

My Mentor and Me
BACK TO SCHOOL BOOK SALE!

Jump start your mentoring program this fall with Dr. Susan Weinberger's **My Mentor and Me** guides for mentoring elementary, middle, and high school students AND **Preparing My Mentor for Me**, the newest addition to our mentoring tools and tips collection!

Kick off the new school year!

The Governor's Prevention Partnership and the Connecticut Mentoring Partnership offer a special, limited-time opportunity to receive Dr. Susan G. Weinberger's *My Mentor and Me* series for elementary, middle, and high school students PLUS the latest addition, *Preparing my Mentor for Me*.

<i>My Mentor and Me – Elementary School</i>	\$6.00
<i>My Mentor and Me – Middle School</i>	\$6.00
<i>My Mentor and Me – High School</i>	\$6.00
<i>Preparing My Mentor for Me</i>	\$10.00

plus shipping and handling
10% Discount on 25 or more

This offer is good only for orders received by October 31, 2010.

Please visit our website to access many more valuable mentoring resources, including our online searchable database, *My Mentor and Me* publications, and much more!
www.preventionworksct.org

Mentoring Regional Roundtable Networks

The Connecticut Mentoring Partnership Regional Networks bring together program providers in various regions of the state to identify and discuss common issues, exchange views, support one another and promote common interests in mentoring throughout Connecticut.

Upcoming meetings:

Greater Hartford area— September 22, 2010 from 10:00am—11:30am
30 Jordan Lane, Wethersfield

Greater Bridgeport area— September 23, 2010 from 12:30pm—2:00pm.
1000 East Broadway, Stratford

Contact Cheryl Yetke at 860.523.8042 ext. 23 for more information. We are eager to hear from you and learn more about your program, your successes and challenges, and your needs for assistance.

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS!

www.preventionworksct.org

860.523.8042

Wethersfield, CT 06109

30 Jordan Lane

for safe, successful & drug-free kids



Mentoring News & Notes

PUBLISHED BY THE CONNECTICUT MENTORING PARTNERSHIP,
A PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNOR'S PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP

Fall 2010

KEEPING KIDS SAFE, SUCCESSFUL AND DRUG FREE TODAY FOR A STRONGER WORKFORCE TOMORROW

Coordinator Training and Development Opportunities

Fall 2010 Trainings

See www.preventionworksct.org for full list

September 17, 2010

"Training of Trainers" for Mentor Training

September 28, 2010

No-Fuss Program Evaluation for Busy Mentor Coordinators

October 25, 2010

Connecting With a Mentee Who is Different From You: Diversity Skills for Mentors

October 26, 2010

Creating an Inclusive Mentoring Program: Serving Mentees with Disabilities

November 2, 2010

Fundraising and Grantseeking for Your Program

November 4-5, 2010

How to Build a Successful Mentoring Program

November 9, 2010

Working with Media to Promote Your Program

"There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up."

- John Andrew Holmes Jr.

Special Thank-you to Our Mentor Coordinators

At two recent meetings, the following coordinators were recognized for their outstanding commitment to mentoring in Connecticut.

Hartford Regional Roundtable May 18:

- Jeanine Audette, Bristol Public Schools
- Penny Brice, East Hartford School District
- Rebekah Behan, One on One Volunteering Mentoring Program
- Karen Cox, Plainville Community Schools
- Richard Davis, Covenant To Care for Children
- Dr. Martin Estey, Hartford Consortium for Higher Education
- Fay Evans, Star Mentoring LLC
- Gloria Talbot, Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Carol Wilkas, West Hartford School District

Coastal Fairfield Mentoring Alliance June 8:

- Michael Ayles, ACE Mentor Program
- Jennifer Barahona, Family and Children's Agency
- Jessica Bromberg, Mentoring for Academic Achievement & College Success Program
- Elaine Daignault, The Westport Mentor Program
- Lucie Connell, Family and Children's Agency
- Rev. Albert Dancy, Caregiver Choice: Mentoring Children of Prisoners

- Norma Darragh, Shepherds, Inc
- Rick Davis, Wi-mentor Program
- Jaimie Desisto, Champions Mentoring Program
- Dawn Doucette, Sacred Heart University
- Jackie Effren, Norwalk Mentor Program
- Anne Gribbon, Bridgeport Mentoring Program
- Faith Harrison-Villegas, Mentoring for Academic Achievement & College Success Program
- Cheryl Hewitt, Stratford Public Schools In-School Mentoring Program
- Kenneth Jackson, Beacon Mentoring Program
- Tasha Hodges, Champions Mentoring Program
- Bobbi Kulas, CT Health Careers Academy
- Nancy Larocca, Bridge Academy
- Erin McDermott, CT Health Careers Academy
- Sarah Nelson, Shepherds, Inc.
- Malin Olofsson, Wi-mentor Program
- Janet Ortiz, Nehemiah Commission
- Carmen Nieves, Casey Family Services
- Andrea Salzburg, Success Coaching – Housatonic Community College
- Jan Schechter, The First Tee of Metropolitan New York
- Rachel Smith, Hall Neighborhood House
- Ellen Tracy, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern Connecticut
- Sara Witherington, Foster Grandparents Program
- Darlene Young, Building Futures through Mentoring - City of Norwalk

Thank you to all of the mentoring coordinators who supported programs throughout the 2009-10 school year.

