

# MENTOR's Capitol Hill Day

## Part of the 2023 National Mentoring Summit

This Capitol Hill Day, MENTOR is hosting over 500 youth development and mentoring program staff, advocates, researchers, youth and others to share with Congress the value and positive impact mentoring has on young people and communities.



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### PROTECT AND GROW INVESTMENT IN RELATIONSHIP-CENTERED SUPPORTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

- The Youth Mentoring Grant, managed by the Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), is currently the only mentoring-specific line item in the entire federal budget. It also funds the National Mentoring Resource Center, which offers free training and technical assistance to any program that requests it. **We request \$130 million in FY24.**

### INCREASE THE NUMBER OF YOUTH MENTORING-SPECIFIC FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES

#### Foster Youth Mentoring Act |

- The bill seeks to provide foster youth with consistent, trained mentors in order to support their emotional, academic, and career development by establishing a discretionary grant for mentoring programs that serve youth in the foster care system.

*We are seeking a Republican co-lead for this bill. Please contact MENTOR if interested.*

**The Youth Workforce Readiness Act** | Sen. Tina Smith (MN), Sen. Lindsey Graham (SC), Sen. Ron Wyden (OR), and Sen. Susan Collins (ME)

- The bill creates federal investments to support youth workforce programming and mentoring through out-of-school time programs that will build knowledge, skill development, learning experiences, and community partnerships that prepare young people for the 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce and boosts their economic potential over a lifetime.

#### Lead Contacts:

**Sen. Tina Smith:** Brennan Barber, [Brennan\\_Barber@smith.senate.gov](mailto:Brennan_Barber@smith.senate.gov)

**Sen. Lindsey Graham:** Kaitlin Burt, [kaitlin\\_burt@lgraham.senate.gov](mailto:kaitlin_burt@lgraham.senate.gov)

**The Mentoring to Succeed Act** | Sen. Dick Durbin (IL) and Sen. Tami Duckworth (IL)

- This bill would expand school-based mentoring programs for youth facing risk in communities with high rates of violence. It requires high quality, trauma-informed training for mentors and establishes goals of improving college access and attainment, skill development and career exploration.

#### Lead Contact:

**Sen. Dick Durbin:** Kaylee Mulgrew, [Kaylee\\_Mulgrew@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Kaylee_Mulgrew@durbin.senate.gov)

## **The Transition to Success Mentoring Act | Sen. Cory Booker (NJ)**

- The bill establishes a grant to support partnerships between school districts and mentoring programs focused on academic success through supporting youth facing risk of dropping out before graduation in the transition from middle school to high school.

### **Lead Contact:**

**Sen. Cory Booker:** Gloria Nuñez, [Gloria\\_Nunez@booker.senate.gov](mailto:Gloria_Nunez@booker.senate.gov)

## **JOIN THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH MENTORING CAUCUS**

- The bipartisan [Congressional Youth Mentoring Caucus](#) hosts briefings and events to educate on relevant topics and emerging trends in the mentoring movement. Through information sharing, network building, and action on legislation, the Caucus works to close the ‘mentoring gap’ and build sustained congressional support for the mentoring movement.

*We are seeking a leader to launch the Senate version of the Youth Mentoring Caucus.  
Please contact MENTOR if interested.*

## **SUPPORT NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH**

- January is National Mentoring Month, when our movement celebrates the power of relationships and works to increase public awareness of youth mentoring. We also use this time to recruit mentors and advocate for institutions to integrate quality mentoring into their policies, practices, and programs. Show your support by co-sponsoring the National Mentoring Month resolution and giving a public statement in support of mentoring. More details and resources [are linked here](#).

### **Lead Contacts:**

**Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse:** Rachel Fybel, [Rachel\\_Fybel@whitehouse.senate.gov](mailto:Rachel_Fybel@whitehouse.senate.gov)



*Contact MENTOR National's policy team with questions:*

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**#MentoringAmplifies #MentoringMonth**