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Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 1:03 AM
To: scott@afamilyforeverychild.org
Subject: AFFEC Mentoring Program October 2012

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A Family For Every Child

October 2012

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Would you like to contribute to AFFEC's cause for helping children?

Any amount can have a lasting impact on a child. Click below!



October Mentor Orientations



If you've had some interests in mentoring before but haven't been able to commit, join us for our October Orientation. This is a great way to find out about the program

One Mentor's Story

Something was missing from my life. I wanted to volunteer for a program involving children. I have five grown children of my own, so I had time to devote to a child. I contacted AFFEC with an interest in their mentoring program. The process was very easy to get approved.

I began mentoring Jessica on February 1st, 2012. I still remember the first day I met her at her foster parents home. She was on a floor cutting out Hannah Montana pictures for her scrapbook. She was timid and shy. She didn't want to interact with me at first until I sat down on her level and engaged in conversation about how she became interested in scrapbooking. I asked her if she would like to hang out with me and have one-on-one time.

Jessica looked up at me with a big smile and asked if we could do girly things together. A few days later we had our first girls night out. We had dinner together and got to know each other better. She asked about my family and what kind of things I liked to do. She was happy to hear that I enjoyed many of the same things she did.

I believe that AFFEC does an incredible job matching the mentor with a child that has similar interests to encourage a connection. After three or four visits with Jessica I was hooked. This little girl brightened every day I spent with her.

My husband and I invited Jessica to a Ducks' basketball game. She was an awesome cheerleader and we sat there in awe witnessing the excitement in this child's eyes. During the mentoring, I was able to help Jessica with her homework and answer common questions about the teenage years.

The mentor program requires you to spend at least 10 hours a month with your assigned child. My husband enjoyed Jessica so much that he also got approved to mentor her as well. We averaged about 50+ hours a month with Jessica because we enjoyed her so much.

One evening my husband looked at me and said let's adopt Jessica. My first reaction was what in the world, have you gone mad? After some long discussions, we started the necessary steps to become Jessica's pre-adoptive parents. She transitioned to our home in June

and have any specific questions answered.

Portland Mentor Orientation:
Wednesday, October 10th, 6pm-8pm
Christian Family Adoptions
6040 SE Belmont Street, Portland OR
97215

Eugene Mentor Orientation:
Wednesday, October 17th, 5:30pm-
7:30pm
A Family For Every Child
1675 West 11th Eugene, OR 97401

RSVP to Christina or call 541-343-
2856.
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Welcome Books/ LifeBooks Available Nationally



LifeBooks are created for foster children to tell their story much like a scrapbook.

Welcome Books are created by adoptive parents as a way to introduce a child to his or her new family.

Our LifeBook Team puts together pre-made scrapbook pages for caseworkers, foster parents and adoptive parents to use in their scrapbook creations.

We have heard it is the best gift in the world for a foster child or adoptee.

Check it out and order a book for your children [here](#).

A Home for the Holidays 2012

Tickets are going fast!

November 1st, 2012

when the school year ended.

I won't lie and say that we haven't had challenges, but the good days far exceed the rough ones. It's the best feeling to see this child grow and develop skills that will make a difference in her life.

Jessica's quote: I finally found my forever family and home. I'm beginning to learn to trust that my family truly loves me. Sometimes I wake up from a dream and realize that this isn't a dream at all.

Sponsor Our Mentor Program

"A lot of people have gone further than they thought they could because someone else thought they could."

Help make a difference, sponsor a mentor match!

If mentoring is something you'd love to do but simply don't have the time, then sponsor our mentor program!

The mission of the Mentor Program is to bring enthusiastic, dedicated, caring adult members of our community and unite them with youth in foster care. To provide someone who can be a friend, and who will encourage and support them through the various transitions in their life. To also help instill independence, confidence and everyday life skills they will need.

Mentoring makes a big difference. When kids enjoy a regular, positive activity with an adult over the course of a year, those kids are 46% less likely to begin using drugs, 27% less likely to begin using alcohol, and 52% less likely to skip school. This decreases drug-related suspensions, drug-related crime, and the number of babies born drug-affected. Children guided by positive role models are more likely to improve their academic performance, make better decisions, have more self-confidence, and a sense of belonging. Foster youth with a mentor tend to have better relationships with parents/caregivers, teachers and peers. They are also more likely to attend and graduate from college.

By becoming a sponsor today you will be making a huge impact on a youth's life! In return we will thank you by sending you monthly and quarterly e-newsletters. Our informational and educational e-newsletters will keep you updated on our organization and the progress of the mentor program.

Read up on more of the details:

[General Sponsorship Program](#)

[Mentor Sponsorship](#)

Kiddos in IMMEDIATE NEED of Mentors!

NOVEMBER 15, 2012
5:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Come and celebrate our annual [Winter Wonderland Event](#) and help a foster child find their own Forever Family!

Order your tickets [NOW!](#)

Specific Mentors Needed

We currently have a high-need for male mentors. It is important that successful males share their experiences and impact a young life.

Unfortunately, positive male role models are something that too many young boys lack. It is time for our positive male role models to step up and lead by example! Their impact can go a long ways in a young man's life.

Mentors who are trained in special medical treatment are needed. We have youth waiting for mentors who have special needs and it is important that they are matched up with an appropriate mentor. Someone who can not only be their friend, but also be trained to respond adequately to any medical needs that might arise.

Please help spread the word and recruit mentors for our high-need areas.

Foundations Classes in Spanish!

We have two classes coming up in Net-link via Spanish. [Click here](#) for the details!

