



Be Someone Who Matters
To Someone Who Matters



Mentoring – Frequently Asked Questions

1. What does it mean to be a Mentor?

Mentors are volunteers who chose to share their time and experience with a young person by spending time together each week, sharing common interests. Children and youth need positive people whom they trust to model after and solicit advice from.

2. How is mentoring with Mentor Me different from mentoring in the school system?

The idea is the same- building a friendship with and serving as a positive role model for a child. School mentors meet during the school year at the schools, our mentors are “community based”, meaning that instead of meeting on site at Mentor Me offices or the school, our Mentors pick up their Mentees at their home, go and do something fun together and then return them back home. However, Mentors can also visit their student at school during their lunch period.

3. What kind of activities will my student (Mentee) and I do together?

We recommend getting your Mentee’s input on activities he or she would like to do, and also providing opportunities for educational activities. Some ideas include: playing sports, watching a movie, cooking, visiting a museum, washing a car, taking a walk, doing homework at the library, volunteering, arts and crafts, nail salon, shopping, etc. Our Program Manager is also available to provide ongoing support and ideas to connect.

4. Can I involve my family?

Yes, many of our Mentors involve their spouse, children and/or other friends, and they all have a great time together! We simply encourage you to be sensitive to your Mentee’s desires when thinking about including other members of your family and/or friends.

5. How are Mentees selected to participate in the program? Will I get to specify my preferences?

We serve Mentees ages 6-17, male and female, from all ethnicities and cultures, primarily from Forsyth County. Mentees are referred by school personnel, parents and the court system, and often come from single parent homes, are living with relatives other than their birth parents, and may be struggling in one or more areas of their lives- whether it be academics, family turmoil, low self-esteem, or behavioral issues. Volunteers will specify their preferences during the in-person interview with our Program Manager.

6. Do I need previous experience?

No previous experience is necessary! Simply providing your Mentee with a consistent, healthy, positive relationship as someone he or she can look up to and trust is all it takes. Statistically, youth who have a positive adult mentoring relationship during this pivotal time are less likely to drop out of school, use drugs, or become pregnant. Having your support makes all the difference!

7. What is the time commitment? Is there a financial commitment?

One hour a week for one year. We ask Mentors to agree to enter into a match relationship with their Mentees for at least one year, and to aim to make face-to-face contact with their Mentee for at least an hour per week, and if face-to-face is not an option during a certain week to keep in touch by phone/text. The only financial commitment is to pay for your Mentee to participate with you in whatever activity you choose (i.e. purchasing movie tickets or lunch at a restaurant). Keep in mind that it is up to you what activities you choose to do, so you can make it as inexpensive as necessary. Several free activities are also provided throughout the year by our generous community partners.

8. What does Mentor Me do?

Mentor Me will support you every step of the way. The safety and well-being of the youth we serve is Mentor Me's highest priority. We strive to achieve the highest quality possible in matching a youth to a volunteer Mentor, and in providing ongoing professional support services to our youth, guardians, and volunteers. Mentor Me's Program Manager ensures that each new (less than 1 year) match receives monthly check-in contacts, and each veteran match receives quarterly check-ins. Also, the Program Manager keeps all Mentors updated as far as fun activities going on in the community. Additionally, Mentor Me hosts several fun events throughout the year. Most importantly, the Program Manager is available during the work week to contact with any questions, concerns, or positive stories!

9. I'm ready! What's next?

Contact our Program Manager, Sara Pritchard at Sara@mentormenorthga.org to set up an interview time that works best for you. Along with the interview, volunteers will need to complete the following*:

- Criminal history background check
- A driving record report from the past 3 years
- Various paperwork items
- Provide at least 3 references
- Attend an orientation/training (usually done individually at your convenience)

*Mentor Me covers all expenses for the application process, including background checks.

We are excited to start the process with you! You truly will make a difference in the life of a child or teen, and in your own life as well!