



The Mentoring Center of Central Ohio

Training mentors. Strengthening programs. Transforming lives!

February 27, 2015

To: Elnora Jenkins-Christie
Executive Director
Gertrude Wood Community Foundation

Dear Elnora:

On behalf of the Mentoring Center of Central Ohio, I am writing in support of Just Between Us Mentoring, a program with five years of significant and skillful support of young people in central Ohio that focuses on promoting positive self-image and self-esteem, positive attitude and decision making. The program is in the initial planning stages of revamping their initiative. As you know, Bethany Community Development Corporation/Gertrude Wood Community Foundation was a partner agency with The Mentoring Center in the past. We are delighted that Just Between Us Mentoring is seeking to revive the program which will match mentors with male and female students between the ages of 10-18. It's our understanding that both males and females will participate in 1:1 mentoring and group mentoring. Matches are required to meet in person at least once per month and communicate weekly via email and/or phone.

Just Between Us Mentoring is seeking technical assistance for help with their program design, promotion and advertisement, recruitment of mentors, and training. We can certainly help in these areas. The Mentoring Center is the premier provider of mentor training in Central Ohio—and also trains mentees and professionals, focusing on the whole child. It is a hub for recruitment help, background checks, training and placement services to partner agencies as well as for advocacy and technical support. The Center is a collaboration of 35 mentoring organizations with Big Brothers Big Sisters and HandsOn Central Ohio as lead operating partners. We are also a part of MENTOR the group of 28 state and local "mentoring partnerships" leading broad advocacy while boosting the quality and quantity of mentoring and annual events. In central Ohio, the Mentoring Center leads these efforts, including an annual Mentoring Celebration and Mentor/Mentee FunDay at Ohio State with hundreds of mentors and mentees participating.

Since our founding in 2000, we have trained over 28,000 mentors and helped our 35 partner organizations achieve maximum outcomes by following quality mentoring practices. Together with our partner agencies, we touch the lives of over 5,000 young people each year.

We are excited to provide services to Just Between Us Mentoring and work with them in hopefully making a real difference in the life that the youth that they serve through mentoring and enrichment services.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kimeta A. Dover, Executive Director

A collaboration of:



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Central Ohio



HandsOn
Central Ohio



With support from:

Franklin County Children Services

Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention

Ohio Department of Job & Family Services

National Alliance on Mental Illness-Franklin County (NAMI) • The Columbus Foundation

www.mentoringcenterco.org

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