

Syracuse Community Connections (SCC)

After school Tutoring and Mentoring Program Guide

Cause for Action:

- Only 51% high school students graduate on time
- SCSD students account for 85% of youth incarcerated in Onondaga County in 2010-11
- Ninety six percent of students are in underperforming schools

Where is the program?

The program is held at [Syracuse Community Connections \(SCC\)](#), formerly known as the South West Community Center located at 401 South Ave., Syracuse, NY 13204

What does Syracuse Community Connections do?

SCC provides a network of human services to residents of Onondaga County, through special events, outreach efforts, prevention, intervention, employment and educational services, support, peer and mentoring groups, and collaborative programs.

How does the After school program provide for this population?

Upstate Medical University students serve as tutors and mentors in the afterschool program and assist with a Healthy Heroes Training annually for National Public Health Week held the first week in April.

Who does the program serve?

The afterschool program is intended for youth aged 4 to 14 years. The FACES program serves people of all ages, cultures and sexual orientations, but is focused primarily on communities of color.

What would I do as a student?

Upstate students provide tutoring (math, social sciences) and mentoring to afterschool program participants. Student volunteers also help with improving the participants reading levels, participate in structured play, games, or other organized activities (doctor day, zoo to you, holiday celebrations), activities, assist with homework, read with the students, and provide support in any way that the child needs. Student volunteers are required to attend an orientation session provided by a SCC staff.

How often would I serve?

Student volunteers participate in the afterschool program every Wednesday from 3pm-5pm.

What are the community impacts?

Youth participating in the afterschool program and receiving the benefits of mentoring and tutoring by an Upstate student will get support for completing homework assignments and engaging in healthy behaviors. They will also gain positive adult role models in their lives.