



BE A MENTOR

Are you interested in making a difference in the life of a young person? Do you want to give back to the community? Do you wish to inspire and motivate others? Do you wish to encourage youth towards healthy and positive lives? Maybe

you are looking to strengthen your resume, learn new skills, and build rapport in the community. If you answered yes to any of these questions you may be a good candidate for our Mentor Pilot Program!

The Iowa Migrant Program is piloting a Mentor program with our out of-school youth ages 14-22 yrs old. The commitment is about one hour a week for 6-8 weeks. So in the time it takes to watch a TV series episode, you can influence someone else's life as they plan to pursue their academic goals. I will hold a mentor training that will last about 2 hours. There will also be a kick-off event where you will be formally introduced to your mentee and a closure event where we will come together to wrap up the program.

The program focuses on the student's academic and career guidance needs.

Every mentor gets match support and a coordinator of the program to monitor how the mentorship is going. Mentoring an OSY (Out of school youth) is a way of helping someone who can benefit from guidance during their academic journey and it can have an important influence on their future lives. It is an opportunity to learn and grown from other communities and cultures and can broaden one's perspective and increase cultural understanding.

IOWA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Still on the fence? Here is what other mentors have said about the experience:

"Being a mentor is a truly rewarding experience. As a mentor, you are confident that you're doing something that matters. In the professional realm, there are days when I feel I am completely unproductive, even after spending 8 hours in my office doing work. After an interaction with my mentee, I walk away feeling as if I accomplished something significant for the day. By offering insight into something she's been pondering, or being that extra push she needs to try something different, I know I play a part in opening a new door for her- one that could lead to great things." "It is always a great pleasure to work with youth. I am so proud of my mentees, I have two! It is so inspirational to see how they are eager to succeed. As I always tell them, things are not easy and will never be, but with determination, courage and strength, which I know they have, they will strive beyond their expectations." Make a difference in the life of a young person today!

For more information and/or to apply to be a mentor please contact: April

Dameron, OSY/PK-12 Migrant Non-project Coordinator; 515-491-

0732/april.dameron@iowa.gov