



Restorative Justice Mentoring Program

Court House
171 West Third Street
Winona, MN 55987
(507)457-6457

Mentor Volunteer Job Description

Winona County Restorative Justice Mentoring Program: Mission Statement

To expand quality restorative services for at-risk youth, victims, offenders, and the community as a whole within Winona County by offering an alternative to and within the traditional judicial process.

Program Description:

The Winona County Restorative Justice Mentoring Program is dedicated to providing a quality Mentoring Program. Our services are designed to provide a challenged, at-risk youth with an adult mentor who is caring, responsible, and a positive role-model. With the paired mentee/mentor relationship will hopefully grow a friendship. Our mentors are to be a friend, supporter, advisor, advocate, motivator, and a career model. We require that our mentors meet with our mentees a minimum of 10 hours a month (2 hours a week). They are to work with the child to develop positive life skills and encourage the child to reach their full potential.

Duties / Responsibilities:

When a mentor is assigned to a child he/she will be responsible for meeting with the juvenile on a weekly basis, for two hours a week. The mentor will also be responsible for reporting to the Mentoring Coordinator if the pair is not meeting as scheduled. A one-year commitment is the minimum that this agency is requesting. Many of these children are seeking stability in their lives and need the stability of one mentor. The mentor will be asked to work on certain aspects of the child's development. He/She will work closely with the Restorative Justice Staff through phone contact, personal conferences, and group meetings as needed to better understand the child, his/her family, and to facilitate activities to help the child. The mentor will serve as a

role-model to demonstrate experiences and choices that they might not otherwise have been exposed to. Self-realization, trust, and improved self-esteem for the child are important goals of the relationship.

Review of Responsibilities:

1. Attend initial mentor training
2. Meet with assigned mentee for one year (or for the duration of their individual requirements)
3. Complete Monthly logs on contact with mentee
4. Attend review / evaluation meetings

Requirements / Qualifications:

A mentor must be at least 18 years old and have the ability to accept and relate to children who may not share their same life-style and values. The mentor should have an interest in working with challenged, at-risk youth and have a great deal of common sense, friendliness, maturity, sensitivity, and responsibility. The volunteer must also pass a criminal background check.

Location:

Juveniles throughout Winona County are in need of a mentor. While we strive to place volunteers with juveniles that are close to their own home, there are still juveniles who do not live in the Winona area. During the interview process and training, there will be a chance for each mentor to decide if it would be possible for them to take on the responsibility to mentor a child from another Winona County community. If this is not possible, the mentor is responsible for letting the Restorative Justice Mentoring Coordinator know.

Volunteer Mentor Perks:

1. Making a difference in a young person's life.
2. Making a new friend.
3. Accepting a new challenge.
4. Ongoing support and recognition from Winona County Restorative Justice through personal contact and newsletters.

5. Continuing education regarding youth issues and support through volunteer meetings.