Youth and Mentoring

Volunteer UCF

Youth & Mentoring Facts

General Facts

- 3 million children were enrolled in a mentoring program in 2010
- 15 million children are 'at risk' and are encouraged to get mentoring
- Children between the ages of 9 and 15 are at important turning points in their lives
- Mentoring can take place by e-mail, telephone, social network sites, etc. to make it more convenient for both parties
- Mentoring can take place for the youth, for peers, in the work place, for the elderly, for veterans, and for at-risk adults
- Mentoring programs are usually specific to the mentee and the situation (different programs for those listed above)

Student Risks

- Annually, approximately 1 million teens attempt suicide
- Students that spend no time in extracurricular activities are 49% more likely to have used drugs
- 1.2 million U.S. Students fail to graduate from high school

Benefits to the Mentee

- 59% of mentored youth get better grades
- Teens in mentoring are 27% less likely to begin using alcohol
- 52% less likely to skip school
- An adult companionship that does not take a parental role but is safe, encouraging, and positive

Benefits to the Mentor

- 84% of mentors responded that they would participate in a mentor program again
- More confidence is built for the mentor after forming a relationship with the mentee and seeing improvements made
- Mentors professionally succeed more; being promoted 6 times more often than those who did not mentor

Americorp Programs

- Education is a 'Central Focus Area'
- Special Initiatives:
  - Let's Read, Let's Move
  - National Mentoring Month
  - Thank Your Mentor Day
  - Corporate Mentoring Challenge
  - Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

Global Perspective

Education is becoming known as the most important factor for a country’s economic success. For most countries that have a poor economic system, children are not required, and in most cases not even encouraged, to attend school. If these children had positive mentors, education would become a priority and a new generation of educated leaders would be born. From this, we would see more countries become successful and some global issues we see today would not be prevalent.

“What Can you Do?”

Mentoring Sites:
- Schools
- After-school programs
- Religious organizations

Organizations that Volunteer UCF works with:
- Dressed in Hope
- Simone’s Kids
- Community Food and Outreach Center
- Read and Feed Program
- Orlando Day Nursery
- Winter Park Day Nursery
- Apopka Family Learning Center

Sources:
- http://www.serve.gov/?q=site-page/mentoring
- http://www.mentoring.org/about_mentor/value_of_mentoring

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