The My Brother’s Keeper (MBK) Sacramento Youth Fellowship program launched its third cohort of youth fellows in early fall 2019. Thanks to targeted recruitment from partners within the MBK Sacramento network, young men from across the city applied for the opportunity. Nearly thirty eligible applicants were interviewed, and eighteen selected as Youth Fellows for the 2019-20 Cohort, which kicked off with a full day retreat in early October. This year’s Cohort represents a diverse group of bright, energetic young men, eager to connect with one another and create change.

Returning to lead facilitation of Fellowship meetings is a team of dynamic Mentor/Facilitators, comprised of leaders in education, youth engagement and justice reform. The Mentor/Facilitator team also engage with Fellows outside of meetings for 1:1 check-ins and additional supports as needed. In order to provide effective wrap-around support, the program activates partnership with the Black Child Legacy Campaign under the One Hood; One Brotherhood project. Engagement with educational leaders, families and other service providers also help to support the needs of MBK Fellows.

This year’s Fellowship model incorporates the re-engagement of previous Youth Fellows as Peer Mentors. Five former Fellows were selected to serve as Peer Facilitators and Ambassadors for Cohort 3. MBK Peer Mentors inform planning, co-facilitate meetings, represent the Fellowship in various spaces, and support the day to day functions of the Fellowship.

In response to feedback from Cohort 2 Fellows, opportunities for recreation are now integrated into each Fellowship meeting. An hour prior to each meeting is available for Fellows to hang out, engage in activities or games offered by the Boys and Girls Club, and build stronger relationships with mentors and with their MBK Youth Fellowship brothers.
WHO WE SERVE  Cohort 3 Fellows breakdown

Ethnicity demographics

Ages 15-17 years: 14
Ages 18-21 years: 4

Sacramento Represented!
MBK Sacramento Cohort 3 Youth Fellows represent neighborhoods and communities from throughout the Sacramento region, including:

South Sacramento
Del Paso Heights
Foothill Farms
Rosemont
Strawberry Manors
La Riviera

Oak Park
Meadowview
Fruitridge-Stockton
Arden Arcade
Valley High
Natomas

Community Engagement Highlights
During the initial program implementation months, MBK Fellows have experienced a multitude of community engagement opportunities including:

- The Annual BMoC Summit
- Dinner with the Sacramento Kings
- Sacramento Kings basketball games
- Sierra Health Foundation’s Annual Holiday Celebration
- Private screening of the film Just Mercy and more!

Coming this Spring!

- Narrowing topic focus of MBK Youth Fellows’ participatory action research project
- Integration of targeted additional academic supports
- Workforce-readiness training series in preparation for Summer internship/job placement
- Additional engagement opportunities offered to parents/guardians of MBK Fellows, to build capacity and support the needs of the MBK Fellow families

The MBK Sacramento Youth Fellowship Program is supported by Innovation Bridge, in partnership with The Center at Sierra Health Foundation.

The MBK Sacramento Youth Fellowship is part of the MBK Sacramento Collaborative, a larger effort comprised of systems leaders working together to improve outcomes for young men of color in Sacramento. The MBK Sacramento Collaborative is funded by Sierra Health Foundation and the Obama Foundation, and is managed by The Center at Sierra Health Foundation.

For more information, please visit www.shfcenter.org/mbk-sac.

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