

Twin Cities Rochester

#### **About Bolder Options**

We create "Bolder Options" for young people by pairing youth with caring adult mentors, focusing on physical and mental health as the foundation for positive youth development, and providing access to life-changing opportunities and experiences. Research shows that young people thrive when guided by positive role models.



### Build confidence & community through 1:1 mentorship

- Youth ages 10-14 meet with trained volunteer mentor for 2-4 hours weekly for one year.
- Work together to set and achieve goals in three areas healthy habits, lifelong learning, social emotional development, and community connections.

70% of youth & **61% of mentors** identify as BIPOC

**75%** of families qualifying for free or reduced lunch

**86%** live in single parent families.













# Alumni Program - Inspire Futures & Grow Professional Skills

- Boundary Waters Canoe Area summer prep and week-long adventure
- I Believe/ I Achieve cohorts build strong sense of self and guide values-centered planning for the future
- Scholarship & internship opportunities
- Leadership roles on the Bolder Options alumni board.

95% of Bolder youth who graduate from the 1:1 mentoring program join the Alumni Program.

## 30 Years of Transformative Impact

100%

Know their own strengths 86%

Know how to make a resume 96%

Have set & achieved a goal

88%

Plan to atend college

90%

Feel positive about their futures

95%

More active & have more energy

### **Funding Request**

Bolder Options Youth Mentoring program is seeking a \$500,000 one-time appropriation in fiscal year 2025 from the workforce development fund to provide disadvantaged youth ages 12 to 22 in the Twin Cities & Rochester with intensive one-to-one mentorship, programming that teaches life and job-seeking skills, career and college achievement coaches, and connections to employment, job training, and education opportunities.







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