

Impact a life — be a mentor

It's no secret that children need time and attention from caring adults to succeed in life. In fact, studies confirm that the presence of positive adult role models has the power to alter the course of life for children who might otherwise slip through the cracks in our society. So this January, as our nation celebrates the eighth annual National Mentoring Month recruitment drive, we encourage you to consider becoming a mentor.

This past week, Worcester County Volunteer Services Manager Cyndy Howell joined us in presenting a proclamation recognizing January as National Mentoring Month to Robin Neely, who spearheads the Maryland

Mentoring Partnership for the Eastern Shore.

MMP is a nonprofit, statewide advocacy group that provides customized training to build effective mentoring programs and much more. MMP works closely with the following organizations involved in mentoring across the Eastern Shore. For more information on their services, please call Neely at 410-219-3100.

■ **Worcester County Health Department** — The WCHD through its partnership with the Worcester County Mentoring Coalition and Volunteer Maryland will host a meeting on Jan. 29 for anyone interested in mentoring children in Worcester County. Volunteer

opportunities will be explained, and a brief orientation will also take place at that time. For more information, contact Jim Wahl at the Health Department at 410-629-0167, ext. 107.

■ **Local Management Board** — The LMB strives to provide volunteers who will mentor at-risk youth, empowering them to make positive life choices.

■ **Junior Achievement** — JA is a nonprofit organization that recruits volunteers to teach youth in grades K-12 about financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and work readiness skills.

For more information, call 410-

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742-8112 or e-mail juniorachievement@comcast.net.

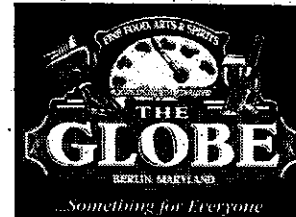
■ **Salisbury's Promise Alliance** — SPA strives to ensure that each young mentee is partnered with a caring adult and receives a healthy start, a safe place to meet, effective education, and opportunities to help. Call

George Whitehead at 410-543-6369 or giwhitehead@salisbury.edu.

■ **Greater Expectations Mentoring Partnership/Snow Hill Middle School** — GEMP is a program developed to address the gaps in Snow Hill's diverse student population. The program encourages social, academic, and emotional growth in "at promise" students.

■ **Big Brothers Big Sisters** — BBBS is a one-to-one mentoring program that pairs children with caring adults based on shared interests, compatible personalities and convenient distance from each other. BBBS can be reached at 410-543-2447.

As area organizations work together with MMP to coordinate their efforts across the shore, mentoring opportunities in our area will continue to grow and thrive. If you are interested in information about mentoring programs and opportunities in the County, please contact WCVS Manager Cyndy Howell at 410-219-3100.



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