



Where Character Counts and Mentoring Matters.

Citizens For Safe Schools | P.O. Box 243 | Klamath Falls, OR 97601 | (541) 882-3198

www.citizensforsafeschools.org

Dear Prospective Mentor,

Thanks for your interest in our **Kids in the Middle** mentoring program! I'm enclosing a FAQ sheet, a brochure to help answer any questions you might have, a mentor profile form and insurance form. Once you return the completed forms to us, we'll give you a call to arrange for a background check and a short orientation. We'll make it convenient for your schedule and it won't take longer than one hour. At that time, we'll go over details of the program.

We will later schedule a mentor training at a time convenient for you which will last about three hours. You will receive a mentor handbook and your role as a valued mentor will be discussed in more detail. Of course, this is also an opportunity to have your questions or concerns addressed.

Our promise to you, once you become a mentor, is to provide the on-going support, activities and even some freebies (movie tickets, etc.) you'll need to be an effective mentor.

All we ask in return is that you stay firm in your commitment to be a trustworthy and responsible mentor for at least one hour a week for one year. And, of course, we ask you to stay focused on having **fun!** Remember, mentoring isn't about replacing parents or solving all a young person's problems. Mentoring is about communicating through the sacrifice of our time that young people are valuable parts of our community: it's about helping to open up a child's experiences and hope for the future.

I look forward to our year together. Thanks again for your interest!

Sincerely,

Debbie Vought
Executive Director
541-882-3198



"Kids in the Middle" mentoring program

Frequently Asked Questions

"Kids in the Middle" (KIM) is all about "providing youth with opportunities to build resiliency and character by connecting them to caring adult mentors who model and encourage relationships built on trustworthiness, personal responsibility and positive communication." Research is overwhelmingly clear: when youth have at least one responsible adult in their lives, they are significantly less likely to drop out of school, become bullies or abuse drugs. KIM is part of the overarching mission of Citizens for Safe Schools to connect young people to their community. Together they strive to create a culture that values and understands youth.

What is a mentor?

A mentor, first and foremost, is a wise and responsible friend. A mentor is a positive role model in a child's life. Mentors do not replace parents, but they do listen objectively and encourage positive decision-making. They exemplify good character and inspire their mentee to do the same. Though minor infractions do not disqualify an applicant, all mentors do undergo a complete state and national criminal background check, personal and/or employment reference checks and must maintain a current driver's license and auto insurance.

Who are the kids?

The kids in our program are what we call "Kids at a Crossroad," meaning they struggle with issues of poverty, school performance, peer pressure or family trauma. They are between the ages of 10-14; choose to be in the program voluntarily; and they need additional role models in their lives. They are in need of a mentor who will guide them on their journey to making good decisions.

Why mentoring?

Mentoring is a research proven strategy for helping youth stay in school and resist using drugs. At adolescence, young people need additional support to make good choices and plan for their future. Klamath County has an overwhelming number of youth in poverty and at risk. Having a mentor can provide opportunities, hope and the additional encouragement needed to believe in oneself.

What is the commitment?

Citizens for Safe Schools requires that you make at least a one-year commitment to your mentee. We ask that you meet once a week for an hour. It is up to you and your mentee to decide when and where you will meet. Mentors must undergo criminal and personal reference checks, attend an orientation and participate in some basic training.

Does it cost me anything?

No. There is no charge to the mentor. The program often provides cultural and educational activities, free movie and event passes, etc. Mentors are welcome to expend their own resources, though it is not required nor expected.

What do I do with my mentee?

You are welcome to do anything you and your mentee would like, such as going bowling or to the movies, shooting hoops, etc. Also provided for you is the "Kids Club" room at our agency location: a safe place to hang out, work on homework, play board games or participate in planned, weekly activities.

What's in it for me?

As a mentor, you get to make a friend, have a positive influence on a child in need, gain personal fulfillment, and HAVE FUN WHILE DOING IT!!!!!!!

For more information please contact

Citizens For Safe Schools

(541) 882-3198

Revised January 2014



Mentor Information and Profile
Please Print Clearly

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Name: _____ Gender: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____
 Email Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____
 Ethnic Background (Optional): _____
 Marital Status: _____ Spouse's Name: _____
 Children's Names: _____ Age: _____
 _____ Age: _____
 _____ Age: _____
 _____ Age: _____
 Previous last names used: _____

2. RESIDENCES

Please list residences in the last 5 years:

Address/City/State	Dates
_____	_____ to _____

3. EDUCATION

High School: _____ City/State: _____
 Dates Attended: _____ to _____ Graduated? _____
 Post-High School: _____

School	Major	Dates Attended	Degree
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

4. JOB HISTORY

➤ **Present Occupation:** _____ Dates: _____ to _____
 Work Days and Hours: _____
 Employer: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: (____) _____ Ext. _____ Name of Supervisor: _____
 May we call you at work? _____ If not, why? _____
 May we contact this employer as a reference? _____
 If not, why? _____



