

Professional Mentor Volunteer Information

Professional Mentor Volunteer Job Description-

Agree to serve as a role model in a professional capacity with a young person, alone and collaboratively, most commonly with two other professionals, to encourage and assist foster care youth who are reaching adulthood to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.

- Establish a professional relationship with a young person.
- Establish a professional relationship with other professional volunteers as part of a team for the benefit of the assigned young person.
- Determine what professional advice you can offer the young person individually and as part of the collaborative team.
- Maintain regular contact with assigned young person and other members of the collaborative team.
- Work in partnership with a young person and professional team members to set short and long term goals for the young person's future.
- Assist the young person in creating and maintaining a support network of resources, information and people outside the collaborative team to help him or her to achieve meaningful self sufficiency.

Professional Mentor Volunteer Requirements-

- Make a two-year commitment.
- Spend no less than two hours per month with the mentee.
- Spend no less than one hour per month with the assigned team.
- Communicate with the mentee weekly.
- Communicate with other team members as needed.
- Attend an initial orientation and/or training session and any additional training.
- Attend activities scheduled for all program participants.
- Maintain regular contact and current contact information with the program coordinator, the mentoring team and the mentee.
- Maintain mentee confidentiality unless the youth's safety or well-being is at risk.
- Follow all policies and procedures of the Next Step Mentoring Program.

Participation Requirements-

- Be a professional or have experience in the areas of law, business, finance, counseling or mental health.
- Be interested in working with young people.
- Maintain an open mind.
- Be willing to commit to an average of 4-6 hours per month for a two-year period.
- Attend mentor training and/or orientation, follow-up training and program activities.

Application and Screening Requirements-

- Written application.
- Driving record, criminal history, child abuse registry and sexual offender registry check. These checks must be performed in all states resided in as an adult.
- Personal interview.
- Three references with at least one professional reference.