EXPANDING QUALITY YOUTH MENTORING

MISSION
MENTOR's mission is to fuel the quality and quantity of mentoring relationships for America's young people and to close the mentoring gap.

VISION
Every young person must have the supportive relationships they need to grow and develop into thriving, productive and engaged adults.

IMPACT
When MENTOR was founded in 1990, there were an estimated 300,000 at-risk youth in structured mentoring relationships. Today, due to great progress, research shows that 4.5 million at-risk youth have a mentoring relationship outside of their family while growing up. Still, one in three young people are reaching adulthood without ever receiving the mentoring that is so critical to healthy development.

Learn more at www.mentoring.org

ment•tor (noun)
To be a mentor is one of the most effective ways to make a difference in the life of a young person. Whether a teacher, community volunteer, or neighbor, a mentor provides support, guidance and caring to encourage, inspire and develop young people, and opens their minds and eyes to new opportunities.
BUILDING THE MOVEMENT

National Mentoring Summit
Each year in January, MENTOR convenes the single unifying event for the mentoring movement in our nation’s capital. The National Mentoring Summit brings together more than 1,000 practitioners, researchers, philanthropists, government and civic leaders, and youth-serving organizations from across the country. Together, they share emerging research, program models, and innovative practices to elevate the impact of mentoring. Attendees collectively celebrate commitments to mentoring and progress made while experiencing the power of our youth.

Private Sector Engagement
MENTOR advises and partners with private sector businesses that are uniquely positioned to strategically leverage their human and/or financial capital to develop, enhance, and scale youth mentoring initiatives aligned with their corporate social responsibility or community impact goals. These initiatives dramatically increase support and opportunity for young people while positively contributing to corporate culture and employee satisfaction. MENTOR recognizes companies engaging in youth mentoring through the Corporate Mentoring Challenge Honor Roll, launched by then First Lady Michelle Obama in 2011.

Advocacy and Public Policy
MENTOR advocates for the mentoring field through engagement with elected officials to create and inform public policy that supports positive youth development and mentoring relationships as a solution to community challenges. We lead grassroots advocacy efforts by educating the public about policy issues that affect young people and encourage them to take action by educating, engaging and empowering others to close the mentoring gap. MENTOR works with all levels of government across the nation, including federal, state, and local, to accomplish these goals. We also collaborate with youth-serving organizations, school districts and other partners to drive public investment in quality mentoring programs and policies that produce positive outcomes in academic achievement, workforce development, mental and social-emotional well-being, and safe communities.
National Mentoring Month/
In Real Life Campaign
Each January, MENTOR leads the National Mentoring Month campaign, which celebrates the impact of mentoring and focuses national attention on the need for mentors. National Mentoring Month is Presidentially declared and recognized by proclamations in Congress, as well as by states and cities across the country. The campaign reaches hundreds of millions of people. In 2016, MENTOR and the NBA built off these efforts and partnered to launch In Real Life, a year-round campaign aimed at growing a grassroots movement of natural mentors, mentoring advocates, and supporters. By leveraging stories from both high-profile and everyday mentors, MENTOR sparks conversations, encourages individuals to become involved digitally using #MentorIRL, and drives people to become a mentor, donate to a mentoring program or become an advocate.

Mentoring Connector
MENTOR drives mentor recruitment and connects volunteers directly to local programs through the Mentor Connector, the only national database of quality mentoring programs. The Mentoring Connector includes over 2,000 mentoring programs across the country and allows volunteers to search for a local program that meets their criteria. With support from national partners who promote and host the Mentoring Connector on their websites, more than 80,000 people answer the call and search for a mentoring opportunity each year through the Connector.

Affiliate Network
MENTOR Affiliates serve as leaders that galvanize and elevate local or statewide mentoring movements. They serve as community-based experts and create infrastructure to expand quality relationships for young people through their unique role as a unified clearinghouse for training, research, public awareness, mentor recruitment, and advocacy. MENTOR Affiliates partner with MENTOR to elevate local innovations, activate national resources and leverage partnerships in a locally responsive manner.

WITH A MENTOR, AT-RISK YOUTH ARE:

81% more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities

130% more likely to have held a leadership position in a club or on a sports team

90% of respondents who had a mentor said they are now interested in becoming mentors
Field-building strategies often follow one of two paths: growing the field by raising awareness of an issue to generate support and funding, or improving the performance of existing players already committed to the field. MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership, exemplifies both approaches.

THE BRIDGESSPAN GROUP

RAISING THE BAR

*Elements of Effective Practice For Mentoring™*

In 1991, MENTOR established evidence-based quality standards for mentoring programs with the publication of the *Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring™*. Now in the fourth edition, these standards are nationally-adopted by the field and serve as a guide to assist organizations in starting and operating quality mentoring programs. The Elements also inform policymakers and philanthropic investors.

**National Quality Mentoring System**

MENTOR and its network of Affiliates established the National Quality Mentoring System (NQMS) to support programs in bringing their practices into alignment with evidence-based quality standards. The NQMS helps raise the quality of mentoring programs through a structured self-assessment and review process that helps them improve the safety and effectiveness of their programs with the support of a MENTOR Affiliate. The process also results in a public designation that signifies an organization’s commitment to assessing their practice and operating quality programming.

**National Mentoring Resource Center**

In 2015, MENTOR was selected by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to establish a national training and technical assistance center for mentoring programs—the National Mentoring Resource Center (NMRC). The goal of the NMRC is to improve the quality and effectiveness of mentoring programs across the country by offering no-cost technical assistance, by publishing a website housing the latest research and practitioner wisdom, and by convening a research board comprised of prominent researchers in the field to support practitioners in integrating evidence-based practices into their work.

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FACEBOOK MENTORNational
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WITH A MENTOR, AT-RISK YOUTH ARE:

- **52%** less likely than their peers to skip a day of school
- **55%** more likely to be enrolled in college
- **46%** less likely than their peers to start using drugs
- **78%** more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities