriCorps members. In this role, our graduates can extend their impact on the lives of the students and communities they serve. Through April 30, City Year is accepting applications from young people wishing to dedicate 11 months of full-time, in-school service in high-need communities. See [here](#) for details.

PGC to be featured as part of MENTOR Collaborative Mentoring Webinar Series. CSS will join our partners at [MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership](#) for a collaborative webinar about peer mentoring. CSS's Senior Director of Development, Dr. Margo Ross, will discuss our flagship peer mentoring model, Peer Group Connection. [Join us](#) on April 16 at 1:00 p.m. for a lively dialogue about how mentoring professionals can tap into schools' most underutilized resources - students - and enlist them in strengthening the educational offerings of the school, while students simultaneously advance their own learning, growth, and development.

Achievement Mentoring recognized as *Promising Program*. In April 2015, [Achievement Mentoring](#) was recognized by the [National Mentoring Resource Center](#) (NMRC) as a *Promising Program* based on evidence that it achieves justice-related goals when implemented with fidelity. Since 2011, CSS has disseminated Achievement Mentoring in partnership with the program developer, Dr. Brenna Bry, professor at the Rutgers University Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology. NMRC [shares](#) that Achievement Mentoring is, "an excellent illustration" of how mentors can provide not only caring support, but also effective skill-building, to help students overcome challenges.

Hearst Foundation awards grant to expand PGC. [The Hearst Foundation, Inc.](#) has awarded a generous grant to CSS to help further expand Peer Group Connection (PGC) in economically disadvantaged communities, which will enable us to reach greater numbers of youth in high need schools with this proven model. We are extremely grateful for this new partnership!

All the best,

Daniel F. Oscar
CEO

P.S. As always, if you'd like additional information about anything you've read, simply hit reply and let me know. I look forward to hearing from you!