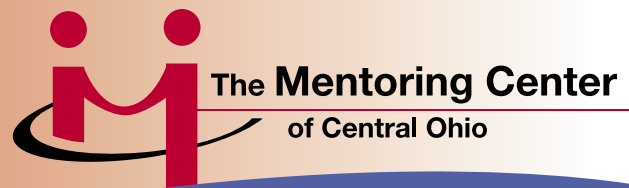


# Mentoring Works



Fall 2009

Training Mentors...Transforming Lives

## Mentoring Highlights

## OSU Mentoring Hub Starts 8th Year Over 350 OSU Students Mentor Each Year

"Your training was the best ever! Everyone was pleased and thought that [the Mentoring Center] trainer did a 'beyond outstanding' job. I've been a mentor for over 4 years and there were things that were brought out... that I wish I had known 4 years ago."

-Stephen Garland,  
E.L. Hardy Center



OSU students sign up to mentor with the Buckeye Mentoring Hub at the 2009 OSU Student Involvement Fair

An amazing ritual at Ohio State University is the Student Involvement Fair on the Oval where thousands of new and returning students consider what they'll do OUTSIDE the classrooms where they pursue over 180 different majors. An impressive number of them choose to mentor children in over 13 different Columbus schools and other sites near campus and also in South-Western City Schools where many recent immigrant children seek a friend.

College students say that they become wholly invested in their mentee's interests and needs—providing a caring, listening ear while helping with homework and all-important motivation and self-confidence. Over 70% of the Big Brother Big Sister mentees showed significant improvements in trust, self-confidence, relationships with peers and academic performance. An OSU survey showed that college students believed they gained personal maturity through the relationships, became better at time and stress management and saw their involvement as a way of applying classroom theory to real-world experiences. *Continued on next page...*

## Lifeskills Don't Just Come Naturally!

At the end of a session on Acting on My Goals or Thinking like a Leader or Managing Anger, young people say "I see now that what I make of this is up to me!"

The Mentoring Center is taking lifeskills modules it created, funded in part by an Ingram White Castle grant, to mentoring programs across central Ohio. The interactive, culturally competent and fun modules help young people see that defining a goal and working toward it—or adjusting their response to someone's mean remark—isn't just for adults. And while they learn that humans aren't always logical, they find that those who analyze their choices or consider their responses before reacting often have better outcomes!

*Continued on next page...*



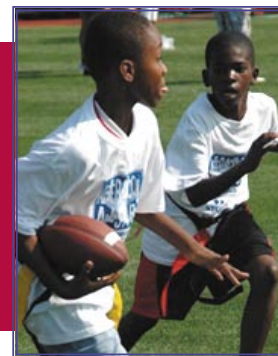
## What's UP in Mentoring?

The Mentoring Center wants to keep you updated on activities, challenges and accomplishments of our 40+ partners and of national initiatives impacting mentoring. Here are some of the latest!

**Revised Elements of Effective Practice from MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership** due out soon! The new edition identifies key practices supported by research and "enhancements" supported by experience. More details to come!

**New Booster Seat Law** effective is October 7, 2009. Law enforcement will issue warnings only for the first six months. Full enforcement, with citations, will begin on April 7, 2010. Children 4 &

*Continued on next page...*



Columbus After-School All-Stars Summer Games event



Join us!

The Magic of Mentoring

October 27, 2009

Keynote speaker:  
**Clark Kellogg**  
CBS Lead Basketball  
Analyst and former OSU MVP

Details:  
Call 614.839.2447 X103  
mentoringcenterco.org

To reach us through our new phone system: 614.839.2447  
Marilyn Pritchett x163 | Kimeta Dover x103 | Tessie Belue x171  
Stephanie Hughes, Training & Background Checks: MentorLine 614-233-MENT (6368)

## What's UP in Mentoring? (cont'd)

under or less than 40 pounds must be in a booster seat. Children under 8 must be in a booster seat and youth in a safety belt. Mentor programs need to provide volunteers with written policies regarding this issue. For more information visit, [www.boostohiokids.org](http://www.boostohiokids.org)

**Background checks for mentors**—Did you know that the Mentoring Center helps set the community standard in central Ohio for the criminal background checking of mentors? FCCS (Franklin County Children Services) helps support this cost and Mentoring Center staff uses its state-of-the-art equipment to complete these checks for partner agencies.

**BalletMet** begins its Mentoring program this fall for five young people. Yearly, BalletMet provides scholarships to 62 youth and donates 3300 event tickets to kids in the community.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters** is starting the third year of Project Mentor with over 60 corporations mentoring children in 59 Columbus City Schools programs plus 13 more programs in South-Western Schools and Delaware and Union Counties.

**Columbus After-School All Stars'** summer highlight was the Summer Games for 1000 kids at the Jesse Owens Track at Ohio State University. This school year, despite funding cuts, they will provide programs at Mifflin and Beery Middle Schools and Blackburn Recreation Center.

**Communities In Schools** is expanding to work with Catholic Diocesan schools through a 21st Century grant at St. James and All Saints Academy. Their new Step Up For Kids Walk/Run the morning of the Riverfront Arts Festival on September 19 was very successful.

## Life Skills Don't Just Come Naturally! (cont'd)

For more information, see the Mentoring Center's website at [mentoringcenterco.org/training.htm](http://mentoringcenterco.org/training.htm) or call Kimeta Dover, Program Manager, at 614.839.2447 X103.

The idea of developing these modules grew from research noting that children from under-resourced homes and neighborhoods, typically lack these "lifeskills"—often reverting to "asocial or anti-social" responses (Ron Prinz, PhD, National Institute of Justice). Mentoring Center Director Marilyn Pritchett saw that children from middle class homes gained these skills almost by osmosis from parents and other adults, while many children in poverty neighborhoods had few opportunities to gain such important skills unless they were actively coached. Enter: mentors who can work side-by-side with children on real-life scenarios, then reinforce these skills in their ongoing interactions with their mentees.

Each topic is made up of three to six activities that can be facilitated by Mentoring Center staff or leased to a particular program.

Thank you to our key supporters:



INGRAM **White Castle** FOUNDATION

The Columbus Foundation

**Community for New Direction's** summer day camp served 125 kids. Their mentoring program continues at Champion Middle School. The agency held a fundraising event on October 2 with Archie Griffin as the keynote speaker.

**Educational Council** - The KIDSCONnect Program provides afterschool programming for middle school students in Groveport Madison, Canal Winchester, Hamilton-Local & Whitehall school districts. Last spring, Whitehall students completed a prevention film with OSU student groups as part of the afterschool curriculum. The program recently received stimulus funds for the 09-10 school year.

**FCCS** is working to pass its levy on the November ballot, needed to provide services for 28,000 dependent and neglected children. The Simba program, which links African-American men with African-American boys, is seeking to recruit 100 men for 100 boys.

**Firstlink Foster Grandparent Program** has lowered the minimum age for mentors from 60 to 55 and income requirements are 200%

of poverty instead of 125%. The program provides mentoring and tutoring for special needs children in pre-schools, early learning centers, public/private schools and developmental disabilities agencies serving children in Franklin, Union, and Richland counties.



Operations Manager Stephanie Hughes recruits new mentors at Capital University as part of the Mentoring Center's Columbus Foundation Small Colleges' expansion grant along with Sharon Kreuz (not in photo) of Northwest Counseling and Capital mentor Ross Goldsmith.

## OSU Mentoring Hub Starts 8th Year (cont'd)

For more information visit our website at [mentoringcenterco.org/buckeyementor.htm](http://mentoringcenterco.org/buckeyementor.htm).



The Buckeye Hub partners join together to recruit, screen, train and place mentors. The Mentoring Center provides planning and training while Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Prevention Council and Godman Guild provide oversight of the weekly afterschool mentoring sessions. YouthBuild and OSU Extension also have programs and the Ohio Union and P-12 Initiatives provide added support. OSU students choose a program based on their availability and the age of young person they are interested in befriending.

The Buckeyes for Mentoring club, a social connector for OSU mentors, holds activities for its members such as sand volleyball and mentor bowling. The group will also encourage children and youth to think more about college attendance through on-campus tours and discussions this year.

With important help from: AEP, ODW Logistics, The Robert Weiler Company and Georgia-Pacific. Please see our website for a more complete list of those who help the Mentoring Center at [www.mentoringcenterco.org](http://www.mentoringcenterco.org)