

**You Could be the
Reason A
Child Succeeds**

YOU could be that person that makes a connection with a youth struggling to grow up.

YOU could be the reason they succeed!

YOU could make
THE DIFFERENCE!

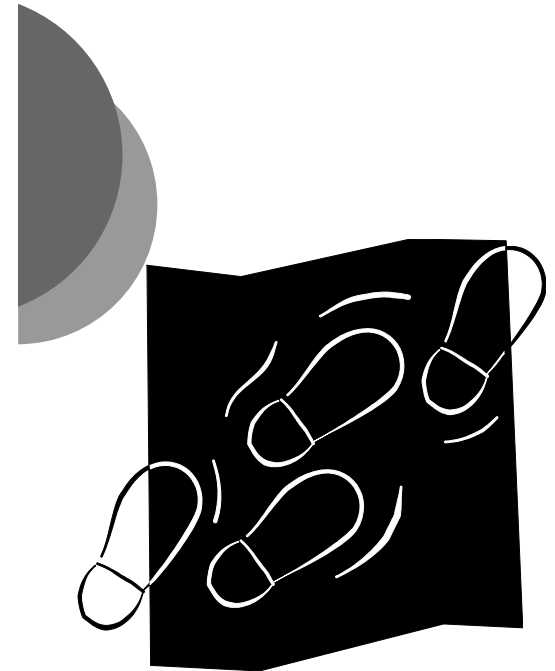


**DeKalb County
Juvenile Court Services
Mentoring Program**

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**Leaving Your Foot
Print On the World**

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What is a Mentor?

A mentor is one who serves as a caring guide, a partner in journey, a wise advisor and a trusted friend. A mentor is a role model who can serve as a mirror for the youth. This allows the youths to better understand themselves by showing them who they are and what they can become. In other words showing your inner strengths and as a helpful guide to grow as an individual.

Ultimately, a mentor is one who can establish a strong connection with their mentee and can in turn use that connection as a catalyst for positive change in the lives of these youths



WHAT IS MENTORING?

- Mentoring is a relationship over a prolonged period of time between two or more people where the mentor provides constant attention such as support, guidance, and concrete help to the protégé as they travel through life.
- Mentoring helps fill the gap of adult relationships, which is absent from many youths' lives. It can expose youth to new information and this may help them make better decisions about their current or future lives.
- Mentoring is about believing in the unlimited potential of each and every youth served. It maintains high expectations for those youth while allowing them to reach those expectations in their own unique time frame.
- Mentoring is about time and patience

Effectiveness of Mentoring

- Improving young people's attitudes towards their parents, peers and teachers;
- Encouraging students to stay motivated and focused on their education;
- Providing a positive way for young people to spend free time;
- Helping young people face daily challenges; and
- Offering young people opportunities to consider new career paths and get much-needed economic skills and knowledge.

Mentoring Research:

Research confirms what previously we had known....Mentoring Works. A recent Research Brief published by Child Trends and titled, "Mentoring a Promising Strategy for Youth Development," found that youth who participate in mentoring relationships experience a number of positive benefits.

- School attendance improves
- Increased likelihood of college
- Prevents substance abuse
- Reduce some negative youth behaviors
- Promotes positive social attitudes and relationships.
- Mentored youth tend to trust their parents more and communicate better with them
- They also feel they get more emotional support from their friends than do youth who are not mentored.

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