**Hello!**

 Our names are Brandie, Jessica, Jennifer, and Casey and we are working on behalf of the Perry County Community Task Force for the **CHAMPS** (**C**ommunities **H**elping **A**dolescents **M**ature **P**ositively & **S**uccessfully) Mentoring Program.

 A tremendous opportunity is available for your child to join this program. Responsible, carefully selected adults have been trained to provide support, encouragement, friendship and assistance to young people as they develop. There is no cost for you, thanks to funding from various grants and community donations.

 Studies have shown that students who have mentors do better in school, are 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs, 52% less likely to skip school, and 33% less likely to become violent.

 The mentor would meet with your child once a week in his/her school, usually from 3pm-4pm, under supervised conditions. All adult mentors have undergone background checks. You will be encouraged to meet your child’s mentor.

 Your input on your child’s needs is greatly appreciated. Please complete the enclosed checklist to help us in assisting your child. We will also ask your child’s teacher to complete the same checklist to identify the areas in which the mentor could be of most assistance to your child. To monitor the success of the mentoring project, grades, attendance, homework completions, detentions, and general attitude will be recorded. We want to do everything we can to help your child have a positive mentoring experience.

 If you think your child would benefit from having a mentor at school to help your child become the best he/she can be, please return the permission form and record release authorization, checklist of needs, and child’s interest inventory in the enclosed, stamped envelope.

 If you have any questions or need more information, please call us at 547-1292.