

Have a little extra time?

Make a difference
in a life.



It really doesn't take much.

A little time each week. A little caring. A little piece of yourself, reserved just for a special kid who needs it. And Mentors Plus, to put the two of you together and help you learn from each other.

Mentors Plus, sponsored by Oakland County Youth Assistance (a part of the Oakland County courts), has been matching caring adults with young people who need them since 1973. Thousands of "matches" have been made, many of which have grown into lasting friendships. You can choose the sort of involvement that seems right for you: prevention, working with an at-risk youngster, or intervention, helping to guide a young person with minor court involvement back onto the right track.

Mentors Plus... Plus WHAT?

Plus FUN.

Being a mentor is an important contribution, and it's a serious responsibility. But it's also a lot of fun. Your time together can include anything from sharing a movie to taking a walk to hitting a baseball. The important thing is the time, and the good feelings it brings to you both.

Plus SHARING.

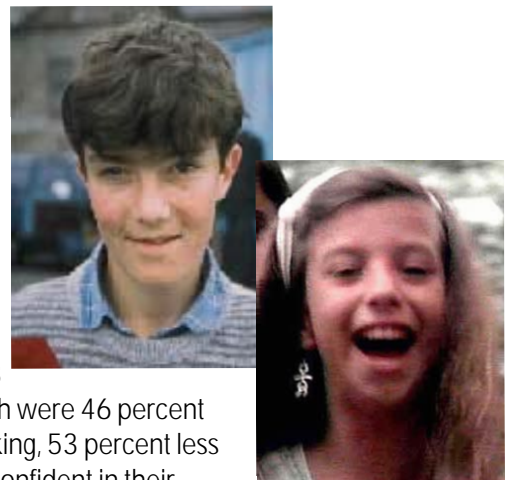
Sure, you'll be strangers at first. But before long, you'll be surprised at what you can share. Thoughts, and ideas, and likes and dislikes. And, most importantly, you'll be sharing a bit of yourself with someone who can benefit from your responsible example.

Plus FRIENDS.

You'll not only gain one very special young friend, you'll also have opportunities to meet other volunteers and their matches, as well as members of your own local Mentors Plus volunteer advisory committee. They share your concern for kids, and they'll welcome you warmly into their ongoing efforts to help make childhood and the teen years secure and positive.

Plus RESULTS.

You know that mentoring sounds like a great idea. But did you know that it actually works? Reliable statistics from a long-term mentoring program say that, after only 18 months, youngsters who met with their mentors an average of three times per month were 46 percent less likely than a control group to start using drugs, 27 percent less likely to start drinking, 53 percent less likely to skip school, and 37 percent less likely to skip a class. They also were more confident in their schoolwork, less likely to hit someone, and doing better within their families.



Just think... Only a few hours each month can have an impact that dramatic. Can you think of a better way to spend time?

This might be right for you.

Are you concerned about kids and their problems? Are you comfortable listening, talking and having fun with young people? Can you commit to spending a couple of hours each week for at least a year? Will you undertake several hours of training, agree to a police background check, and provide several references?

If you answered YES to all of the above questions, we hope you'll call. Soon. A young person can benefit from your caring.

The need is especially great for responsible male and minority volunteers.

If you have a little extra time, you really *will* make a difference in a life.



To learn more about Mentors Plus...



Call Oakland County Youth Assistance today at the number below.

You can request a general information packet and application, or you can learn when and where the next orientation session will take place. Staff members also will be happy to answer your questions.



**Oakland County Circuit Court - Family Division
Oakland County Youth Assistance, Dept. 452
1200 North Telegraph Road - Bldg. 14 East
Pontiac, MI 48341-0452
248/858-0041**

**www.oakgov.com/ya
Click on Mentors Plus Program**