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**Summer Search New York City Opens Bronx Mentoring Center**

**NEW YORK – November 1, 2018** - Summer Search New York City, a positive youth development and college success organization, will open their “Bronx Mentoring Center” this December. This satellite space will complement their main office in downtown Manhattan and will offer South Bronx students a more accessible location to participate in weekly mentoring conversations and individualized college and financial aid counseling.

The Bronx Mentoring Center is located at 448 E. 149<sup>th</sup> Street, in an area known as “The Hub”. It is near major subway and bus lines, and within walking distance to several of Summer Search New York City’s South Bronx partner high schools. Summer Search New York City partnered with Turner Construction Company and The Urban Group, Ltd. to customize the space, which will have private mentoring rooms, staff and student workspaces, a leadership office, group mentoring room and college counseling area. Between 8-10 staff members will work out of this office.

“This space is something our team has been talking about for many years, especially as we saw the number of South Bronx students we are serving continue to increase.” said Peter Retzlaff, Summer Search New York City Executive Director. “Half of our students live in the Bronx and were traveling up to two hours to visit our Manhattan office. Knowing we want to continue to deepen our investment in the South Bronx, we are thrilled to see this space come together.”

The Bronx Mentoring Center will have a significant impact on Summer Search’s ability to serve South Bronx families – District 16, where many of Summer Search’s partner high schools are located and which borders the new Mentoring Center, has been named the poorest in the country. The median household income for Summer Search students is \$20,100, and the vast majority will be the first generation in their families to earn a college degree. The Bronx Mentoring Center will serve as a welcoming, accessible and consistent space for the South Bronx students and families Summer Search works with.

Summer Search New York City will celebrate with a series of Grand Opening Celebrations for donors, staff, students, families and school partners. The space is expected to open in early December.

**About Summer Search**

Summer Search provides youth with skills, resources, and support to develop the character and life skills needed to thrive and become leaders in their communities. Its comprehensive program spans seven to nine years and directly supports the development of the non-cognitive skills necessary to manage the social and environmental challenges students will face in college and in life. Summer Search integrates year-round, holistic professional mentorship, summer experiential learning opportunities, individualized college and financial aid counseling, and a consistent network of support through their high school and post-secondary years. Through the combination of these program components, students expand their view of what is possible for themselves and achieve their own definition of professional and personal success. And in doing so, they soar. Learn more at [summersearch.org](http://summersearch.org).