

## Mentor Michigan Programs and Activities

**Mentor Recruitment and Referral.** The Mentor Michigan Directory provides an online resource and comprehensive list of mentoring programs in Michigan. Potential mentors, businesses, youth, parents, guardians, teachers, faith leaders, and others can find information at [www.mentormichigan.org](http://www.mentormichigan.org).

**Public Awareness.** Mentor Michigan raises awareness of the value of mentoring for young people and adults alike. Each January, Michigan Mentoring Month is part of a national celebration of mentoring. There are thousands of children on waiting lists with local mentoring programs, most of them boys. Mentor Michigan is actively partnering with mentoring programs to address this issue.

**Training and Technical Assistance.** Mentor Michigan has developed Quality Standards for Youth Mentoring so that youth and adults receive the most positive results from a mentoring relationship. Mentor Michigan provides training and technical assistance for mentoring programs to help them meet these standards.

**Annual Conference.** Mentor Michigan convenes mentoring professionals from across the state. It's an opportunity for training, networking, and learning from each other and from national mentoring leaders.

**Research and Evaluation.** Each year, the Mentor Michigan Census gathers research on program needs, and the overall status of mentoring in Michigan.

**Statewide Recognition.** The Governor's Service Awards annually recognize a mentor and mentoring program for outstanding service in support of young people. Mentor Michigan's Corporate Honor Roll formally recognizes companies that have taken on the mentoring challenge.

*Every child  
has the right  
to a stable, caring  
adult in his or her life.*



**MCSC**

1048 Pierpont, Suite 4  
Lansing, Michigan 48913  
(517) 335-4295

[www.michigan.gov/mcsc](http://www.michigan.gov/mcsc)  
[www.mentormichigan.org](http://www.mentormichigan.org)

**MENTORING  
CHANGES LIVES  
TWO AT A TIME**



# MICHIGAN NEEDS ITS YOUNG PEOPLE

Michigan's future prosperity and quality of life depend on its youngest citizens. Given the opportunity, young people want to find positive ways to take responsibility for their lives. Young people who are mentored are given the tools to make better decisions, gain confidence, build stronger relationships with peers and parents, and improve performance in school.



*"I am currently mentoring Jamie. Together, we ran the Labor Day Bridge Run. In our training, we found health benefits and opportunities that I never would have had without her. She has such courage and perseverance in*

*the face of some pretty difficult times. She keeps bouncing back and giving. She now has more maturity and trust. As an educator, I work with young people every day, but mentoring offers a deeper, personal relationship. We're together because we've both chosen to be together, and the trust comes out of that."*

Michele Ripka  
Ottawa County ISD

Thousands of people are looking for ways to help others. Mentor Michigan harnesses that energy by supporting more than 200 mentoring organizations around the state—organizations that match caring adults with young people in need of role models. Mentor Michigan strengthens those organizations through training, research, and partnerships with businesses, faith-based and nonprofit organizations, schools, colleges and universities, and government.

Mentor Michigan also elevates public awareness of the positive impact of mentoring and the need for more quality mentors. There are thousands of young people in Michigan who want and need a mentor to help them find their way in life.

Mentor Michigan is guided by mentoring professionals who serve on the Mentor Michigan Providers Council. Council members are selected through a competitive process, and represent mentoring organizations across the state.

## MENTOR MICHIGAN BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER

# MENTORING CHANGES LIVES TWO AT A TIME

Again and again, mentors explain the things they gain from the young people they mentor – trying new things, learning about themselves, enriching their own lives by opening themselves to another.



*"I've been with Marton on a weekly basis since we were matched when I was in the 12th grade. I tell everybody I've gotten a lot more out of it than he has. Mentoring has given me direction in life when I wasn't*

*sure what I wanted to do. I'm most proud of his turnaround academically and behaviorally. When I started working with him, he was labeled as ADD/ADHD, and they wanted to remove him from the elementary school. Now he's a 9th grader doing really well. In mentoring, they don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."*

CJ Quinney  
Graduate Student in Family/Community Services,  
Michigan State University  
Governor's Service Award Winner