

**We need YOU to help make  
a difference in the lives of  
our youth!**

*Here's How:*

**BE A MENTOR:**  
Personally empower an at-risk youth.

**REFER A MENTOR:**  
Give us the name of a friend who would be  
a great mentor.

**BE A FRIEND OF MCP:**  
Offer your talents or skills at an MCP  
event

**DONATE:**  
Sponsor MCP through your financial  
support

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_


Daytime Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**For more information contact:**

  
**Volunteers  
of America®**  
Western Washington

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Everett, WA 98206  
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1-800-633-3183 toll-free

[www.voaww.org](http://www.voaww.org)

**Community Partners include:**

  
Big Brothers Big  
Sisters of  
Snohomish County

1420 Hewitt Ave  
Everett, WA 98201

(425) 252-2227

  
Big Brothers big  
Sisters of Northwest  
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Whatcom & Skagit  
Counties

1405 North Forest St.  
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**Volunteers  
of America®**  
Western Washington

## **Mentoring Children of Promise**



**Share what you  
know.**

**Become a MENTOR  
to a child with an  
incarcerated parent.**

# MENTORING CHILDREN OF PROMISE

## THE NEED FOR MENTORS

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.

These at-risk youth 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 program can help reduce first time drug and alcohol use, increase regular school attendance, improve grades, and benefit caregiver and peer relationships.

We need you to help make a difference in the life of a youth in your community. MCP has boys and girls waiting for mentors in Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce and Kitsap Counties.

*“Be the change you wish to see in the world.” — Gandhi*  
**BE A MENTOR!**



*“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*



## MENTOR REQUIREMENTS

Be a friend and role model to a youth in need of guidance and encouragement.

Be a caring and consistent adult in the life of one youth.

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

Report progress to program staff once a month.

Attend quarterly program-wide events with your mentee.

Have fun!

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Are there any age limitations?

Only that you are at least 18 years old. Mentors are all ages and come from all walks of life.

### What is the time commitment?

Our program requires a minimum of a one year commitment to spending at least six hours a month face-to-face time with a youth. Consistency and dependability are essential.

### What type of youth are involved with the program?

Our program participants are between the ages 5 and 15. They are usually experiencing a challenging period in their lives and are in need of direction and stability. The children have a parent in prison or under Department of Corrections supervision.

### What do I do with my mentee?

MCP is a community based program. Mentors focus on different activities, both recreational and educational, based on the interests of you and your mentee. Some activities you may choose to do with your mentee: swimming, hiking, cooking, sports, scrap-booking, helping with homework, and just hanging out. What the mentee needs, more than anything, is someone who is willing to listen and cares enough to be there consistently.

### After I'm matched, am I on my own?

No. Our program staff is available to answer questions, provide information and support you in any way possible. You are required to report to staff on a monthly basis but you may contact us any time you have a challenge or celebration.