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➤ **Last 2 jobs:**

Position: _____ Dates: _____ to _____
 Employer: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: (____) _____ Ext. _____ Name of Supervisor: _____
 May we contact this employer as a reference? _____
 If not, why? _____

Position: _____ Dates: _____ to _____
 Employer: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: (____) _____ Ext. _____ Name of Supervisor: _____
 May we contact this employer as a reference? _____
 If not, why? _____

5. ANTICIPATED FUTURE CHANGES

Do you know or have any reasonable expectation of any future change in your family status, vocation, residence, or health that might prevent you from fulfilling your commitment to spend at least an hour a week for a year with your mentee? If yes, please explain. _____

6. PREVIOUS APPLICATION

Have you ever previously applied to be a volunteer with this agency? _____
 If yes, please explain. _____

7. REFERENCES

List 3 people you believe could speak to your character and fitness as a mentor and whom you have known for more than one year. Include at least one family and non-family member.

1. Name: _____ Relationship: _____
 City, State: _____
 Home Phone: (____) _____ Business Phone: (____) _____

2. Name: _____ Relationship: _____
 City, State: _____
 Home Phone: (____) _____ Business Phone: (____) _____

3. Name: _____ Relationship: _____
 City, State: _____
 Home Phone: (____) _____ Business Phone: (____) _____

8. Tell us why you'd like to be a mentor (you may choose more than one but rank in order 1-5):

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ Want to help young people succeed | _____ Want to give back to the community |
| _____ Want to make a difference in someone's life | _____ Spiritual/religious motivation |
| _____ Someone helped me when I was younger | _____ Other _____ |



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9. Please tell us how you heard about Citizens for Safe Schools' mentoring program:
___ Friend ___ Website ___ Newspaper ___ Radio Other _____
Have you seen our mentoring commercials on NBC-KOBI Channel 5/2?
___ Yes ___ No ___ Not Sure

10. Please briefly outline your hobbies, interests or special skills. We are looking to pair mentors with students who share these same interests or are interested in exploring them.

11. In the space below or on a separate sheet of paper, tell us in a paragraph why you think today's youth need mentors in their lives and explain what you hope to offer by becoming a mentor.

Please understand that by signing below you agree to a complete criminal and child welfare background check. Subsequent checks may also be conducted once you become a mentor. Final designation as a mentor will be determined by successful background check, references, student compatibility and/or personal interview. If you believe a flag may come up on your background check, please alert us with a brief explanation on a separate sheet of paper.

Signature _____ Date _____

**Please submit to: Citizens for Safe Schools; PO Box 243; Klamath Falls, OR 97601
541-882-3198**

This application and all related information are and will remain the sole property of Citizens for Safe Schools. Receipt of this application does not create an obligation for CFSS to provide applicants with a volunteer position.



PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING:

Citizens for Safe Schools (CFSS) does not discriminate according to race, religion, physical handicap, sexual preference or economic status.

I hereby apply for membership as a volunteer at CFSS. I understand CFSS will interview me about my background, motivation, expectations, and other personal qualities that might have a bearing on whether I would be an appropriate volunteer. I agree to provide CFSS with proof of my automobile insurance. I further agree to undergo criminal background and reference checks so that CFSS can determine my fitness as a youth volunteer. I understand that CFSS will review these references and will investigate any and all facts concerning my qualifications for becoming a mentor. I certify that all of the information provided by me in this application is complete, true and accurate. I acknowledge that intentional omission or falsification of information will be cause for refusal of placement or immediate dismissal at any time during the period of my placement.

I understand that the best interests of the children are the agency's first priority when selecting mentors. Further, I understand that I am not obligated, if called upon, to perform the volunteer services applied for and CFSS is not obligated to assign or to actively seek to assign me to a mentor position.

I understand that the statements I make to the staff of the agency will be held confidential, unless disclosure is required by law. Specifically, I understand that should I become a mentor incidents of child abuse or molestation, past or present, or threat of harm to oneself or others are issues that must be reported to proper authorities.

I understand that certain information about me will be discussed with the parent/guardian of the child with whom I am matched. If there are things about me that I do not want shared, it is my responsibility to discuss this with CFSS staff.

I agree to keep any information discussed with me regarding a potential match confidential. I will not discuss this information with any person other than the assigned professional staff of CFSS.

I understand that my application will not be considered unless it is complete and signed and until the required supplemental information is submitted and completed.

I agree to notify CFSS immediately of any changes in the information provided in this application, including, but not limited to my legal status, driving record, job change, address change, telephone, name change or marital status. I also agree to maintain automobile insurance during my tenure with CFSS.

This application and any additional information gathered will remain the property of CFSS.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of Applicant: _____