

Take the Lead



Take the Lead is a leadership development and high school readiness program that offers middle school students the opportunity to serve as Team Captains for younger students on the Urban Initiatives soccer team or on other sports teams within their school community. Captains participate in group mentoring sessions, or “huddles”, that promote the development of key social emotional learning skills. Through leadership retreats hosted at corporations, cultural institutions, and schools across Chicago, students meet fellow Captains, build their peer networks, and develop social capital and leadership skills.

THE BASICS:

- Serves 5th-8th graders
- Bi-weekly huddles
- Quarterly retreats

TTL is a FREE add-on to OST soccer starting in the program's 2nd year

UI PROVIDES:

- Recruitment of students
- Facilitation of curriculum designed to promote SEL and leadership skill development
- Transportation for retreats

SCHOOL PROVIDES:

- Space for bi-weekly huddles
- Access to student recruitment opportunities
- Point person of contact for UI staff

“ I learned that you should always set an example. The program made me care about my teammates more. ”

Need more info?

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