DTCC, a former Principal for a Day Partner, renewed its relationship with PENCIL after attending the kickoff event for the Downtown Initiative in the fall of 2014. Since then they have built a strong and impactful School Partnership with Lower East Side Prep, supporting students as they work towards their college and career goals.

**The Partnership Team:** The DTCC team is Championed by Susan Cosgrove, Managing Director and CFO; and supported by over fifteen DTCC volunteers. The team for Lower East Side Prep is lead by the Principal, Assistant Principal, and College Counselor, Stephen Liu.

**The Partnership:** DTCC mentors are working with 30 10–12th grade students in the 2015–16 school year. Mentors participate in monthly sessions to provide Lower East Side Prep’s high need student population – students are English Language Learners or need to make up credits in order to graduate – with college preparatory activities. Partnership sessions help students increase their awareness of diverse career and college pathways and topics include goal setting and college and career planning, resume writing, building a professional network, and interviewing. DTCC professionals work with the same students throughout the year to establish strong relationships and connect session content to their real world experiences.

**Outcomes:** Prior to working with DTCC, only 35% of students reported receiving help at home to plan for college and their careers, and less than a third were confident in their ability to navigate the components of the job search and application process. As a result of working with their DTCC mentors, students feel better prepared and more confident in their ability to pursue their college and career goals:

- 80% have a good idea of what to expect in college
- 80% understand how having a professional network will benefit them in the future
- 72% are confident they could prepare a professional resume
- 80% are confident they could successfully manage the job interview process

**Leadership:** In 2014, DTCC partnered with PENCIL to sponsor and support the work of the Downtown Initiative. Susan Cosgrove joined the PENCIL board in the fall of 2015, and provides leadership and support to both PENCIL and Lower East Side Prep.