



PCSAO Peer Mentoring Program

MENTOR Information Sheet

The goal of this program is to strengthen relationships and increase support for current foster youth and young adult mentors. Encouraging foster youth to develop healthy connections with their mentor, and with other youth and adults involved in the program will help stabilize and strengthen the life of a young person in foster care, as well as develop leadership skills in the young adult mentor.

What is a peer mentor? A mentor is someone who provides support, counsel, friendship and a positive role model to a young person. A PCSAO peer mentor is someone who shares the experience of living in an out-of-home placement, and is able to lend support and recognize the strengths, talents, and potential of a current foster youth.

What are the requirements for a mentor?

- Must be 18 - 25 years of age
- Have experienced foster care as a child
- Highly motivated to be a positive role model for a foster youth.
- Complete screening procedure, background check and training.
- Willing to commit to be a mentor for one year
- Attend group activities with mentee twice a month
- Have weekly contact with mentee by phone or e-mail

What is the process to become a mentor?

- Submit an application
- Supply 3 references to be contacted by staff
- Complete screening procedure, including a criminal background check
- Have an interview and complete an interest survey
- Complete initial training to become a mentor

Initial training for mentors. Mentors must complete 5 hours of initial training before becoming a mentor. Mentors will receive a \$50 stipend for attending the training.

Group activities twice a month. These will include numerous fun activities and events. These activities will allow for group interaction as well as individual time for the mentors and their mentees. All activities will be free. Mentors will receive a \$25 stipend per month to assist in transportation or other costs.

Ongoing training and support for mentors. Two additional training sessions will be required for mentors to assist them in developing their mentoring skills. Staff will support the mentors by contacting them twice a month and offering assistance when needed.

Contact information. Contact Shari Amigo at 614-224-5802 or send e-mail to amigo.5@osu.edu

PCSAO Peer Mentoring Staff

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