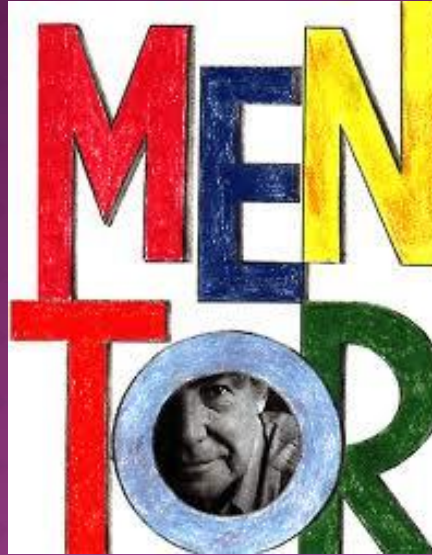


NEW BEGINNINGS MENTORING INITIATIVE



Mentor Training

Training Course One

Developing Leadership and Advocacy Skills

MENTOR TRAINING AGENDA

Developing Leadership/Advocacy Skills

- Icebreaker
- Overview of course objectives
- Topic breakdown:
 - Advocacy
 - Mentor Roles
 - Developing Leadership Skills
 - Becoming the Mentee's Voice
 - The School Environment and the Mentor



COURSE OBJECTIVES:

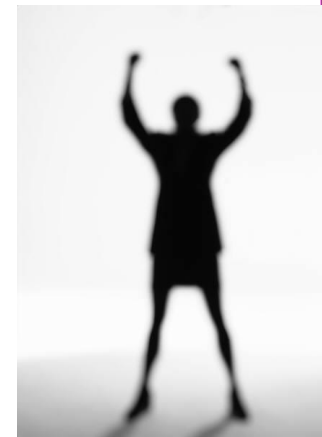
- ◉ Mentors will be able to:
- ◉ Identify advocacy as it related to their role.
- ◉ Serve as an impartial voice for youth.
- ◉ Address issues with teachers on behalf of youth.
- ◉ Identify leadership skills key to positive youth performance.



MENTORING WORKS!

LET'S LOOK AT THE RESEARCH!

- ◉ The 2013 study “The Role of Risk: Mentoring Experiences and Outcomes for Youth with Varying Risk Profiles,” examined mentoring program relationships, experiences and benefits for higher-risk youth, and among the findings determined:
- ◉ Overall, the study’s results suggest that mentoring programs can be beneficial for youth with a broad range of backgrounds and characteristics. Tailoring the training and support that is available to matches based on the specific risks youth face has the potential to produce even stronger benefits.



WHAT IS ADVOCACY?

- ◎ **Advocacy is active support of an idea or cause etc.; especially the act of pleading or arguing for something.**



WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A MENTOR?

- ◉ To develop a positive relationship with a mentee
- ◉ To help an individual develop competence
- ◉ To be sensitive to a diversity of backgrounds, cultures, and experiences
- ◉ To gain experience which will prove useful in other areas of life
- ◉ To become energized through a helping relationship
- ◉ To communicate the mentor's life experiences and insights to the mentee
- ◉ To develop a network of support for the mentee
- ◉ To have fun working with the mentee and other caring adults

SIMPLY PUT, MENTORING.....



HOW CAN A MENTOR SUPPORT THE ADVOCACY ROLE?

- ⦿ Forming an alliance with parents and teachers of the mentee
- ⦿ Helping mentee gain access to useful information and services beneficial to them (tutoring/enrichment/medical care/mental health)
- ⦿ Continuously building self-determination in the mentee
- ⦿ Providing ongoing support for the mentee in your absence
- ⦿ Providing them with essential life skills to promote positive decision making



Advocacy
Works!

QUICK WRITE ACTIVITY: TURN AND TALK!!

- Review the 3 most personally relevant **roles of a mentor advocate**. Jot down each role and “turn and talk” to a fellow trainee explaining why you selected these roles.



BRAINSTORMING COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITY: WHAT ARE THE QUALITIES OF A YOUTH ADVOCATE?

- ◉ In a group of four, brainstorm at least 8 advocacy/leadership traits. Write those traits on the poster board.
- ◉ Place a star by those you think are most important to impart into a child. Be ready to elaborate on your choices.
- ◉ Select a spokesperson for your group.
- ◉ We will discuss your findings as we discover ways to ignite the leader in your youth mentee!



KEY LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR SUCCESSFUL YOUTH:

- ① **Honesty**
- ① **Effective communicator**
- ① **Confidence**
- ① **Commitment**
- ① **Positive attitude**
- ① **Intuition**
- ① **Ability to Inspire**



HOW CAN MENTORS HELP TO IDENTIFY KEY LEADERSHIP SKILLS IN YOUTH?

- ◉ Children learn from seeing what others do. It is important to model leadership behavior to children.
- ◉ Teach children how to work with others in a team situation such as group projects or sports activities.
- ◉ Encourage children to pursue things that interest them. They may develop a passion for it, feel comfortable and later take on a leadership role.
- ◉ Find ways to create problem solving situations. Allow children to start making small decisions such as picking which activity they want to participate in.
- ◉ Teach children how to see things from another's point of view. Good communication is a key component to being an effective leader. Teach children how to listen carefully and how to respond to others in a calm and respectful way.

THE MENTOR'S ROLE IN EDUCATION OF THE MENTEE:

- Mentors help keep students in school.
- Students who meet regularly with their mentors are 52% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school and 37% less likely to skip a class (Public/Private Ventures study of Big Brothers Big Sisters).
- Mentors help with homework and can improve their mentees' academic skills.



BECOME KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE MENTEE'S SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

- ◉ Have informative, yet lively conversations with your mentee about school on a regular basis.
- ◉ Be diplomatic: make sure your mentee is knowledgeable about his teacher's role and professional responsibilities.
- ◉ Put it on paper: Have the mentee keep a journal or reflection log about school to address successes and adversity.



BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MENTEE'S TEACHER:

- ⦿ Explain how your role of advocate will aid the learning process for the mentee.
- ⦿ Form an alliance and promote education cohesively with the teacher.
- ⦿ Inform the student on the goals of the mentoring program. Set goals with the teacher to ensure progress of the mentee.
- ⦿ Periodically consult with the teacher on student's progress and behavior.



321 REVIEW

- ◉ List **3** concepts you **LEARNED** about mentoring as a result of this training.
- ◉ Identify **2** things that were **INTERESTING** to you in regards to mentoring.
- ◉ Pose **1** **QUESTION** you still have in regards to serving as a mentor advocate.