

## **Mentor Description**

What is a mentor?

A mentor is someone who offers guidance, support, and encouragement aimed at developing the competence and character of the mentee. A mentor is an adult who, along with parents, provides support, counsel, friendship, reinforcement and constructive example. Mentors are good listeners, people who care, people who want to help young people bring out strengths that are already there. A mentor is not a foster parent, therapist, parole officer or cool peer. The mentoring relationship is built on structure, a desire to learn (from both parties), and most importantly - trust.

All children have the potential to succeed in life and contribute to society. However, not all children get the support they need to thrive, and 17.6 million young people live in situations that put them at risk of not living up to their potential. Mentoring has proved to be a powerful tool for helping young people fulfill their potential.

By using your influence and resources as a decision maker, you can bring new hope to young lives through the power of mentoring. You'll be surprised by how much you will benefit, as well.