Quick Stats			
Agency	**Program/policy Start Date**	**Number Served Annually**	**Annual Budget**
Mayor's Interagency Task Force on Truancy, Chronic Absenteeism and School Engagement	June 2010	More than 4,000 at-risk students citywide – from 50 pilot schools. *(Doubling to 100 schools and will be serving more students for the 2012-2013 school year)*	$250,000*

*Not reflected in YMI Budget

Problem Statement	One in five NYC public school students—over 200,000—are chronically absent, meaning they miss 20 or more days of school per year. These numbers are higher in low-income communities. Research shows that the consequences of chronic absenteeism are severe: three out of four students who are chronically absent in the sixth grade will not graduate from high school. Nearly 80 percent of children in New York City's juvenile justice system were chronically absent preceding their arrest. And students with good attendance were more than twice as likely to score proficient on NYS examinations (ELA & math) than students who were chronically absent.
Research and Evidence	In its first pilot year, the Task Force's NYC Success Mentor Corps made a significant impact in reducing chronic absence among targeted students: • Chronically absent students with Success Mentors gained over **11,800 days of attendance in the second pilot year (2011-12)** • In elementary schools, 49% of students with full-year mentors exited CA status vs. 42% of students without mentors – **17% more.** • In high schools, 23% of students with full-year mentors exited CA status vs. 18% of students without mentors – **27 % more.** • The impact was even stronger for severely chronically absent high school students: 21% of high school students with full-year mentors exited SCA status vs. 10% of students without mentors – **119% more.** New Research: The Task Force hopes to evaluate mentor impact on social/emotional behavior and academic performance for year 2; national research, and pilot school anecdotal reporting, suggests a positive impact in these areas**.**
Program Description	The NYC Success Mentor Corps is an innovative, research-based, data-driven mentoring model that seeks to improve attendance, behavior and educational outcomes for at-risk students in low-income communities. It is the largest, most comprehensive in-school mentoring program in the nation, which maximizes mentor impact through targeted interagency collaboration, first-ever access to critical student data, innovative partnership models linking schools and mentors with local resources, and a rigorous infrastructure that evaluates and supports mentors in real time. Mentor trainings and retreats held during the year with top national mentoring leaders.

	Four Models piloted (all apply core practice components): • External Mentors (ReServe, City Year, DFTA & others) • Internal Mentors (selected & trained school staff) • High School Peer-to-Peer (seniors target 9th graders) • Transition Coaches (specialized mentors targeting students returning from suspensions, juvenile facilities, homeless shelters; funded by NY Community Trust grant)

Implementation Timeline	In Year 2 (2011-2012) school year, the Task Force has doubled its pilot schools to 50 and more than doubled the number of individuals serving as Success Mentors. For Year 3, the Task Force will again expand to 100 total schools, while continuing to develop new programs, infrastructure, and policy all aimed at supporting dissemination of the key learnings to as many schools in need as possible.

Target Population	The Task Force targets chronically absent students in low-income schools, who are at elevated risk of poor school performance, drop out and criminal justice involvement -- using the early warning data flag of chronic absenteeism.

Expected Outcomes	• The Task Force expects to see even greater gains in reducing chronic absenteeism and improving educational outcomes for targeted students in the pilot schools. • The Task Force will expand beyond its 50 pilot schools next year, and significantly increase its current 4,000 mentee student population. • The Task Force will expand and strengthen its two most scalable mentor models.