Have you heard?

Kansas Mentors is now...

MENTOR KANSAS

MENTOR KANSAS
A monthly newsletter that aims to strengthen the connectivity of the statewide youth mentoring network and to educate programs on the resources and technical assistance available through Mentor Kansas.

Introducing the New Mentor Kansas Logo

Mentor Kansas was thrilled to partner with jones huyett Partners for this long awaited rebrand. With the help of jhP, we were able to create a logo that...

- represents positive relationships with a visual metaphor of the mentor and mentee.
- captures our intent to be inclusive and promote diversity with mentoring organizations across Kansas.
- demonstrates connectivity with our partners and our mentoring program network.

This new logo represents our connection with the Kansas Volunteer Commission and our affiliation with MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership. We are so grateful for all of the support from our collaborators and look forward to our work ahead.

A Message from Coach Bill Snyder, Mentor Kansas Advisory Council Chair
"Thank you for all you do to enhance the lives of the youth of our state. As one of the many mentoring programs in Kansas, you have demonstrated the growing support of filling the need for our young people to have quality and caring mentoring. As you well know, gaining public awareness of your mission and vastly increasing the volunteer/mentor base are vital to the development of the youth of your community. We are all aware of the great needs of our youth and securing quality mentors is a difficult task.

Under Destinee’s guidance and a dedicated advisory council, Mentor Kansas has been a positive force in enhancing the mentoring cause throughout the state.

You may ask, what more can you do? I believe two things in particular will help immensely:

- First, appeal to the legislators from your area and encourage the others from your district to do the same. Ask that they support mentoring initiatives throughout the state.
- Second, meet with and encourage your school districts to help you create collaborative efforts toward developing programs that promote schoolwide mentoring for all students.

Remember, our vision has been and will remain; to provide every school age child within the state of Kansas a quality, and caring mentor. A daunting task, yes, but one that we can all be a part of assisting in its achievement.

Thank you again for your partnership with Mentor Kansas and for truly caring about the well-being and development of the youth of our state."

Coach Snyder

SUCCESS MENTORS: School-Based Mentoring Initiative Targeting Chronic Absenteeism

Destinee Parker, Mentor Kansas Director, traveled earlier this month to Baltimore for the 2018 (NSAESC) National Student Attendance, Engagement, and Success Center National Convening to learn more about Success Mentors and how we can bring this model to schools and districts in Kansas to tackle chronic absenteeism locally.
Chronic absence is defined as missing 10% or more of the school year for any reason, including excused absences and suspensions. Missing so much school erodes a student's ability to learn and succeed in school. Find more national information at [Attendance Works](http://www.attendanceworks.org) and local information from [KSDE](http://www.ksde.org).

Success Mentors is an evidence-based approach to combat chronic absence in schools by pairing at-risk students with mentors. This model combines data analytics with existing school and community resources to drive impact. Success Mentors are recruited from the local community, through corporate partnerships, and even from within the school itself with staff and peers. Piloted programs gained nearly two additional weeks of school (9 days). This model has such a significant effect because it relies on real-time sharing of data to ensure that those students who are most at risk are being addressed at critical times. You can find more information about Success Mentors from the [Everyone Graduates Center](http://www.everyonegraduatescenter.org) and from [MENTOR](http://www.mentoring.org).

There are resources available to help your school or district initiate the Success Mentors model. Contact [Destinee](mailto:destinee@kvc.org) for more information.

![Destinee at lunch with colleagues from MENTOR, Midlands Mentoring Partnership, and Mentor Michigan during the NSAESC National Convening.](image)

Source: [U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Data Collection SY 2013-14](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/reports/civil-rights-data-collect.html)

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Are you attending the 2018 Impact Institute? Join KVC Staff as we discuss Success Mentors and more at our session "Leveraging Volunteers and National Service Members to Maximize Your Impact". Check out our Sched session page for Emporia [here](https://kvc.org/sched/2018-emporia) and Hays [here](https://kvc.org/sched/2018-hays).

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![Kansans CAN: Teach](image)

"Kansas leads the world in the success of each student."
Mentoring Connector

The Mentoring Connector is the only national database of mentoring programs. The Mentoring Connector is a free service that helps quality youth mentoring programs across the country recruit more local volunteers while greatly increasing...

Read more
www.mentoring.org

Content Contributions Wanted

If you have mentoring stories and/or photos that you would like to share with the mentoring program network in Kansas, please forward your content to Mentor Kansas at mentor@ksde.org. We would love to share these in future editions of the Mentor Kansas Connection!

Stay tuned for more exciting updates!

For more information visit us at MentorKansas.org

Contact Us: Like us on Facebook and