LOVE THE CITY
ACADEMY 4
MENTORSHIP

FOR THE CITY

LOVE THE CITY
OVERVIEW

Mentorship is a key component in predicting a child’s long-term education success, yet many students who grow up in the most economically disadvantaged schools will never have access to a mentor. That’s where Academy 4 comes in. By developing partnerships between local churches and low-income elementary schools and providing consistent mentors for every fourth-grade student, Academy 4 is working to close the mentorship gap in our city. By committing 90 minutes a month on a Friday afternoon, volunteer mentors have the ability to create lasting impact in the lives of Austin kids.

VISION

Public schools are struggling—especially those serving under-resourced communities. At the start of the 2021 school year, AISD began with around 150 faculty vacancies, classrooms of 40+ students, and rapidly deteriorating morale among already discouraged teachers. Not to mention the ongoing effects of the pandemic on schools and their surrounding communities. As we seek to obey Jesus’ command and example to love our neighbor and engage with brokenness, we want to invite you to join us in partnering with Academy 4 to serve Houston Elementary and Pickle Elementary. We believe that, by engaging Christ-followers in the education space, significant impacts could be felt in both the short and long term.

Short Term:

• Demonstrate God’s heart for justice and mercy by serving in distressed communities.
• Come alongside teachers and community members to help empower kids in their education.
• Alleviate some of the hurt and obstacles brought on by COVID-19 in schools.

Long Term:

• Witness to the city of Austin that believers care about the holistic flourishing of image-bearers—especially those in marginalized communities.
• Build deep relationships with schools and their communities, opening doors for more ways to serve and care for them.
• Use education as a primary tool to combat generational poverty, homelessness, incarceration, substance abuse, and racial disparity.

2021 IMPACT

In 2021, 120 Academy 4 volunteers mentored students at Houston Elementary and Pickle Elementary.

GET INVOLVED

Mentoring

Serving as a mentor with Academy 4 is a great opportunity to build relationship with a fourth-grade student and help them feel loved and cared for. As a mentor, you’ll commit to 90 minutes one Friday afternoon a month to sit down with your student to process through questions and activities. You’ll also spend time just hanging out and having fun! The date of your Academy 4 Friday will depend on the school you mentor at.

Spark Club Leader

Spark Clubs offer a wide variety of experiences such as cooking, dance, basketball, soccer, art, robotics, coding, comic books, and more. If you have a passion or desire to lead one of these clubs, volunteer to be a Spark Club Leader! As a Spark Club Leader, you’ll commit to 90 minutes one Friday afternoon a month. The date of your Academy 4 Friday will depend on the school you mentor at.

Scan the QR code to serve as a mentor or Spark Club Leader!

For more information contact
Jay Schmidt: jay.schmidt@austinstone.org