

School Coordinator E-Newsletter November 2007

Fall Newsletter for Creative Mentoring

November 9, 2007

Greetings from Creative Mentoring!

As this year's mentor programs are getting off the ground, I wanted to take the opportunity to welcome you back and tell you about some of the exciting things we've been working on here at Creative Mentoring.

As the new Manager of Recruitment and Training (as of November 1st), I want you to know I'm here to support you and your in-school mentor program. Through this school year, I look forward to working with each of you to find unique ways to help make your program successful. Please let me know if you need more materials, if you have questions about the status of a mentor's application, or if you have any questions or suggestions about the database. We can provide a private training session for you at your school if you have a new group of mentors. Also, we can offer a Share and Care to your active mentors. Share and Care trainings are a wonderful way to allow your active mentors to connect with each other and talk about the joys and concerns of mentoring. This is also a great time for you to connect with them and address specific problems.

Jazz in January Event Honors Mentors

Join us as we celebrate mentoring and honor exemplary long-term mentors. This year's annual fundraising event, Jazz in January, will honor Senator Tom Carper for his outstanding commitment to mentoring along with mentors that *you nominate* from your school. The event will be held at the DuPont Country Club on Saturday, January 19th from 6pm to 11pm and will feature fine cuisine, a silent auction, and dancing to live music by the Tim Laushey Orchestra. *A coach bus will be provided to transport guests from Sussex County.*

Nominate outstanding mentors

Please let us know about mentors we should honor who have gone "above and beyond" by:

- Being involved in mentoring for 10 years or more
- Mentoring more than 7 students
- Being an outstanding mentor in some other way

Encourage all of your mentors to attend the Jazz in January event

All mentors will be celebrated at the event, in addition to special recognition of exemplary mentors.

Active mentors and school coordinators (*this means you!*) qualify for a special ticket price (\$35). Visit www.jazzinjanuary.org for more information about the event.

Refer-A-Friend Fall/Winter Incentive Program

Please encourage your mentors to refer friends and colleagues to consider becoming volunteer mentors. As you know, there are children waiting for their own mentor in every school throughout Delaware.

For every newly-referred mentor who completes the application, background check, and training and then is placed with a child and begins mentoring, the referring mentor's school will receive a \$25 gift card to buy supplies and games for its mentor meeting room.

To qualify for this program, mentors should advise their friend or colleague to list them as a reference on the online application at www.creativementoring.org and choose the Referral Source: Refer-A-Friend. We'll take care of the rest!

Thank You! We know how hard you work to coordinate and support your school's mentor program. We know that you do this work because you believe in the effects of mentoring and because you care about your students. As a **thank you** for all you do that goes "above and beyond," we are working on getting gift cards from local discount department stores so that you can buy supplies and games for your mentor meeting rooms.

Encourage Local Business Partners to Support Mentoring

We know that most schools have businesses who support them by donating items for Thanksgiving and End of Year Holiday parties and initiatives. We also know that they come through for schools in times of need. *Why not get those businesses who have already shown that they care about your school to get involved with mentoring?*

Encourage your local business friends to attend the Jazz in January event

This event will get them excited about mentoring and even more committed to supporting the work you do. Businesses can buy tables at the event and fill it with their employees and friends or mentors from the school they support. We'll provide you with invitations that you can give to local business owners so they can get involved with this exciting event that supports Creative Mentoring.

Tell your local business friends about the opportunity to partner with Creative Mentoring

We can help businesses start their own employee mentoring program, offering them training and support. If you know of a caring business that might be interested, let them know how to contact us.

Help us **Spread the Word** about the work your volunteer mentors are doing. Not only do we want to recognize those individuals who are so generously giving their time and commitment to your students, we also want to inspire other caring adults to join the mentoring cause. Share stories with us about great mentor/mentee relationships you've witnessed to help us spread the word. Send an email to stephanie@connecting-generations.org.

Rachel Markowitz
Manager of Training and Recruitment, Connecting Generations
100 W. 10th Street, Suite 1115
Wilmington, DE 19801
302-656-2122, x. 10
Fax: 302-656-2123
rmarkowitz@connecting-generations.org (please note the new address)

Connecting Generations is the home of Creative Mentoring, Seasons of Respect, and Creative Transitions. Our mission is to provide creative approaches to services that help children and adults lead purposeful, fulfilling and self-directed lives.