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VERITAS HIGH SCHOOL AWARDED THE 2015 MARTIN F. STEIN CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN AWARD

*Charter school recognized for its partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Metro Milwaukee and the mentor2.0 program*

MILWAUKEE, WI

NOVEMBER 14, 2015 - Veritas High School is the recipient of the 2015 Martin F. Stein Champion For Children Award. The award is named in honor of Martin F. Stein, a Big Brothers Big Sisters member and philanthropist. The annual award is presented to individuals or organizations who enrich opportunities for children through exemplary service to the community.

In honoring Veritas High School with this award, Amy Chionchio, President & CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee stated, "We have found an organization that lives and breathes 'improving the lives of children.' They do it every day. They do not seek recognition. They seek educational excellence. They seek success for every one of their students."

In fall 2014, Big Brothers Big Sisters began a close strategic partnership with Seeds of Health and Veritas High School to launch mentor2.0, a technology-enriched program that matches students





with college-educated, career-focused mentors. The Veritas-mentor2.0 partnership provides students with a comprehensive continuum of support that promotes true college readiness, including academic preparation, non-cognitive skill development, and an increase in college knowledge. "High school graduation is not the outcome we're looking for, that's only the start," said Sherry Tolkan, principal at

Veritas High School. "These students have so much potential and Veritas can't do it all. Mentor2.0 is the missing link."

Through the successful implementation of mentor2.0, Big Brothers Big Sisters has worked very closely with Veritas staff and witnessed first-hand their commitment to Milwaukee youth. "We've seen the strong focus Veritas has on educational success, and we are proud to partner with them through mentor2.0," said Ms. Chionchio.

Seeds of Health, Inc. was incorporated in 1983 to address the health and educational needs of Milwaukee-area women, adolescents and children. Programs operating under Seeds of Health, Inc. include Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program and five schools, one K-4 through 8 elementary school and four high schools. One of the five schools is **Veritas High School**. Authorized by UWM, its mission is to prepare Milwaukee students for post-secondary education success through completion of an academically challenging, values-based curriculum in a safe and supportive environment.



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