

BOYS TO MEN

Introduction and Overview:

How often do boys get to sit down with a man to discuss issues of life that pertain to the development of a man? Men, who are still developing themselves, can provide valuable information to a boy. Since men have traveled down the road that a boy is headed, they can share with boys what they have encountered as well as how they would change their encounter knowing what they know now.

It is important to tell fatherless boys to break the chain. They need to know that they are not to grow up having kids without being a father to them. Because you may not have a father in your life does not mean you have to grow up and not be a father. It has to stop somewhere.

At Jefferson High School, we started during the 2009-10 school year with a group of freshmen boys who are being raised by a woman without the father.

The goal is to meet with them monthly for an hour. Men were asked to come and spend the hour with the boys; to sit down in small groups and discuss chosen topics that pertain to being a boy and growing into a man.

The plan is to interact with these boys for the 4 years of their high school career to see what a difference we can make on their academic, personal, social and emotional development as they mature toward becoming a man.

After completing the successful four year program, we have evolved to include boys at every grade level, who are raised by single women, single fathers, stepfathers, DHS, etc. This program has also served as therapy for the men. Most men are still at different stages of developing themselves and have found the curriculum and topics beneficial to their own continuing development.

Portland Pro-Am sponsors the Boys to Men program. Portland Pro-Am is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization and all contributions are tax-deductible. Our tax identification number is 94-3104569.

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