

PRESS ADVISORY

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Town Hall launches Black & Brown Male Initiative program

KANSAS CITY, MO. – A collaborative initiative is joining the resources of Metropolitan Community College, Kansas City, Mo. Public Schools, Kansas City, Kan. Public Schools, the office of Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II, the Kansas City, Mo. Police Department and the Kansas City, Kan. Police Department to sponsor and coordinate a program designed to develop the potential success of young African American and Latino men in the Greater Kansas City area.

A town hall launching the Black and Brown Male Initiative program will take place on Friday, Sept. 9, at MCC-Penn Valley, 3201 Southwest Trafficway, Kansas City, Mo. 64111, Campus Center 502 at noon. The event is open to the public.

The goal of BBMI is to provide academic and leadership development experiences and resources for high school African American and Latino young men. It will emphasize responsibility, citizenship, career development, leadership development and higher education access.

BBMI features two components:

- **BBMI Mentor and Coaching Fireside Chats** will provide support for current coaching, mentoring or support programs as well as a new initiative that will provide group mentorship for targeted population and careers. These monthly series will feature specific careers designed to address career exploration, community involvement and collaboration among its participants.
- **Am I My Brother's Keeper Conference** will provide leadership and personal development to young African American and Latino males. The conference will feature several components that address the core issues addressed in the goals.

BBMI will address these issues:

- career exploration and networking
- retention
- academic success
- financial literacy
- male/female relationships
- citizenship and discipline
- health in the community
- financial management
- civic relationships with community agencies
- civility and responsibility of mentoring young African American and Latino males in our communities

Kansas City Public Schools is dedicated to graduating students that are college, career, and workforce ready. This mission is supported by innovative classroom instruction, engaging programs, highly qualified employees, and an engaged and well-informed community. To learn more about the ways our community of schools supports students and the community-at-large, please visit www.kcpublicschools.org, [kcpublicschools](#) on Facebook, or [@kcpublicschools](#) on Twitter.

For more information, please contact the Department of Communications and Community Engagement at (816) 418-7420.

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