

Mentoring with HOPE

DeKalb County
HOPE, Inc.

P.O. Box 111
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January / March
2012 edition

Special Dates of
Interest ...

• January 18th is
National Mentor
Recruitment Day

• January 26th is
Thank Your Mentor
Day

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Ninety-Five Mentors Strong

The 2011—2012 school year got off to a great start with 95 active mentors serving in nine schools through out DeKalb County schools. This year was a first for Butler Elementary School and DeKalb High School to welcome the HOPE program. There are presently 9 mentors with students at DeKalb High School and 3 mentors working with Butler Elementary students.

With the HOPE program being in its xth year, the commitment of all 95 volunteer mentors is incredibly strong and a gift to our students.

Here is an overview of our “Ninety-Five”

- DeKalb High School—9 mentors

- DeKalb Middle School—10 mentors
- J.E. Ober—17 mentors
- J.R. Watson—25 mentors
- Riverdale Elementary—11 mentors
- Butler Elementary—3 mentors
- Country Meadow—3 mentors
- Waterloo Elementary—9 mentors
- McKenny Harrison—8 mentors



JANUARY IS NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

Did you know that January is National Mentoring Month?

It was established on January 1, 2001 and spearheaded by The Harvard Mentoring

Project of the Harvard School of Public Health and MENTOR/ National Mentoring Partnership. Its goal was to recruit volunteer mentors to work with children who are at risk

of not leading healthy, productive lives.

It's also a great time to reconnect with people who mentored you. Let them know what a difference they made .

Your Role as a HOPE Volunteer



The success of the match relationship depends greatly on the efforts of the volunteer and the student. Each of you plays an important role in helping build a meaningful relationship. As you continue to meet with your student, or if this is your first year, here are a few tips to help you understand your role as a HOPE volunteer .

In a large study, kids were asked what they need. The following responses were most common.

- Positive adult role models
 - Respect
 - Support
 - Time to be kids
- So, what makes a HOPE volunteer successful?
- Conveying to you student that he/she and what you are doing is important
 - Active listening
 - Emphasizing support over changing the behavior of the child
 - Not being authoritarian
 - Deciding some things together
 - Consistency and dependability
 - Having realistic expectations
 - Patience
 - Setting boundaries and limits

“Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction”
John C. Crosby

DECLARATION

AS LEADERS OF INDIANA’S UNIVERSITIES
AND COLLEGES, WE JOIN TOGETHER TO DECLARE:

- A post-secondary degree, credential, or certificate is essential to an individual’s economic success and self-sufficiency in the 21st Century economy : and
- All students need abundant and aspiration to learn the academic and life skills needed for post-secondary readiness, access, and success: and
- Strong support from family, community, and school are essential to a student’s academic preparation and achievement: and
- A one-on-one relationship with a caring mentor can build upon a student’s strengths, identify and help a student overcome challenges, and provide the encouragement and information neces-

Therefore, as the nation celebrates “National Mentoring Month” in January 2012, we encourage to vigorously support youth mentoring as a life-changing strategy for the personal, academic, and economic success of Indiana Children and youth.



This Declaration was jointly signed by the presidents of Indiana’s seven public universities and colleges, as well as representatives of Indiana’s private colleges and universities.

Together they encourage all Hoosiers to “vigorously support youth mentoring as a life-changing strategy for the personal, academic, and economic success of Indiana children and youth.”

Who Is The Indiana Youth Institute?

The Indiana Youth Institute was established in 1988 with strong support from the Lilly Endowment. It quickly earned a national reputation for its research, training and resource services in the youth development field.

In 1991 IYI began the Indiana Youth Investment Award recognition program for youth workers. In 1994, IYI released its first Kids Count in Indiana Data Book and published the

highly acclaimed High Hopes, Long Odds Report.

During its tenth year, IYI's Board of directors voted to refocus the agency's efforts primarily on providing practical resources for youth workers and community based youth serving organizations. These can include after school and summer camp programs, mentoring and tutoring groups among many others.

Since 1998, the institute has

grown in service and impact, and is now known as the state's premiere resource for Indiana youth workers. It has also gained a national reputation to dedicating to strengthening the skills of youth workers and building the capacity of their youth serving organizations.

IYI's current programs provide Indiana youth professionals with practical assistance in working with kids and building parental community support of the state's children and youth.



Mentoring is knowledge

How Can I Help My Child Understand What He / She Is reading?

Helping children understand what they read can sometimes be a challenge. From the book "7 Keys to Comprehension", here is a summary of the seven steps.

- Using Sensory Images— Use all five senses to help your child create sensory images.
- Using Schema (Background

Knowledge)- Share the connections you make as you read of your memories or funny stories.

- Asking Questions—Show your child how to be curious by asking questions.
- Inferring—Inferring goes beyond the written page. He them make guesses, connections and predictions.

- Determining Importance – learn to understand what you are reading and the meaning.
- Synthesizing—Summarize what has happened.
- Fixing Comprehension - Remember reading is thinking

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men"

Frederick Douglass

Calendar of Events

January 5, 2012
HOPE Executive Committee Meeting
New Mentor Training
January 18, 2012
HOPE Mentor Leader Meeting

January 26, 2012
HOPE Executive Committee Meeting
February 2, 2012
Hope Board Meeting

MISSION STATEMENT

"Building Positive Relationships With Students To Help Improve Their Opportunities For Success In The Class Room And In Life Through A Volunteer, School—Based Mentoring Program With DeKalb County Schools"

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NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH