

Our DNA

THE FUNDAMENTAL AND DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF OUR ORGANIZATION

WE ARE: Academically Focused | Service Oriented | Family-like Long-Term and Comprehensive | Faith Inspired | Voluntary in Nature

Academic Focus

We believe in the transformative power of education to develop lifelong learners using:

- Strengths-based, positive youth development approaches
- Practical preparation for careers to sustain one's self and family
- Exposure to diverse opportunities that enrich one's life and enhance learning
- Scholarship incentives encouraging and maximizing self-motivated learning

Service and Community Engagement

We believe in the Jesuit-inspired, values-centered hallmark of building "persons for others" by:

- Developing character through service learning activities related to social justice and civic responsibility
- Educating those at every level of our organization in cultural competence
- Seeking collaborative partnerships to enhance our mission

Family-like Settings to Create a Sense of Belonging

We believe youth derive their energy and sustenance from exposure to nurturing environments that provide:

- Inclusion in a loving community that meets youth where they are but sets high expectations
- A feeling of "being home," with residential care as needed
- Strong and supportive developmental relationships with adult mentors and peers
- Stability, structure, and individualized guidance in small settings
- Modeling of positive values

Long-term and Comprehensive Commitment

We believe an enduring relationship with youth holds the most promise for attaining positive outcomes by:

- Intervening early to support scholars from adolescence through college graduation and beyond
- Offering a holistic spectrum of programming that evolves with the age and needs of youth
- Providing ample opportunities for youth to develop social and emotional learning skills

Faith-Based Values

We believe that a loving God cares about the life of every individual and we manifest this belief by:

- Focusing on those most in need of our services
- Respecting, serving and engaging people from all faith traditions
- Fostering spirituality and an active faith life as essential elements of healthy personal development
- Helping youth develop a moral compass based on universal principles

Voluntary Participant Commitment

We believe in the motivational power of selfselection into the BHGH program because:

- Parents and Scholars share a vision for a better future
- Scholars elect to invest in themselves and are empowered to join
- Families value and trust in a working partnership with BHGH
- BHGH serves bright, capable young people who are motivated to overcome obstacles to reach their potential