

The Youth Village Foundation Mentoring Program

A mentor is a trusted and faithful individual who listens, supports, and guides on a consistent basis over a period of time. A mentor is a caring, responsible and committed volunteer who is willing to invest in the life of a youth. A strong indicator for success of a child is a good relationship with a caring adult. Mentoring has been proven to be an effective tool to help at risk youth and to avoid involvement with the criminal justice system and problems at school, mentoring is also important because it broadens the youth's horizons by introducing them to a new world of positive opportunities.

The Youth Village Foundation's mentoring program has the mission of helping reduce juvenile recidivism by providing positive adult mentoring relationships for juvenile offenders at the Dallas County Youth Village and Medlock facilities. Through our mentoring program, trained community volunteers give juvenile offenders friendship and guidance, which will encourage and promote positive change in the life of the young men.

The goals of The Youth Village Mentoring program are to enhance the lives of juvenile offenders by matching them with adult mentors in an effort to reduce recidivism and divert them from graduating into the adult criminal system.

All of The Youth Village Foundation Mentors must go through the Dallas County Juvenile Justice Volunteer Training and have a picture ID. All TYVF Mentors must attend a Mentor training and sign for the Dallas County Juvenile Department's Mentoring Policies and Procedures.