Mentor still going strong after 20 years

When Judy Mangan joined the Danbury Schools and Business Collaborative (DSABC) as a mentor, she did not know she was signing on for the next 20 years. At first, Mangan simply wanted to become a mentor because it seemed interesting and because she believed in the idea that the program could benefit area businesses and schools.

One of the first two mentors to join DSABC, Mangan said that she immediately got hooked on the program. In addition to being a mentor, Mangan worked for a number of years as a business liaison convincing others to take part in the work she found so rewarding.

“Being a mentor made me feel like I was accomplishing something,” she explained. “It also brought me joy. Sometimes it wasn’t so joyful, but we usually worked through the tough times. Every mentee was different, and even the ones I was with for a number of years would be different week to week.”

Despite having retired, Mangan remains a mentor. While she stresses that being a mentor has been rewarding in her own life, she said that she believes the relationship benefits the kids because it gives them a strong, regular presence in their lives to rely on.

“A lot of the kids don’t have too much that they can count on regularly in their lives,” she said. “With this, at least they knew that their mentor would be there for them once a week. They knew that somebody really cared about them. In this day and age, there are plenty of kids that don’t have that.”

Some of Mangan’s mentoring relationships have lasted for many years. One student that she mentored from third grade through high school graduation recently made an appearance at a DSABC breakfast. That student is now a grown woman with a child, but the mentoring connection remains strong, as Mangan is helping her former mentee find a full-time job instead of her current two part-time ones.

Mangan strongly encourages people to become mentors.

“Go for it. I would strongly recommend it to anyone who feels they have something to offer,” she said. “I hope I have made a difference in my mentee’s lives. Every one of them made a difference in mine.”

Career Mentoring



OPMAD Team at the two-day career mentoring training. Pictured left to right, top row : Annette Santana, Edith Lazu and Sharon Tripp; Bottom row (L to R): Annie Sablon, Jean Antenor and Lisa Wascholl

Connecticut Mentoring Partnership and OPMAD, Inc. (Organized Parents Make A Difference) have embarked on a partnership to explore STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) Career Mentoring, funded by the Travelers Foundation. Career mentoring is primarily focused on career preparation and work-based learning experiences, with emphasis on positive attitudes, skills and behaviors necessary to meet expectations in STEM jobs, careers and vocational development.

A Career Mentoring Toolkit has been developed, and the final draft will be disseminated to pilot participants for review and feedback. So far, 34 students from four Hartford schools participated in activities focused on creating a resume and consumer math.

To find out more about the Career Mentoring Toolkit, contact Roland Harmon, CMP Program Manager, at 860-523-8042 ext. 18 or roland.harmon@preventionworksct.org.



Mentor Sam Watts from Webster Bank with mentee Alivia Farmer

Chapman Elementary School in Cheshire held an end-of-the-year Mentor Celebration to recognize the efforts and commitment of our ESPN and Webster Bank mentors.

The Celebration is a time for mentors, mentees, parents and teachers to meet and celebrate a successful year.

Our mentors are committed, patient and encouraging, and they have a passion for making a difference in a child’s life.



Mentor Gian Mancini from ESPN with mentee Michael Melillo

Connecticut Mentoring Partnership Senior Program Coordinator Named

We are happy to welcome **Diane Raffanello** as Senior Program Coordinator of Corporate and Community Partnerships for the Connecticut Mentoring Partnership. Diane’s extensive corporate background in management, marketing, partnership development and data analysis – as well as her commitment to youth and the value of school-business networks – will be an asset to The Partnership and to your programs. Diane is a welcome addition to the CMP family. Diane joined our team on July 26th and along with Roland Harmon, Cheryl Yetke and Josefina Murray, will be here to support you and your mentor programs.

Amachi Project Serves Children of Prisoners

The Amachi Mentoring effort began seven years ago in Philadelphia, under the leadership of former Mayor Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr., the child of an offender. This one-to-one mentoring program uses faith-based and secular partners to match children of offenders with adult role models to break the intergenerational cycle of incarceration. “Amachi” is a word of Nigerian dialect that means “Who knows but what God has brought us through this child.” The program focuses on children ages 6 to 17 who have an incarcerated parent and who are recommended by churches, schools, caregivers and parents in prison.

The CT AMACHI Project accepts youth who have been adjudicated or court supported, have a family member (an individual that lives in the same household, not necessarily a biological family member) who has been or is currently incarcerated, and youth who reside in one of Connecticut’s top 10 cities/towns affected by incarceration: Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Waterbury, New Britain, Stamford, Meriden, Norwalk, Danbury and East Hartford.

The CT AMACHI Partners/Key Stakeholders are: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeastern CT, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern CT, Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters, Hall Neighborhood House, Champions Mentoring Program, The Cathedral of the Holy Spirit and Restoring Lives, Inc.

Fifty-six mentor-mentee matches have been made as of June 1, 2010. Year two has already started, and we look forward to creating new mentoring matches and partnerships with community and faith-based organizations.

The Connecticut Mentoring Partnership is seeking additional partners for years two and three of this project. Funding is available to programs that are registered with The Connecticut Mentoring Partnership and have two to five years of experience in working with youth impacted by incarceration. Contact Roland Harmon at 860-523-8042 ext. 18 for more information.