

It's Time To Mentor!

MENTORING BENEFITS EVERYONE!

Benefits to Mentors

Mentors make a difference in the lives of at-risk youth. In return, they receive many personal benefits as a result. Mentors report:

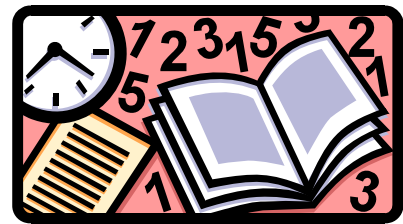
- happier when they return to work
- fulfilled with their volunteer commitment
- come away with a greater understanding of the educational system
- develop a greater appreciation for students and for members of other ethnic groups
- feel better about themselves
- get along better with their own families
- appreciate their own lives and life experiences more
- often become better workers



Benefits to Companies Participating in Mentor Programs

What makes a company or business agree to release workers for volunteer time or otherwise support mentoring programs in the community? Besides establishing their commitment to society and to the education of the city's youth, businesses also benefit by:

- increased productivity of the volunteers
- increased positive exposure within the school community
- increased awareness of community and educational issues
- indirectly strengthening the local economy
- participating in the creation of a better prepared workforce for tomorrow



The Benefit to Youth:

Some of the reported benefits to youth include:

- a 2004 study of students at Driggs School that had a mentor for a full year under the Waterbury Public Schools mentoring program found that ALL students improved in reading and most improved in math even though this is not a "tutoring" program
- A 2003 study of close to 500 mentoring pairs conducted by the Connecticut Mentoring Partnership showed that youth with mentors say they have a better attitude at school, are getting better grades, are behaving better in class and are well-prepared for school every day
- A Public/Private ventures study of Big Brothers/Big Sisters found that youth who were in a mentored relationship for a year were 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs, 27% less likely to begin using alcohol, 52% less likely to skip school, and 37% less likely to skip class

Other Studies Report:

- Employees who mentor say 98% are satisfied with the experience, 99% believe their company should invest in youth (their future workforce), 89% said the mentoring program made them proud to work for their company, and 63% said they feel more productive at work after mentoring
- Volunteers who mentor often say they get as much or more out of the experience as the child they are mentoring does



The Benefit to You?

All mentors will benefit from realizing that they have taken one small but important step to improve the world around them by stopping to help another person who needs that little bit of extra help to reach his or her full potential.