Mentor Program Flyer

[Check it out!](#)



Questions?



Alison is an active **3-year-old** girl who loves to watch Disney movies and enjoys Dora the Explorer. She is a chatter box who loves to share about everything. Her favorite color is purple and she loves to ride her bike. Alison lives in Portland and would love to share new experiences with a mentor. Her sister has a mentor whom they often share but Alison is ready to have her own mentor.

Michael lives in Gresham and is **5 years old**. He's a cutie whose smile will steal your heart. Michael can be shy in the beginning and soft spoken. However it doesn't take much to get him to feel comfortable and open up. He is great at puzzles and is currently working on one that is a 1000 pieces! Michael loves to color and is great at it. His favorite cartoon is Spongebob and his favorite colors are all of the colors of the rainbow. Michael could really benefit from a positive male role model in his life, someone who will enjoy sports and outings with him.

Joe is a **7-year-old** boy who lives in Portland. Joe lives in a Spanish-only speaking home so we will need a bilingual mentor. Joe likes to break dance, watch movies, martial arts and swimming. He would like a male or female mentor.

Melissa is an **8-year-old** with a beautiful smile. She loves to dance and do gymnastics. Her favorite color is pink and she loves to do arts and crafts. Melissa likes to ride her bike and go on walks. She likes playing board games and one of her favorites is checkers. Melissa lives in Gresham and would like a female mentor who can enjoy "girly" activities with her.

Derek is a **9-year-old** boy who wants to be an animal trainer when he grows up. He lives in Eugene and one of his favorite activities is riding his bike. His favorite sport is football and would like to learn how to life weights. Derek would really benefit from having a male mentor.

Harry lives in Eugene and is **9 years old**. He loves Justin Bieber and his favorite food is pizza. His favorite animals are dogs and the one thing he is most proud of is how great he is at basketball. Harry would enjoy the company of either a male or female mentor.

Brad is a **9-year-old** boy who lives in Tualatin. He has a "trachea" so his medical assistant will go on outings with his mentor. He is very funny and has a great sense of humor. Brad likes to play with legos and playing basketball. He loves chocolate candy and silly movies. Brad would like a male or female mentor.

Chris lives in Dexter and is **10 years old**. He is incredibly smart and talented. Among his many skills drawing is his favorite. Chris also collects rocks and is very much informed on the subject. He also is a builder and has built anything from a book shelf to a bench. Chris' favorite color is green and he loves cats. He would enjoy the friendship of a male mentor to help guide him.

Jose lives in Springfield and he is **10 years old**. His favorite

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subject is math and he loves playing outside since he has such a great imagination. His favorite movie is Alvin and the Chipmunks and he loves sports, especially the Ducks. Jose would love a male mentor who he can play sports with.

Teresa is an **11-year-old** girl who lives in Tualatin. She loves gymnastics, horses and animals. Teresa likes to go to the library, watch movies and the zoo. She likes science and doing projects. She enjoys playing with remote control cars and would like to be a mechanic when she grows up. Teresa's passion are horses; she likes riding and reading books about them. She would like a female mentor.

Andy is an **11-year-old** boy who lives in Gresham. He likes movies, cooking and all things about the "Oregon" nature. He likes to paint, swim and play sports. He would like a male or female mentor.

Mark is a **13-year-old** boy who lives in Alvadore. He loves dirt bikes and four wheelers. Mark would love to someday go to the dunes and ride. He also enjoys paintballing and playing laser tag. Playing video games of all sorts is another one of his favorite hobbies. Mark would benefit from having a male mentor whom he could enjoy these activities with.

CT lives in Eugene and his passion is football. He is a **13-year-old** boy who loves being outdoors. His favorite subject is math and he would love to learn to play the acoustic guitar. CT is full of energy and would love to share it with a male mentor.

Michelle lives in Cottage Grove and is **13 years old**. She is incredibly smart and mature for her age. Michelle enjoys watching documentaries and reading fiction novels. When she grows up Michelle would like to be a writer, neuron surgeon, chef, and mechanic. Her favorite colors are black and purple. Some of her favorite activities include; acting, cooking, dancing, singing and will soon begin karate lessons. Michelle would love a female mentor to enjoy her favorite activities with.

Amanda wants to be a pitbull rescuer when she grows up. She is **14 years old** and lives in Cottage Grove. Her favorite foods are French fries and tator tots. Her favorite animals are dogs but also would like to learn more about horses. Amanda would really benefit from a female mentor.

Amaya is a **15-year-old** girl who would like to be a lawyer or caseworker when she grows up. Her favorite foods are chicken and rice and sushi. Amaya's favorite hobbies are arts and crafts but specifically ceramics. She also enjoys shopping, baking, cooking, doing her nails and drawing. Amaya is a girly girl who also loves to fish, hunt and go camping. She would like a mentor who enjoys the same activities as she does.

Carl is a **16-year-old** boy who lives in Portland. Carl likes cooking, movies, sports and video games. He is a high achiever and is excited about having a mentor. He would like a male mentor.

Alice is **17 years old** and lives in Corvallis. She has many nieces and nephews so she loves kids. When she grows up Alice wants to be an OBGYN. Her favorite color is blue and she loves chocolate cake. Alice's favorite subject is science because she finds it so interesting. Her favorite sport is basketball and she loves the Twilight series (both movies and books). Alice would like a female mentor.

Please contact christina.parra@afamilyforeverychild.org for more information.

How can you contact A Family For Every Child?

Call, email, or visit us online or in person!

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