The Diversity Middle & High School Student Diversity Initiative. The program is scheduled from October 2018 until May 2019. We will serve Middle and High School students. The goal is to empower Diverse Students to be career and college ready and ready to compete for the best current and future employment opportunities. Also to provide a monthly African American Role Model speaking with student about how to continue to be successful in school.

In addition, the focus is on reducing barriers to leaning and closing achievement gaps of Diverse Middle and High School Students.  The highlights and effectiveness of our program is to empower student to have skills, knowledge, education and training to succeed in education, employment and leadership opportunities.  Students will be provided a pre-test and post-test during our empowerment events.  We will assess the effectiveness of our Educational and Cultural Empowerment Outreach for Diverse Students during and after the programs to ensure the program effectiveness and success.  The programs serve Female and Male African American, Bi-Racial, African, Asian, Native American and Hispanic and Caucasian Students in Boone County Schools. The program is designed to meet with students in all Secondary Schools once a month at each school.

**Month One**

Week one of the Initiative will focus on introduction of the program and the topics Why is Education Important and The Benefits of Receiving a Quality Education. Presenter will talk with students about the above-mentioned topics, student will have opportunity to engage presenter with questions and be presented with a problem-solving opportunity developing solutions on how to encourage students to consistently focus on educational success.

**Month Two**

Week two will focus on Career Readiness. Participating student will have the opportunity to hear from business and corporate professionals on what it takes to be career ready and what students should do prepare themselves for the current and future workforce. The interaction will have students dialoging with a panel of business and corporate professional. During the week students will take a field trip to a regional business or corporation to learn and view how business in done daily.

**Month Three**

Week three will focus on college readiness. Participating student will visit local college and universities to learn the qualification needed to be admitted to college. In addition, the students will learn about how to apply for scholarships, importance of meeting deadlines for admission to college and interact with college faculty, staff, administrators and student as they explain how to become a successful college student.

**Month Four**

Week Four will focus on Character Education. The importance of character education will be highlighted to ensure high school student are developing the character need to become successful leaders now and in the future. Students will hear from the leaders of character counts about how to ensure good character is fostered daily.

**Month Five Community Engagement**

Week Five will focus on Community Engagement. Students will have the opportunity to learn from community leaders about what makes their community unique and a great place to live and work. Additionally, students will participate in a community service activity, which is organized to demonstrate the importance of giving back to the community.

**Month Six Leadership**

Week Six will focus on leadership and what is takes to become a good leader. Student will learn strategies and techniques to become a good leader and the difference between following and leading. Also, highlighted will be the importance of starting at an entry level with the ambition of becoming a great leader in the future.

**Month Seven Cultural Empowerment**

Students will learn the importance of loving who themselves and their community. Cultural Empowerment will be focused on the importance of lifting ones individual cultural without talking down of another culture. Cultural Empowerment will highlight the similarities all people have rather than the difference that can divide a community.

**Month Eight Reducing Barriers to Learning**

Student will learn the importance of reducing barriers and obstacles to achieving and learning as they pursue their education. The information is this week will focus on the potential challenges students can find themselves in if not focused on educational success from to the beginning to the end of the school year.

**Week Nine Financial Literacy**

Financial Literacy week will highlight the importance of becoming financially aware early to ensure financial stability in the future. Student will learn about the benefits and challenges to obtaining and sustaining good credit ratings.

Month Ten Living Healthy Lives

The importance of living healthy lives will be highlighted during week nine. Students will be learning about anti-smoking, anti-drug initiative. The importance of exercise, eating right as opportunities to live healthy lives.

**Month Eleven Closing Ceremony and Recap**

The Closing Ceremony will provide student with awards and recognition for participating in the ten- week Diversity Leadership Initiative. Students will have the opportunity to provide a reflection of the program to discuss its impact on their lives. Also, students will be provided a closing survey to assess the program.