

Buckeye R.E.A.C.H. Fellowship

Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility

Background Founded in August 2012, the Buckeye R.E.A.C.H. program (**R**elationships and **E**ducation in **A**ction through **C**ommunity and **H**ope) connected about 30 Ohio State students to inmates in the Scioto Correctional and Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facilities. Over its almost five-year history, the program has been hosted by several facilities across Ohio, serving hundreds of youth. Today, student mentors meet almost weekly with justice-involved youth to engage in a variety of educational and developmental activities.

Program Growth Beginning in autumn of 2017, Buckeye R.E.A.C.H. will expand into the Buckeye R.E.A.C.H. Fellowship. The new designation will allow for the same quality prison programming with added emphasis on developing the student cohort, focusing on developing our future leaders and change agents. Fellows (formerly "Mentors") will engage in weekly events designed to expand their scholarship concerning justice and incarceration, bolster their network, develop their professional skills, and to create a designated space for students to share ideas and dialogue with others at Ohio State and beyond.

Dual Sites The fellowship will be offered at the Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility and the Franklin County Juvenile Correction Center. The Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility is a maximum-security youth prison for males ages 12 - 21. Our program focuses on holistic development through curriculum that focuses on developing the mind, body, spirit, and more. The facility is populated almost entirely by Black youth. It is located about 45 minutes south of Columbus. Programs are held on Saturday, leaving the Union at 9am and returning by 3pm (with programming running from 10am – 2pm at the facility). Transportation is provided. Circleville is taking 22 fellows that will be individually paired with the youth (one-on-one).

The Fellowship Experience

Facility Programming Fellows will spend 6 programs at the facility during the first semester. Programs will be held on Saturdays from 9a – 3p. The programming dates are listed in **Scarlet** on the semester schedule.

Prep Meetings Fellows will meet biweekly for 2.5 hour informal meetings. Fellows will reflect on their experiences, prepare for future programming, engage in critical dialogues, develop professionally, and grow as a scholar through a variety of educational lessons. Meetings will generally precede a program. The prep meeting dates are listed in Gray on the semester schedule.

Networking Events Fellows will have access to prominent figures in Columbus and beyond, focusing on individuals and organizations that shape our justice system. These formal events will be held almost monthly. The networking event dates are to be determined.

Capstone Project Fellows will complete a short capstone project, which they will build throughout the year during meetings and programming and present in the spring. They will write a short brief which tackles an issue they have identified in the justice system and present on it.

SEMESTER SCHEDULE

Sep 9

Sep 16

Sep 23

Sep 30

Oct 7

Oct 21

Oct 28

Nov 4

Nov 11

Nov 18

Dec 2

Dec 9