



Youth Mentoring Programs

Helping kids grow up right
one child at a time



Children's Friend

Youth Mentoring Programs

A consistent, structured, one-to-one relationship with a caring and supportive adult can make a world of difference to a child at risk. Mentors bring with them a network of support and stability. They are effective role models who advise, encourage and provide access to opportunities which otherwise would not exist for these children.

As a strong, positive, cross-generational bond, mentoring reinforces self-esteem and fosters personal empowerment, the bedrock of all achievement.

A recent Harris Poll of 400 high school juniors and seniors and their mentors, who participated in a nationwide mentoring program, indicated:

- 73% of students said their mentors helped them raise their goals and expectations;
- 59% of students showed improved grades;
- 87% of students went directly to college or planned to attend college.

What is a Mentor?

- A trusted guide or friend;
- A caring, responsible adult who provides access to people, places and things outside their mentee's routine environment;
- A positive role model;
- A good listener.

**"Sharing time and memories with Jasmine has enriched my life."
-Mentor Sandi Fector**



Children with Mentors are:

- 46% less likely than peers to start using illegal drugs;
- 52% less likely to skip school;
- More trusting of their parents or guardians and less likely to lie to them.

What does a Mentor do?

- Makes a personal commitment to be involved with another person in a one-to-one relationship for 1-2 hours a week, generally, one year at minimum;
- Establishes a positive, personal relationship with a mentee;
- Helps a mentee develop life skills;
- Assists a mentee in obtaining additional resources;
- Increases a mentee's ability to interact with people and groups from various socioeconomic, cultural, and racial back-grounds.

What are the Qualities of a Successful Mentor?

- Respect for individuals and for their abilities and their rights to make their own choices in life;
- Ability to listen and to accept different points of view;
- Ability to empathize with another person's struggles;
- Ability to see solutions and opportunities, as well as barriers;
- Flexibility and openness.

As a mentee shared, "a mentor is a person who increases the fun in your life". Research indicates that youth who are mentored have great improvement in school attendance, school performance and behavior.

Children's Friend provides strong support with Case Managers and mentor groups. Most mentors find the experience extremely rewarding.

Become a Mentor... Become a Friend today! Orientations are held every six weeks. For more on this or other programs please call us at 978-744-7905.





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About Children's Friend

One of the oldest charities in the country, Children's Friend was founded as the Salem Seamen's Orphans Society in 1837, as a home for youth whose fathers were lost at sea. Over the last 20 years, the agency has changed in response to the needs of youth and families. But throughout its 165 year history, our mission, strengthening children and families, has remained unchanged.

We offer Programs and Services in:

- Mental Health Counseling
- Mentoring
- Court Services for Youth
- Community Consultation
- Teen-Parent Program