We are in the last quarter of the Coaches’ Challenge. Quarter three results will be in soon. Which state: Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Michigan or Minnesota will bring home a win and recruit the most mentors? Stay tuned in December for the final results.

The Coaches’ Challenge is a great way for programs to leverage new volunteers, and close the mentoring gap in our state. Utilize the free materials provided by Kansas Mentors (posters and postcards still available), recognize outstanding matches for the time they have spent together, write a press release about your need for mentors using the template provided on KM’s website, and much more! Ideas can be found in the 2013 Coaches’ Challenge Playbook.

Congratulations to the outstanding matches who were nominated and selected to attend the KU football game on September 7th and the KSU football game on September 14th. Matches won FREE entry into the football games and participated in a recognition ceremony on the field where they were honored for their time spent together—and a Coaches’ Challenge PSA played...

Challenging fans to “take the challenge and become a mentor”.

During the last five years of the Challenge, participating states have recruited over 26,250 new mentors! That is truly what this Challenge is all about—making sure that our young people have the stable, consistent and reliable adult role models that they want, need and deserve! Take the Challenge today!!!
Training Opportunities

Kansas Regional Training Series

FREE trainings for volunteer managers provided by the Kansas Volunteer Commission. You must register to attend! The last two trainings are taking place in November:

November 6, Lawrence—Keeping Volunteers Engaged Over Time

November 7, Kansas City—Keeping Volunteers Engaged Over Time

Collaborative Mentoring Webinar Series

FREE webinar trainings for anyone who is interested in the field of mentoring provided by MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership and the Collaborative Mentoring Webinar Series team. You must register to participate!

November 21, 12:00-1:15PM—Leveraging National Mentoring Month

December 19, 12:00-1:15PM—Program Evaluation

Kansas Mentors will be hosting a quarterly webinar training series during 2014. Stay tuned for webinar dates/topics to be announced in December!

Connect with us!!

Kansas Mentors is a proud partner of MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership, and recommends this fantastic conference to all of the mentoring programs that we partner with!

2014 National Mentoring Summit

Register for the Summit and Select Your Workshops Today!!!

The fourth annual National Mentoring Summit will be January 30 and 31, 2014, in Arlington, VA, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott. Registration for the event and workshops is now open. We’re thrilled to announce the keynote speaker for the opening plenary will be legendary baseball Hall of Famer Cal Ripken Jr.!

The National Mentoring Summit is convened by MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership and host committee members from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the Harvard School of Public Health, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and United Way Worldwide. It is the signature event for the national mentoring movement that will bring together 700 participants including practitioners, researchers, corporate partners, government and civic leaders, national youth-serving organizations and the network of Mentoring Partnerships in a forum to explore and advance mentoring’s positive impact on individuals and communities.

The 2014 National Mentoring Summit theme is Mentoring Works and will focus on how evidence-based quality mentoring relationships help young people succeed at home, in school and at work. Workshops and plenary sessions will demonstrate the many ways in which mentoring works to support positive youth outcomes by showcasing innovative program models, emerging research, and the nuances across diverse youth populations.

Don’t miss out on this opportunity to share effective and innovative practices, discuss new research, focus on professional development and create a shared agenda for the mentoring movement!

Didn’t get to attend the 2013 National Mentoring Summit? Go to MENTOR’s website for details.

Kansas Mentors is a program of the Kansas Volunteer Commission and is housed within the Kansas State Department of Education.
Gold Star Program

Updates

The Kansas Mentors Gold Star program was developed in an effort to provide a safe and effective mentoring environment for the youth of Kansas. This program recognizes mentoring partners across the state who have committed to maintaining a basic set of standards to ensure a quality mentoring experience.

Our Gold Star Taskforce, consisting of members from the KM Council of Mentors, developed a Gold Star application specifically for group mentoring programs. Check out the application here!

We'd love to help you become a Gold Star program! Drop us an email at mentor@ksde.org to see how we can work together to get you qualified!

Congratulations to Arc–Circle of Friends Program and the new Arc–Cornerstone program for being accepted as the newest KM Gold Star programs!

Kansas Mentors is always accepting Gold Star applications and will provide technical assistance upon request.

2014 National Mentoring Month

BE SOMEONE WHO MATTERS TO SOMEONE WHO MATTERS

National Mentoring Month (NMM) highlights mentoring and the positive impact it can have on young lives. Spearheaded by the Harvard Mentoring Project, MENTOR and the Corporation for National and Community Service, the first NMM was January 2002;

2014 marks NMM’s 13th anniversary. This month-long outreach campaign focuses national attention on the need for mentors, as well as how each of us—individuals, businesses, government agencies, schools, faith communities and nonprofits—can work together to increase the number of mentors and assure brighter futures for our young people.

With the 2014 theme, “Mentoring Works!” NMM conveys the messages that:
- Too many young people do not have a caring adult mentor to provide encouragement and support
- Mentoring programs can provide the link to this support but,
- Programs need volunteers to close the gap.


We encourage you to think of the mentors in your life—a team coach, teacher, concerned neighbor or another caring adult—and take a few minutes to thank them. Then, consider becoming a mentor yourself. You can search for mentoring opportunities in your community by visiting the Kansas Mentors website, and searching by county name. There are a TON of mentoring opportunities available to you in many different formats: one-to-one, group, e-mentoring, or team mentoring. Choose the opportunity that fits your needs best!!

Mentoring programs: Take advantage of National Mentoring Month by utilizing the FREE print materials (order form due November 8, 2013), and other materials found on the Kansas Mentors website.

KM Background Check Grants

In an effort to reduce a significant funding barrier that mentoring programs face when trying to recruit and match mentors with youth on their waiting lists, Kansas Mentors excited to announce a grant opportunity to Gold Star programs to help reduce the costs of Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) background checks. In 2012, Volunteer Kansas granted Kansas Mentors $100,000 to reimburse mentoring programs in the state of Kansas conducting background checks on mentors.

FUNDING IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THIS GRANT!!!

This funding is limited to mentoring programs in the state of Kansas serving youth ages 5-18 years. Applicants must:
- Be a registered Gold Star Program with Kansas Mentors
- Be a registered program with Volunteer Kansas
- List mentoring opportunities on www.volunteerkansas.org

For grant application and materials, please visit the Kansas Mentors website or contact Cheri Faunce at 785-368-6211, or email mentor@ksde.org.

Grant Period: Ends December 31, 2013