

1/01/2009

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child has applied to participate in the Many Hands Mentoring Program this year. Youth are selected based upon their availability and number of volunteer mentors available. If placed, your child is matched with one adult mentor from the surrounding business or service community. Each mentor serves as a professional/supportive role model during the year, listening and encouraging his/her youth. The overall purpose of the mentor relationship is to be supportive in 4 specific categories.

- Academic Support
- Goal Setting
- Emotional Support
- Exposure to new things

We aim to draw connections between current circumstances and what our youth can accomplish in the not-too-distant future.

Our mentors come to us from various locally based businesses and service organizations. They are a diverse group representing a vast array of occupations. Each mentor is carefully screened prior to being matched with a mentee. Eager to share insight and experience with his or her mentee, each mentor will spend a minimum of four to six hours a month with his or her youth.

***All meetings between mentors and mentees shall be arranged by mentor, student and parent, and the parent accepts full responsibility for such meetings.***

You will have an opportunity to meet your child's mentor before your child is matched.

In order to have your child enter this program; we must have your signed authorization form in our files. To that end, we have enclosed a Parent/Guardian Questionnaire and Parent Authorization form. Please complete both, and should you have any questions, concerns, or need additional information about the project, please feel free to call me at (309) 820-1400.

We are very excited about the events of the upcoming year. I look forward to meeting with you all, very soon.

Most sincerely,

*Jay Shannon*

Mentor Coordinator

Attachment

*(remember- Many Hands make light work...)*