



Mentor Michigan Providers Council

GENERAL OVERVIEW

What is the Mentor Michigan Providers Council?

The Providers Council advises Mentor Michigan about mentoring activities and needs around the state. The council serves as an advisory body to the Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC), the host agency for Mentor Michigan.

Why should I serve on the Mentor Michigan Providers Council?

By serving on the Providers Council you will have the opportunity to continue shaping mentoring for Michigan. You serve in a leadership role to assist Mentor Michigan in promoting, supporting, and strengthening mentoring statewide. You will have the opportunity to network with and learn from other mentoring programs across the state.

Currently, the Providers Council has chosen the following areas of focus: mentoring program standards, training and support for mentoring programs, program evaluation, marketing and public relations, and collaborations. Each year the Providers Council will determine its priorities and goals.

Who serves on the Mentor Michigan Providers Council?

The Council consists of up to 20 individuals that represent diverse mentoring programs, organizations, and collaborations from around the state. The following are currently represented on the council: community-based programs, school-based programs, faith-based programs, higher education institutions, local mentoring collaboratives, Volunteer Centers, and National Service programs. For a list of the current Council members please visit www.mentormichigan.org.

How will the Mentor Michigan Providers Council members be selected?

Individuals interested in serving on the Providers Council must complete the nomination form and return it to the MCSC by September 4, 2009. Nomination forms may be faxed, mailed, or emailed. The MCSC and a team of mentoring experts will select the Providers Council members. We will ensure the Providers Council is representative of the state in terms of diversity of programs, expertise, and service area. Individuals will be notified of their selection by September 25, 2009.

What is the time commitment for the Mentor Michigan Providers Council?

New Providers Council members are required to attend an orientation session prior to the first meeting of the year. This training is scheduled for October 19, 2009 at the Michigan Community Service Commission. The Providers Council will convene once a quarter. The meeting dates for the 2009-10 year are:

October 20, 2009 – Bengel Wildlife Center, Bath

January 26, 2010 – George W. Romney Building (*meeting date subject to change*)

April 13, 2010 – MCSC Board Room

July 20, 2010 – MCSC Board Room

Who do I contact if I have questions?

If you have questions about the Mentor Michigan Providers Council, please contact Kathie Vasilion Robinson at (517)373-4200 or vasilionk@michigan.gov.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

I. General Responsibilities

- A. The Providers Council is a working committee of Mentor Michigan. Its primary role is to advise Mentor Michigan about mentoring activities and the needs of mentoring programs throughout Michigan. The council serves as an advisory body to the Michigan Community Service Commission, the host agency for Mentor Michigan. The Mentor Michigan Providers Council:
 - a. Helps design a statewide training and technical assistance plan for mentoring programs to develop the capacity to meet the Michigan *Quality Program Standards for Youth Mentoring*.
 - b. Helps evaluate and improve the system to track mentoring on an ongoing basis that has been established through the annual Mentor Michigan Census.
 - c. Advises Mentor Michigan on its overall research and evaluation agenda.
 - d. Develops and promotes statewide mentoring activities such as training, regional meetings, National Mentoring Month activities, and conferences.
 - e. Serves as a liaison to local/regional mentoring programs.
 - f. Educates key local, state, and national leaders about mentoring and issues important to mentoring through activities such as legislative visits.
 - g. Advocates for and educates others statewide about the Michigan *Quality Program Standards for Youth Mentoring*.
 - h. Helps facilitate awareness of the value of mentoring and the need for mentors through support of the Mentor Michigan marketing campaign.

- B. Providers Council members serve in a leadership role to assist Mentor Michigan in promoting, supporting, and strengthening mentoring statewide by:
 - a. Recognizing the success and effectiveness of mentoring programs and activities.
 - b. Developing and sharing resources.
 - c. Supporting, advocating for, and assisting in research and evaluation efforts.
 - d. Creating and strengthening networks among mentoring organizations.
 - e. Serving as a bridge between Mentor Michigan and the local community.
 - f. Recruit and refer other potential Providers Council members to the staff of Mentor Michigan.

II. Expectations

Each Providers Council Member will:

- A. Annually attend the four quarterly meetings. Attendance at the four quarterly meetings is required. Substitutes are not permitted. If members miss more than two meetings without communication with Mentor Michigan staff, they may be replaced at the discretion of Mentor Michigan staff.
- B. Serve as a liaison with the state legislature, at the request of and on behalf of Mentor Michigan.
- C. Actively participate in one Providers Council sub-committee (see below).
- D. Participate in state, regional, or local Mentor Michigan activities whenever possible.
- E. Register with Mentor Michigan and participate in the Mentor Michigan Census on an annual basis.

III. Providers Council Sub-Committees

- A. Chairpersons Committee - The Chairpersons Committee consists of the Providers Council chair and the sub-committee chairs. The role of the Chairpersons Committee is to:
 - a. Assist the chair, as necessary, in carrying out the mission and function of Mentor Michigan and the Providers Council.
 - b. Coordinate the work of the sub-committees.

- B. Sub-committees are formed as needed to address identified needs or emerging issues on youth mentoring. The chair of the subcommittee is responsible for scheduling meetings or conference calls (with help from Mentor Michigan staff) and running the subcommittee meetings. Providers Council members are expected to participate in at least one subcommittee each year. Each committee creates its goals for the year at the October Providers Council Retreat.

IV. Terms of Service

Mentor Michigan Providers Council members are appointed for a one, two, or three year term. Members may be appointed for more than one term. Applications are distributed each Fall through Mentor Michigan networks. Individuals may nominate themselves for the Council. Nominations will also be solicited by the staff of Mentor Michigan.

V. Communication Expectations

Mentor Michigan Providers Council members are an important link to the mentoring organizations in Michigan. They serve as both a “voice” for and the “ears” of Mentor Michigan. Periodically requests will be sent to Providers Council members asking for input on issues or assistance in communicating about upcoming events or initiatives, such as the Mentor Michigan Census, National Mentoring Month efforts, and the annual Mentor Michigan Conference. Members are expected to share information with mentoring organizations in their communities as well as within their own organization.