Go Beyond Rochester is an exciting non-profit that helps under-resourced 10th and 11th-grade students from the City of Rochester create connections and spark educational and career opportunities.  
  
The life-enrichment experience we provide for kids includes job, educational and social networking opportunities along with a three-day trip to Washington, DC.  
  
2023 was the inaugural trip that included eight students from Vertus High School and in April, they expanded the reach and impact to include kids from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester and UPrep High School. In total, 40 students and a dozen volunteers went back to DC, to experience a Washington Nationals baseball game, The National Museum of African American History & Culture, a tour of the National Mall, guest speakers to inspire taking action on opportunities, and a visit to Howard University.

Joshua Michaels, one of the group leaders/mentors described the trip experience:

“A couple of weeks ago, I was invited to be a group leader/mentor for a group of high school students from Rochester to Washington DC. I had a blast connecting with the kids and sharing my experiences as a college student and everything I’m doing here at [Rochester Institute of Technology](https://www.linkedin.com/company/rochester-institute-of-technology/)   
  
The trip included 40+ young men from Rochester city schools like UPREP Charter School, Vertus High School, and even the Boys and Girls Club of Rochester.  
  
The aim of this trip was to ignite ambition in these young 10th and 11th graders by connecting them with accomplished entrepreneurs, business leaders, and educators, with the goal of fostering long lasting connections and paving the way for opportunities beyond high school.  
  
Some of the highlights during this trip were visiting the National Mall, National Museum of African-American History and Culture, and even a tour of Howard University.  
  
Plus inspiring guest speakers like [Gerald A. Moore Sr.](https://www.linkedin.com/in/gerald-a-moore-sr/), [Larry "Chip" King](https://www.linkedin.com/in/larry-chip-king-802ba371/), and more!”  
  
The total cost to sponsor a kid is about $500 and we are counting on donations to help offset the costs of travel, meals, and lodging. Students shared that the Go Beyond experience “opened their eyes to new possibilities and helped forge connections, leading to a lifetime of opportunities." If you would like to learn more about Go Beyond Rochester or find out how you can support it, you can visit this link: <https://lnkd.in/g9mtzQCM>