



What is a Mentor?

Mentor Role

- Take the lead in establishing an open and honest relationship
- Serve as a positive role model and friend
- Build the relationship by planning and participating in activities together
- Strive for mutual respect
- Build the mentee's self-esteem and motivation
- Act as coach and advisor
- Build a solid foundation through academic and personal development
- Help youth realize their own potential

Mentor training provides the tools necessary to fulfill the mentor role as envisioned. An initial day long training is provided to all mentors before assuming the mentor role. Mentors receive at least quarterly training opportunities while participating in the program

Application and Screening Process

- Written application
- Personal Interview
- Criminal history check
- State of Michigan Sexual Offender Registry Check & National Sex Offender Check
- Child Abuse Central Registry Clearance
- TB Test
- Provision of three personal references
- Driving record check must come back cleared by the State of Michigan
- Attendance at a one-time day-long training

Desirable Qualities

- Interest in working with young people
- Good listener
- Encouraging and supportive
- Patient and flexible
- Tolerant and open-minded
- Culturally competent

- Goal-oriented
- Positive attitude
- Enthusiastic

Participation Requirements

- Be at least 21 years old
- Be willing to spend at least four hours per month with your assigned youth
- Be willing to adhere to all program policies and procedures
- Complete the application and screening process
- Be dependable and consistent in meeting time commitments
- Communicate monthly with program staff and submit monthly report forms
- Accept constructive feedback regarding mentoring activities
- Have no record of a criminal history
- Not use illicit drugs, alcohol or controlled substances
- Not currently be in treatment for substance abuse
- If a previous substance abuser, must have had a non-addictive period of at least five years.
- Not have been hospitalized for mental disorder in the past three years
- Be a friend and confidant

Time Commitment

- Make a one-year commitment
- Spend two to four days per month with your mentee
- Attend an initial eight hour training session
- Participate in at least two hours of ongoing training, offered at least quarterly. This training is designed to help you assist your mentee with their goals and strengthen your relationship.
- Attend mentor program group events (offered at least quarterly)
- Attend supervision with mentor coordinator (via phone monthly, face-to-face meeting quarterly)
- Mentor recognition event (annual event)
- Mentoring program staff are available for questions and concerns on a daily basis.

Benefits to the Mentor

- Personal fulfillment through contribution to community and individual
- Satisfaction in helping someone mature, progress, and achieve goals
- Training sessions and group activities
- Participation in a mentor support group
- Personal ongoing support and supervision to help the match succeed
- Mentee group activities and participant recognition events