



MentorsMatter is a collaborative effort to promote the benefits of mentoring and to educate the community about the needs of at-risk youth in Boulder County. The member organizations work together to recruit adults from the local population to be mentors, advisors, and tutors for the many youth waiting to be matched with a caring adult role model.

MentorsMatter Member organizations include Foothills United Way's Volunteer Connection, Partners Mentoring Youth, "I Have a Dream" Foundation, Boulder County Dept. of Housing and Human Services, YWCA of Boulder County, Boulder County Community Services and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colorado.

Partners Mentoring Youth

Matches high-risk youth with screened and trained adult volunteer mentors. Mentoring is community-based and serves youth ages 8-17. Mentors must commit to spending 1 year with their mentee and be at least 20 years old. Orientations take place at Partners' office in Longmont.

- One-to-one Mentor (Senior Partner): Once matched in a one-to-one partnership, spend 3-5 hours per week with an at-risk youth for one year. Share experiences, learn new things together, and attend Partners' activities and life-skills workshops.
- Waiting Youth Volunteer: Chaperone an at-risk youth waiting to be matched in a one-to-one mentoring relationship at Partners' sponsored monthly activities, workshops, and special events. This is a good way to try out being a mentor or get involved in our program without having to commit a full year.

Contact: Teresa Felten
E-mail: teresa@bcpartners.org

Website: www.bcpartners.org
Phone: 303-772-1411

Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services Mentoring and Tutoring Program

Provides one-to-one mentors and tutors for children in the Social Services' caseload. Mentoring is community-based. Serves youth ages 5-17. Develop a supportive, healthy relationship with a child or teen victim of abuse or neglect.

- Mentor: Spend 2-3 hours per week for 9 months with a child in the Social Services' caseload, living at home or in foster care. Help with school work and enjoy fun activities in the community together. Mentors must be at least 20 years old and have transportation with proof of insurance and valid driver's license.
- Tutor: Spend 2 hours a week for 3 months providing academic support and tutoring to children in our child protection or adolescent services caseloads. The tutoring program runs during the school year. 8 hours training required. Placements generally run concurrent with school semesters.

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Website: www.bouldercounty.org/volunteer/opps_children.htm
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"I Have a Dream"® Foundation

The "I Have a Dream" Foundation is a long-term dropout prevention program. All of the youth involved in the program are low-income. The Foundation adopts a group of children in elementary school and works with them through high school. Tuition assistance is provided upon high school graduation. Serves youth ages 7-17.

- **Mentor:** Spend at least 4 hours per month as a one-to-one mentor to a low-income youth, providing academic assistance as needed, doing fun activities in the community, and attending IHAD regular and special events. Mentors must have transportation with proof of insurance and valid driver's license. Mentors must commit to meeting with their mentee for one year and be at least 18 years old.
- **Tutor:** Work once a week for at least one semester with a child or group of children providing academic assistance at one of IHAD's after school sites in Boulder, Lafayette, or Longmont.
- **Dreamer Teammates:** Sports mentors provide low-income youth with athletic support once a month for at least 6 months. The teammate attends the youth's sporting events, provides individual coaching outside of practice, and attends various sporting events with the Dreamer.

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YWCA EDGE: Girls Empowerment Program

The YWCA E.D.G.E. Program is a group of programs with the primary goal of empowering girls. These programs are designed to teach leadership and life skills, to build self confidence, to foster community awareness, and to work toward the elimination of racism. The aim is to foster a group of girls who have the skills, confidence, resilience, and adaptability to succeed in the future. The programs take place on a semester basis and work with girls from ages 8-18. All mentoring is done in a group setting. Time commitments vary, but average around 2.5 hours per week for 12 weeks. Mentors must be at least 18 years old. Volunteer needs:

- **Bold Girls:** 2nd - 4th grade, creative writing, also 2-5 grade collaboration with YMCA in BVSD, classes offered in Fall and Spring.
- **Bolder Girls:** 4th – 6th grade, journalism class with Camera newspaper, classes offered in Fall and Spring.
- **Boldest Girls:** 6th – 8th grade, digital storytelling using digital cameras and moviemaker, promotes community activism and working for social change, classes offered in Fall and Spring.
- **Teen Parent Graduation:** High School, teaching teen parent's career and life skills, programs run during BVSD school year.
- **Puente Program:** High School (8th grade graduates going into 9th grade), bridge program to ease the transition from middle school into high school. Works with girls going into Boulder High, program runs from June through November after school.
- **Wired Girls/Boys Mentor:** Middle School, use digital cameras to take pictures and turn them into works of art, classes offered in Fall and Spring.

Contact: Jennifer Klimowicz

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Boulder County Community Services Mentoring Program

The mission of the Boulder County Community Services Mentoring Program is to empower youth receiving services through the court system to make positive life choices that enable them to maximize their personal potential.

Boulder County Community Services Mentoring Program envisions a community in which every youth experiences nurturing one-to-one relationships and community support, which in turn allows each of them to develop into their full potential, capable of making informed, responsible decisions as involved members of our community.

Responsibilities: Provide mentoring and guidance to an adolescents, ages 11-17, involved in the court system by building a positive and ongoing relationship. Mentors will have opportunities to engage the youth in healthy activities through regular one-on-one meetings. Mentors will serve as a positive role model, encourage community connections, and offer a support that will help motivate the teen to successfully move through the system and life.

Contact: Anne Brubacher

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Big Brothers Big Sisters

(This program is currently full. Please select another mentoring program)

Big Brothers Big Sisters matches youth 7-12 years old in one to one mentoring relationships. In the Community Based Mentoring Program, matches meet 2-4 times per month for 3-5 hours each time, doing various activities of their choosing. Services are focused on the rapidly growing number of elementary aged youth who qualify for Free and Reduced School lunch (live at or below 185% of Poverty) and who live with a single parent or caregiver.

Big Brothers Big Sisters also offers a Sports Buddies Program, and various site based programs run out of the Denver office.

Programs are designed to serve youth by providing them with safe, quality mentoring relationships that help them reach their full potential by:

- improving their sense of self and community
- achieving a greater sense and awareness of their future
- improving their school performance.

Potential volunteers need to complete a two hour informational training, an in person interview, and pass background checks. Upon approval, they will be matched with a youth in their community who fits their activity interests, personality, and background.

Contact: Desiree Ott

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