

The Value of Mentoring...

Young people with mentors are more likely to...

- ⇒ Stay in school
- ⇒ Achieve and aspire to better grades
- ⇒ Go into college

"The number one indicator of success for a child is a good relationship with a caring adult."

- Fortune Magazine



Mentoring Makes a Difference!

"People who grew up in difficult circumstances and yet are successful have one thing in common: at a critical juncture in their early adolescence, they had a positive relationship with a caring adult."

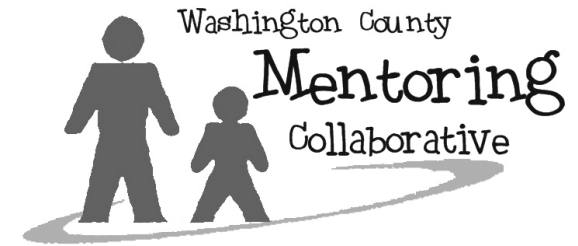
Former President Bill Clinton

"One hundred years from now...it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in or the kind of car I drove, but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."

The Washington County Mentoring Collaborative is a partnership project of Washington County Family & Children First.
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HELP WANTED!

Want to make a difference in the life of a child?

**Call us at
740-376-7081**

MENTORS NEEDED!

The Washington County Mentoring Collaborative is looking for caring adults to serve as Volunteer MENTORS to children and youth.



WHAT DOES A MENTOR DO?

Overall, Mentors help kids learn to understand and communicate their feelings, to relate to their peers, and to develop relation-

Training, Support and Stipends Provided!

Expectations of Mentors

- **Frequent contacts between mentors and mentees are important.** The strongest effects of mentoring are found for those who meet at least an hour or more per week. Mentors should always assume they will initiate contact.
 - **Mentors need to make a long-term commitment to mentoring.** Relationships 1 year or longer are most likely to lead to positive outcomes in youth; progressively fewer positive effects are found in mentoring relationships that last between 6 and 12 months; negative effects in youth (I.e. drops in self esteem and perceived school competence) have been found in relationships that ended within 6 months.
 - **Regular participation in structured activities can lead to stronger mentoring relationships.** Mentoring relationships characterized by moderate to high levels of structured activities have been found to be most successful. Social and academic activities, such as going to lunch, attending sporting events, or visiting museums, are best.
- Discussion of personal relationships and social issues can lead to closer mentor-youth relationships and more positive outcomes for youth.
 - Mentors who develop relationships with key persons in the youth's life, especially parents, can increase the likelihood of the mentoring relationship having a positive impact.
 - Youth mentoring works best when goals focus on developing trusting relationships with peers and adults.
 - Overall, mentors should see their role as a trusted friend rather than as a teacher or preacher.

Sources: OJJDP Model Programs Guide: Mentoring; "What Works, Wisconsin Fact Sheets"; "Youth Mentoring: Programs and Practices That Work".

