

CARDINAL ROGER MAHONY ANNOUNCES INNOVATIVE WORK/STUDY PROGRAM AT VERBUM DEI HIGH SCHOOL

Urban College Prep Students Learn Job Skills

Experience Business and Professional World First Hand while Helping Pay Their Way through High School

Cardinal Roger Mahony has announced the implementation of a Corporate Internship Program for students at Verbum Dei High School, located in South Central Los Angeles.

Modeled after the Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago, the program at Verbum Dei will have students work in job-sharing teams of four, to work a standard business week, Monday through Friday. The program in Chicago has proven to be extremely successful over the course of five years, showing a 98% attendance rate in 2000. Not only will students have an opportunity to gain invaluable experience working in the corporate world, they will also use all of their earnings to help pay for their education. This program is set to begin at Verbum Dei in the Fall of 2002.

Currently, Verbum Dei students are training at the PUENTE Learning Center where they are learning computer skills and office procedures in order to prepare them for the professional world. PUENTE, located at the corner of Western and Century, the former site of an ARCO station burnt down during the 1992 L.A. riots, is a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization which provides free educational services to children, youths, and adults of the area.

For more information on the Corporate Internship Program, Verbum Dei High School, or how to become a corporate sponsor, please contact Father Scott Santarosa at (323) 564-6651 ext. 18.

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