

Proud Parenting Family Mentoring Program

For At-Risk Parents



proudPARENTING

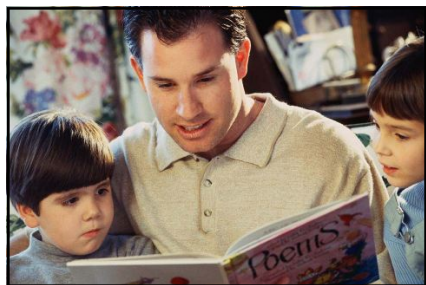
A New Program by:

*Christian Counseling Service
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Guidelines and Expectations

A Mentor must.

- *Be flexible enough to deal with at-risk parents whose lifestyles may be fundamentally different from your own.*
- *Be dependable. If you are not able to meet a commitment, notify Director immediately. Dependability is one of the most important modeling of a successful mentor.*
- *Be able to make a six-month commitment to assigned parents, giving at least 3-4 hours per month, including graduation.*
- *Be mature and demonstrate successful parenting skills.*
- *Complete all training and demonstrate an ability to deal (with at-risk parents) with the support from trainers.*
- *Remember you are not required to provide counseling or problem solving, but to be a positive role model under limit circumstances.*



Guidelines for Mentors

- *All Mentors will be trained and directly supervised by a professional counselor or the Program Director. The program is looking for mentors with solid relationships, mature in family functions, who can be effective mentors (preferred, but not required: should be active in a local church).*
- *The Program Director will be responsible for organizing the training and supervision of mentors. Prospective mentors need to attend the full day mentoring workshop and complete a mentoring application. Mentors must complete a background check and have one letter of recommendation; should have some experience working with at-risk individuals or families.*
- *Individuals will be fully trained on how to effectively mentor to at-risk families. Mentors will be able to deal with problematic (at-risk families) with support from professions, such as a marriage and family therapist, when needed. You will not be alone.*
- *Family mentors will have a professional counselor they may consult with anytime they have a question or concern about working with their assigned family.*
- *The mentors will receive training to understand their limits in working with at-risk families. This can occur when the mentors become concerned about things they may observe and/or unclear how involved they should become with the assigned family. This is especially critical when problematic issues become apparent.*

Selecting Mentor Families

The recruiting and selection process for mentors is very important. The following five step process has been developed:

- 1. Must meet selection criteria.*
- 2. Must attend information meeting for potential mentors.*
- 3. Formal interview of each potential mentor by staff or Program Director.*
- 3. Must submit to background check and administrative review.*
- 3. Must agree to follow all Proud Parenting guidelines.*



Step 1: Criteria for Selecting Mentors

The rationale for this criterion evolves out of a goal to select and equip quality persons who have a commitment to program objectives. By providing clear and concise information and expectations for mentors in the selection and training process, future issues can be minimized.

- *Couples should be married at least five years; an exception may be made after a personal interview. Single or divorced adults over the age of 25 will be eligible.*
- *As part of the selection and training process, a questionnaire will be administered to potential mentors. Mentors must pass a background check. Selection process will look for relationship strengths and growth areas.*
- *The mentors should have a positive approach/desire to help enrich the lives of at-risk parents.*
- *Mentors need to model good communication skills and be open to sharing their family experiences.*
- *Mentors should have effective interpersonal and social skills.*
- *The forming of a relationship between the mentor and the at-risk family is a key element of mentoring.*



Step 2: Information Meeting for Potential Mentor Families

- *Interested mentors will be invited to apply.*
- *Mentors will be invited to an informational meeting.*
- *Application may be submitted at this time.*

Step 3: Formal Interview of Each Potential Mentor Family *(after review of applications)*

- *A 1-2 hour interview should be set up for individuals who wish to become mentors.*
- *After the interview is completed (Proud Parenting Staff) potential mentors will be invited to complete the questionnaire and background check.*

Step 4: Inventory and Background Check

- *After inventory and background check mentor will be selected for training (selection and commitment)*
- *Training times will be set up, demonstrations to mentors on how the process works as they prepare to become mentors.*

Step 5: Final Selection and Matching

Once the training sessions are complete, final selection of mentor will be matched with at-risk family.

***Congratulations!
You are now ready to begin!***

Training Process and Steps

- *Select mentor families*
- *Train and equip mentors*
- *Supervise mentor families*

Topics to be Covered

- *Goals of mentoring program*
- *Mentoring is not counseling*
- *Qualities of family mentors*
- *Tips for mentors*
- *Mentoring boundaries and activities*

The Proud Parenting Program needs YOU!

*We need committed mentors for at-risk families.
Mentors who are at least 25 years old must be willing to
commit to:*

- 8 Hours of program training*
- Commit 1 hour per week for six months*
- Background check (required)*
- Members of local church (preferred but not required)*



*If you would like to learn more about this
life changing opportunity, please contact:*

John Bowers
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