

Mentoring Census Underway

Have you heard? The Governor's Prevention Partnership has launched a "census" to examine youth mentoring in Connecticut. The project invites mentoring programs to complete a survey that will culminate in a report, policy recommendations and formation of an advisory committee later this year. The data that we collect through the census will help us:

- Tell potential funders why and how much the state needs to invest in mentoring
- Identify areas of the state that have the most need for expansion of mentoring, and areas where programs could collaborate for greater efficiency
- Identify strengths of the state's mentoring programs, as well as areas in which they could benefit from support
- Develop targeted training and technical assistance for programs

Leading this project is Partnership consultant David Taylor, formerly of Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters. Many thanks to those program coordinators who have already submitted their surveys. If you haven't had a moment to do it yet, we urge you to complete the survey electronically by accessing the following link: [CT Mentor Census Survey](#)

Those who completed the survey by the April 3 due date were entered into a drawing for two \$50 gift certificates. We are delighted to announce our lucky winners: Martin Estey of Career Beginnings in Hartford and Michelle Lappas of STAMP in Stamford. Congratulations to both!

Grant awarded for innovative "Healthy Conversations" project



Left to right: Dr. John Ramos, Superintendent, Bridgeport Public Schools; Chris Tymnick, of the Governor's office; Jill Spinetti, President & CEO, The Governors Prevention Partnership; Amber Crawford, mentee; and David R. Fusco, President, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation presented a check to The Governor's Prevention Partnership on April 6, in the amount of \$95,500 to launch the "Healthy Conversations" project. The initiative will develop toolkits that guide mentors in encouraging middle-school age youth to develop healthy, active, tobacco-free lifestyles. The check presentation took place at Hall Neighborhood House in Bridgeport, a mentoring site that will participate in the project.



SAVE THE DATE

Trainings & Conferences

Mentor Recognition Workshop
Wednesday, May 6
8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Regional Mentoring Roundtables
Tuesday, May 12
10:00 – 11:30 AM

Hartford Area:
The Governor's Prevention Partnership

Stamford Area:
Mayor's Conference Room, 10th floor

No-Fuss Program Evaluation for Busy Mentoring Coordinators
Wednesday, May 20
10:00 – 10:45 AM
Webinar format

How to Build a Successful Mentoring Program
August 20 & 21

2009 Northeast Regional Mentoring Conference
October 15 & 16
Marriott Providence, RI
Details coming soon!

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE RECOGNIZE

INNOVATIONS IN MENTORING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2009

9:00 – 10:30 AM

REGISTRATION AND BUFFET BREAKFAST

9:00 – 9:30 AM

Sheraton Hartford Hotel

100 East River Drive - East Hartford, CT 06108

MENTOR CHAMPION SPONSOR: TRAVELERS

HONORARY CHAIRPERSON: JENNIFER RIZZOTTI

INNOVATIONS IN MENTORING will bring visibility and recognition to the many Connecticut businesses that have embraced mentoring as a strategy for increasing academic achievement and guiding the future workforce. Three innovative mentoring programs will be featured, all having career and workforce development components. We will recognize our 2008 Mentoring Corporate Honor Roll and hear how mentoring is changing the lives of youth in our communities.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Training opportunities

[Mentor Recognition Workshop - Wednesday, May 6](#)

Looking for ways to recognize your mentors?

This workshop will offer creative ideas for honoring the contributions of these special volunteers, including:

- 101 ways to RECOGNIZE mentors
- RECOGNITION: A calendar of events
- Activity planner for a MENTOR RECOGNITION EVENT
- Inexpensive gifts/giveaways
- Panel of coordinators providing suggestions

[Spring Regional Mentoring Roundtables – Tuesday, May 12](#)

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. If you are interested in attending or hosting a meeting please contact [Cheryl Yetke](#) at 860.523.8042, ext. 23. Meetings are free but we do ask you to register for the next regional roundtable.

[Hartford/New Haven/New London Regional Roundtable](#)

10:00 – 11:30 AM

The Governor's Prevention Partnership
30 Arbor Street, Hartford
860-523-8042 ext. 23

[Stamford/Norwalk/Bridgeport/Fairfield Regional Roundtable](#)

10:00 – 11:30 AM

Youth Services Mentoring Program
Mayor's Conference Room, 10th floor
888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford
860-523-8042 ext. 23

[No-Fuss Program Evaluation for Busy Mentoring Coordinators Free Webinar - Wednesday, May 20, 10:00 – 10:45 AM](#)

This short and convenient workshop will help coordinators: (1) plan a simple evaluation that meets their program and funders' needs, (2) choose and understand free evaluation tools and (3) write a simple evaluation report. To register for the webinar, please call 860-523-8042 ext. 55.

At the touch of a
button!



[Online searchable database](#) of Connecticut mentoring programs that meet quality standards

Is your program
registered with [CMP?](#)

Contact
[Cheryl Yetke](#) or
[Veronica DeLandro](#)
for more information.

Mentoring Publications

[My Mentor & Me](#)
(Elementary, Middle, &
High School)

[Preparing My Mentor
For Me](#)

Featured Links

Read a new **report** that lists proven strategies for promoting “school connectedness” among young people. Think about how mentors could help support a school’s “connectedness” goals.

Remember the
**“Developmental
Assets”**

At your recognition event, use this list to count the ways in which mentors help support youth success.

mentorPRO[®] in Connecticut

The Connecticut Mentoring Partnership (CMP) is pleased to announce the Connecticut launch of MentorPRO, a comprehensive software tool that helps mentoring programs manage data and demonstrate positive outcomes. We are placing an open call to mentoring programs across the state that are interested in learning about and using MentorPRO. In order to be considered as a MentorPRO user site, a program must:

- Be registered with the CMP
- Demonstrate strong capacity (program must be at least one year old and have evidence of long-term sustainability)
- Work towards achieving the *Elements of Effective Practice*
- Be registered and maintain an active record in MENTOR's national mentoring database

If you have questions or would like to learn more about MentorPRO, please contact [Veronica DeLandro](#) or call 860-523-8042 ext. 24.

Helpful Fact

For every dollar invested in a high-quality mentoring program using trained community volunteers in Connecticut, \$3.28 could be saved in the avoidance of crime, school failure, child abuse, substance and other costly negative outcomes.

Source: *A Children's Stock Portfolio - One Smart Investment* (April 2007)

Tools You Can Use

[Public/Private Ventures - School-Based Mentoring: A Closer Look](#)

[Mentoring Immigrant and Refugee Youth - Toolkit for Program Coordinators](#)

This toolkit includes skills needed to design, plan, manage, operate and evaluate programming specifically for immigrant youth. Each chapter has a series of "ready-to-use" tools, templates and training exercises.

Staff Announcement

Eileen Peltier, program manager of the CT Mentoring Partnership, has accepted a position at the University of Hartford. "We wish Eileen well and thank her for all of her efforts over the past year," said Jill Spinetti, President and CEO of The Partnership. "Her high energy level and love of mentoring added great value to our staff, and she will be missed." The Partnership will launch a search for a new program manager in late spring or early summer. News about the search will be posted on our website as soon as it becomes available.

Free Posters Available

Stop by and pick up some inspirational "Expand Your Universe: Mentor A Child" posters today!

Limited quantities

Publicize Your Events

The Partnership website is adding a community calendar for mentoring events. To submit your April, May or June event, contact Josefina Murray at 860-523-8042 ext. 55.

Contact Us

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