

KENWOOD MENTORING PROGRAM

PROGRAM PURPOSE

- To foster positive mentoring relationships by matching caring adults with youth ages 17–21 to help create hope and vision for a flourishing future.
- To provide caregivers a supportive relationship for their child that will assist in their development and goals.
- To provide youth a supportive relationship that will focus on their individual academic achievement, development and goals.

GOALS:

- Improve school performance (attendance, grades, behavior)
- Improve life and social skills
- Develop job readiness skills
- Pursue post secondary education
- Develop healthy strategies to deal with daily stress
- Increase leadership skills
- Increase youth community involvement

HOW MENTOR MATCHES ARE MADE

A program coordinator reviews applications, conducts interviews and interest surveys to determine the match suitability of a mentor and youth. Greater consideration is placed on youth preferences and needs. The youth's caregiver will be interviewed as well to ensure that their input is received. Once all parties agree to a match an introductory meeting is scheduled. The program coordinator facilitates this meeting. Mentoring is offered at agency locations or approved community locations in a group format.



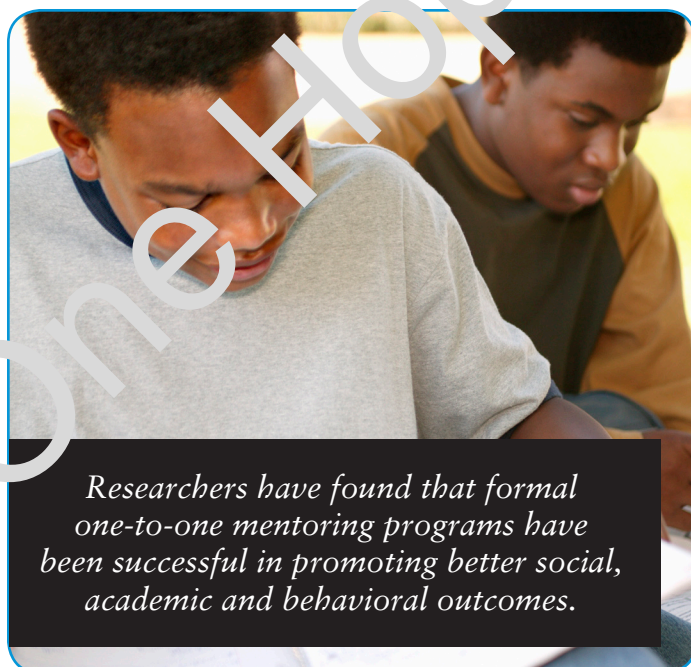
TWO-BY-THREE APPROACH

This approach allows for mentor matches on a one-to-one basis, but allows two mentors and their participants to take part in activities together. If a mentor cannot make a scheduled appointment with a youth, the youth is still part of a support group. And, two mentors can serve as resource and sounding board for one another, a valuable source of feedback. Mentors are supervised by staff.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

A mentor must meet the following criteria:

- Be at least 25 years old.
- Complete a written application and personal interview.
- Undergo a background check, including criminal history, child abuse registry, sexual offender registry, drug screening, driving history and provide personal and employee references.
- Attend a two-hour mentor training
- Commit to at least one year of volunteering



Researchers have found that formal one-to-one mentoring programs have been successful in promoting better social, academic and behavioral outcomes.

ABOUT ONE HOPE UNITED

One Hope United is a private, human service organization dedicated to protecting children and strengthening families. We offer a diverse array of prevention, intervention and community-based programs, serving more than 15,000 children and their families across the country each year.

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PRESERVATION