

Samoan Athletes Heart of Champions Mentor Program

Since 2004 the Samoan Athletes Heart of Champions (SAHC) Mentor Program has been helping multicultural students complete their education to the next level by hoisting incoming students from Pago Pago, American Samoa and Honolulu, Hawaii, guides, and resources to ensure that their culture gain access to the full array of services and benefits they need to have a successful, enriching college experience.

Participating as a SAHC will enable you to quickly gain confidence and independence as a college student. As a SAHC, you will be matched with a mentor based on multiple factors such as ethnicity, gender, desired major, and general interests. Your mentor will help to ensure you are getting the social and academic support that you need, and will assist in finding the resources you need, such as student organizations, financial aid, and tutoring. Mentors also are there to listen and to help you work through any troubles that may arise during your first year in college.

Currently SAHC has four mentors; an Elder Pastor, a Youth Pastor, Elder Culture Leader, and a professional athlete leader. These mentors received spiritual training, multicultural and leadership skills to enable them to form strong, meaningful relationships with their cultures. They are involved in many different programs and organizations at their communities as SAHC new mentor leaders, and represent a great diversity of cultures, ethnicities, and interests. They are part of a strong network of support to assist you in making the transition into college life.

The SAHC program is not just for hosts, spiritual, academic, and annual hosts social events and workshops throughout the year to bring together mentors and new athletes participating in the program. These are opportunities to get to know other participants in the SAHC program, and to have fun and learn together.

The benefits of having a mentor during your first semester or year of school at our local San Diego county junior college will be apparent through rest of your college experience and beyond, through increased self-confidence as a multicultural student, better study and time management habits, a wider range of social and academic experiences, and a broader outlook on issues of diversity.

The SAHC program is free to join, and is open to all first-year and transfer students. To sign up for a mentor and to join the SAHC program as a new leader, simply check out the website: www.SamoanAthletes.com and contact enclosed information to reach me the founder. You can also E-mail the necessary information and any questions you may have about SAHC to the SAHC program Coordinator at BTMauga@aol.com.

Heart to serve,

Benson Mauga

