

# Happy Holidays, from Dan Bassill and Tutor/Mentor Institute, LLC .. Dec. 2017

**ENOUGH is ENOUGH** –  
How often have you heard that following negative news?

- Educate yourself
- Engage your network
- Offer help, don't wait to be asked
- Build a shared understanding
- Live until it feels good
- Form habits of learning, and pass these on to your kids

Let's talk about how we can get more people to get informed, and involved.

Read articles at <http://tutormentor.blogspot.com>

Dear Friend of Youth Living in Poverty,

It's the Holiday Season and once again I am reaching out to you for financial support to help me continue spreading the ideas of hope and strategic involvement, intended to provide support to K-12 youth in high poverty areas of Chicago and every other city in the country.

I hope you're doing well and have occasionally visited my <http://tutormentor.blogspot.com> site to see what I'm writing about. During the past year I've updated some of my videos, created some new ones and used some other visual tools to help people find, read, understand and respond to the ideas I've been sharing.

See "Enough" video at <https://tinyurl.com/TMI-enough>

When I wrote this letter a year ago, I said "Do you have any expectation that any elected leader will be out mobilizing people to become involved in helping high quality non-school tutoring, mentoring and learning programs become available in all high poverty neighborhoods of Chicago or any other cities and states?"

I had little idea of how much daily attention was going to be drawn to political issues, but I'm certain many causes have a much more difficult time getting people to look at the work they are doing ... unless they are in the civil justice or political organizing sectors. Three more major storms have also occurred, along with huge wildfires in the West, and continued war and terror attacks, in the US and around the world.

Thus am more convinced than ever, that it is up to individuals, private organizations, businesses and churches to create the future we want for kids living in poverty, as well as for our own kids and grandkids.

"If it is to be, it is up to me..and YOU!" has a new level of responsibility.

In each of the letters I've sent you in the past few years I've included graphics created to communicate ideas. These can all be found in various blog articles and PDF essays I share on-line. I don't find many others communicating this way, or sharing the same type of ideas..even though we focus on the same issues.

Since 2011 I've had far too few resources to do this work, yet, with the help of a few who make annual donations, I've managed to keep these ideas circulating via the Internet and social media. **With your help in the next few weeks, I'll still be doing this in 2018.**

**How can we do this better?**  
How can we get more people and talent into this conversation?

**Mentoring Kids to Careers** COLLECTIVE ACTION: A mentoring-to-career strategy of the Tutor/Mentor Connection

**Leaders Invited.**

WHERE: Schools, Community Organizations, Neighborhoods, Businesses

WHO: Mentors, Mentees, Parents, Teachers, Community Leaders, Employers

Many Need to be Involved.

What will it take to assure that all youth born or living in high poverty are entering careers by age 25?

What Role Does Mentoring Have? What can we learn from others?

Shared Vision

All Places

<http://www.tutormentorexchange.net>

**Building Youth Serving Networks**  
Growing in all places where most needed

PIPELINES TO CAREERS needed in MANY Places

Talent + Network

Connecting people and ideas from multiple places in a city.

Each place offers a "village" of support.

Connecting networks of people and ideas from multiple cities, states, countries; adding networks from rural areas, too.

Tutor/Mentor Institute, LLC <http://www.tutormentorexchange.net> and <http://tutormentor.blogspot.com>

We all want a world where all kids grow up safely and reach their full potential. In a huge city like Chicago that means people with different skills and resources need to be working together at three levels:

- 1) at the organization level, supporting different youth serving organizations,
- 2) neighborhood level, making sure programs are reaching all the kids who need help; and
- 3) at the city/regional level, making sure **ALL** high poverty neighborhoods have great programs.

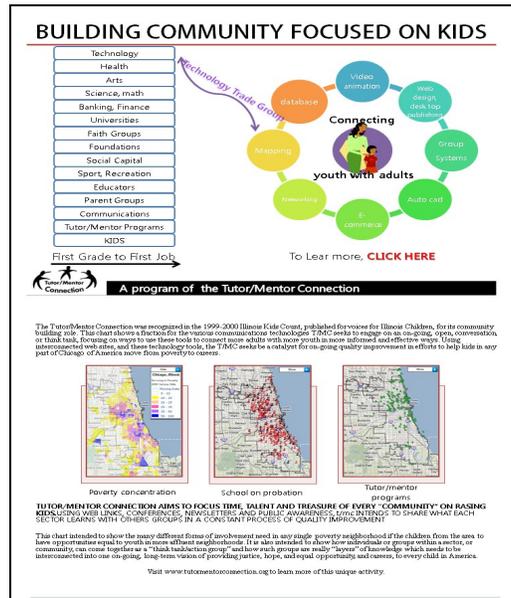
The challenge this represents is that too few neighborhood level organizations can attract enough leaders with talent, commitment, time and access to dollars, and almost no organizations exist at the neighborhood or city-wide level using maps and information libraries to support the growth of high quality programs in multiple locations, using the same strategies that corporations use to support multiple stores in many places..

I've been putting ideas on Scribd.com since Oct. 2011 and have recorded another 28,000 reads in 2017. I've been writing blog articles on the Tutor/Mentor blog and three other sites four to five times a month.

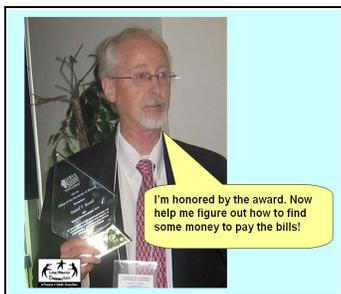
I connect daily with people from around the world on Facebook, Twitter @tutormentorteam, LinkedIn, and Google+, just to name a few places. I'm constantly adding to the web library at <http://tinyurl.com/TMC-Library> and continue to maintain a list of Chicago area non-school tutor/mentor programs at <http://tinyurl.com/TMI-ChiProgramLinks>

The goal is to support discussions and planning in many, many places, all focused on filling poverty areas with needed services.

**Looking for a "do over".** I continue to offer free advice to any who request it, while also looking for ways to earn income from sharing what I know. I still have not figured how to make that work. Thus, last March after the Oscars had a "do over", I wrote an article showing that the Tutor/Mentor Connection needs fresh leaders and investors who will "do it over" and achieve greater impact than I've had over the next 20 years. Take a look. <http://tutormentor.blogspot.com/2017/03/how-about-do-over-oscars-election.html>



**Until such leaders appear, I appeal to you to once again dip into your holiday budget and send a contribution to help me pay the bills in 2018.**



**Two ways to give:**

I'll be 71 on December 19<sup>th</sup> and invite you to make a contribution using the PayPal button at <http://www.tutormentorconference.org/birthdaywish2017.htm>

Or visit this page and support me because I'm filling a void that others have not yet filled: <http://www.tutormentorconference.org/20-year-effort.htm>.

If you've supported me in the past, thank you. If you can't send financial support, read what I'm sending you and forward it to others.

If you'd like to talk to me, email me at [tutormentor2@earthlink.net](mailto:tutormentor2@earthlink.net) to arrange a time to talk by phone, Skype or in person.

Happy Holidays to you and your family,

*Daniel F Bassill*

**Daniel F. Bassill, D.H.L.**  
Tutor/Mentor Connection, 1993-present  
Tutor/Mentor Institute, LLC, 2011-present

**Mail contributions to Merchandise Mart PO Box 3303, Chicago, IL 60654**

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