


Would you like to refer a child to Mentoring Children of Promise?

Send the following information to the address on back depending on county the child resides in.

Your First Name: _____
 Your Last Name: _____
 Your Relationship to Child(ren): _____
 Name of Caretaker (if someone other than you): _____
 Child's First Name: _____
 Child's Last Name: _____
 Child's DOB: ____/____/____ Age: ____
 Child's First Name: _____
 Child's Last Name: _____
 Child's DOB: ____/____/____ Age: ____
 Street Address: _____
 City/Zip code: _____
 Daytime phone: (____) _____
 Evening phone: (____) _____
 Best time of day to call: _____
 E-mail Address: _____
 How did you hear about the MCP program? _____
 Additional Comments: _____

For more information contact:

Pierce County: (253) 273-6282
Kitsap County: (360) 536-2369
King County: (206) 898-5116
Snohomish County: (425) 259-2973 x 2486



PO Box 839
 Everett, WA 98206
 (425) 259-3191 or
 1-800-633-3183 toll-free
www.voaww.org

Community Partners include:

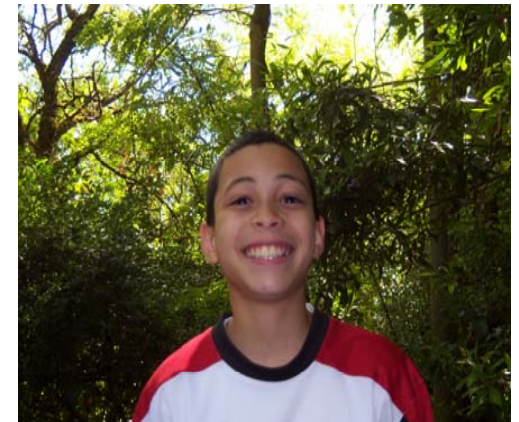


1420 Hewitt Ave
 Everett, WA 98201
 (425) 252-2227



1405 North Forest St.
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 (360) 671-6400

Mentoring Children of Promise



Support for children of incarcerated parents, ages 4-18 years old

Refer a **CHILD today!**



MENTORING CHILDREN OF PROMISE

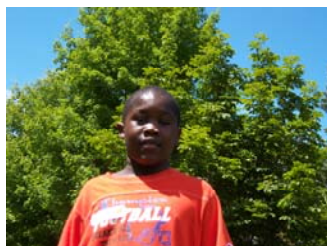
THE NEED

Mentoring Children of Promise (MCP), a free program of Volunteers of America Western Washington, was created in response to the need for children with an incarcerated parent to have stable, caring adults in their lives.

Children of incarcerated parents are at-risk youth and are 7 times more likely to become incarcerated at some point in their lives.

Research shows that quality mentoring can make a difference. Our mentoring programs can help reduce first time drug and alcohol use, increase regular school attendance, improve grades, and benefit caregiver and peer relationships.

“In America, too many children lack the acceptance, care and guidance of committed adults — certainly none more so than the children of prisoners.” Gary Walker



“She’s a positive role model for me. I know that I can trust her and that I’m safe with her. We do a lot of fun things together and she really makes me feel good about myself.”

— Monica, age 13



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a mentor?

A mentor is an adult volunteer, 18 years or older, who wants to share activities with a youth for a minimum of 6 hours a month. They meet regularly with the child and offer friendship, support and guidance. Mentors are required to make a minimum of a one year commitment.

How are mentors screened?

We screen mentors carefully by requiring them to submit an application, 3 references, Data-Quest (complete criminal background check, DMV check, and social security trace), an in-home interview, and an intensive training session. Every effort is made to ensure that the mentor is a mature, stable, positive role model, who can make and keep their commitment.

How do the children get matched with a mentor?

We interview the youth and caregiver to find out likes/dislikes, interests and preferences of the youth. When a possible mentor is found for the child, program staff contacts the mentor, the caregiver and the child regarding information about each other. If each person feels like it would be a good match, a meeting is arranged and the match is finalized.

What activities do children and mentors do together?

MCP is a community-based program. The child and mentor choose what sorts of activities to do based on their personal preferences. Some examples of activities include: going to movies, swimming, hiking, cooking, playing or watching sports, scrap-booking, helping with homework, shopping, and hanging out. Some matches have even gone rock-climbing!

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Be between the ages of 4-18 years old.

Reside in one of the following counties: Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Kitsap or Pierce.

Have a parent that is either currently incarcerated or under Department of Corrections supervision.

Meet with your mentor for at least six hours a month for a minimum of one year.