

Mentoring Matters

Calaveras County is growing quickly. Today, many of our residents commute to work in the valley or Bay Area. Families are spending more and more time apart.

A recent countywide survey* found that the top three issues of concern for youth ages 6-18 are:

- Lack of facilities and supervised activities
- Use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco and drugs
- Educational facilities, opportunities and relationships

The Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program addresses all of these issues by offering kids more supervised time, a positive role model, and lots of new learning opportunities all wrapped up in fun new friendship.

“The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches but to reveal to him his own.”

Nationally, Big Brothers/Big Sisters studies show that youth who have been meeting regularly with mentors for about a year are:

- Less likely than their peers to start using illegal drugs
- Less likely to start drinking
- Less likely to skip school
- Less likely to hit someone
- More trusting of their parents and guardians
- Feeling more accepted by peers and friends



* “Our Children, Our Community,” report prepared by First 5 Calaveras, 2003

Our Mission

The mission of the Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program is to connect Calaveras County young people in 1st through 12th grades with safe, positive adult role models who will offer support, guidance and friendship and help the youth make healthy life decisions.

Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program

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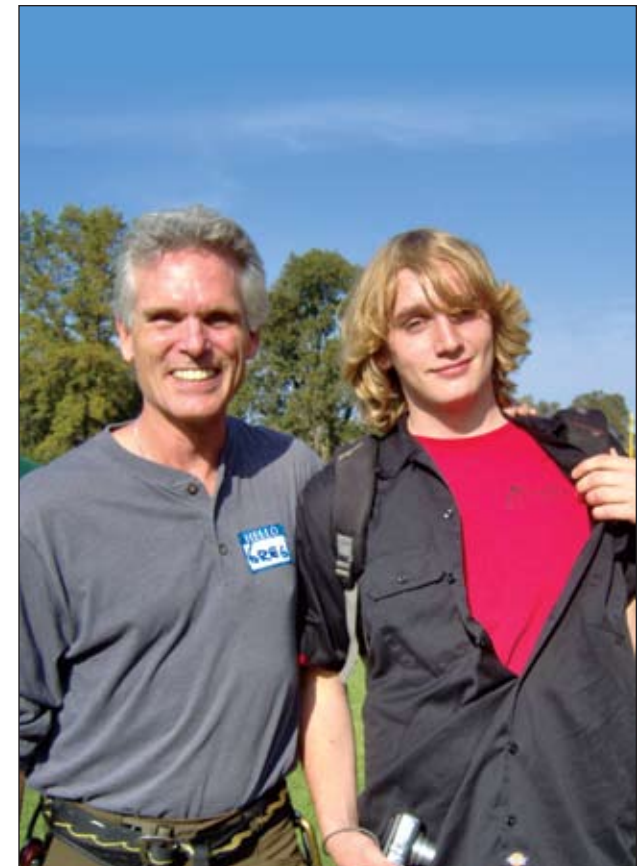


The Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program is administered by the Calaveras County Office of Education and funded by grants, individual community members, and local businesses and service organizations.

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SHARE what you know.
MENTOR a child.

Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program



What's It All About?

The Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program is recruiting adult mentors for local young people. Our goal is to provide consistent, one-to-one support to Calaveras youth in achieving their goals and reaching their potential. We provide ongoing training, fun activities, and ideas; you develop a friendship that could last a lifetime.



Should I Be A Mentor?

First, ask yourself a few important questions.

- Do I genuinely like children?
- Do I have hobbies and interests I'd like to share?
- Am I a good listener?
- Can I be nonjudgmental?
- Am I dependable?
- Do I have a sense of humor?
- Do I have the time?

Next, call 209.736.6078 to schedule a brief orientation to the program. Then you can decide if mentoring is for you.



Who Are The Mentees?

"Mentees" are Calaveras young people who have been recommended by a teacher or other youth service professional. Applicants must be Calaveras County residents in first through twelfth grades who want a mentor and expect to be in the county for at least a year.

Are There Other Ways To Support The Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program?

Yes. Here are just a few...

Volunteer your skills.

You can help with mentor recruitment, administrative support, field trip planning, or mentor training, according to your skills and interests.

Contribute financially and/or offer in-kind support.

Running a high quality program takes money, and we are always looking for discounts and passes to fun places for match and group outings.

Join the Calaveras Follies!

The Calaveras Follies is a hilarious showcase of community stars impersonating celebrities and lip-synching popular songs. From sponsor development to strutting your stuff on stage, our annual major fundraiser offers a fun job for everyone! Check it out at www.calaverasfollies.com.



WHO Can Be A Mentor?

Any safe, caring adult member of our community who wants to make a positive difference in the life of a child.

WHAT Is Mentoring?

Mentoring is a relationship over a prolonged period of time between two or more people in which older, wiser, more experienced individuals provide constant, as-needed support, guidance, and friendship to younger people as they go through life.

WHEN Does Mentoring Happen?

Mentors and mentees meet for at least a couple of hours each week for at least a year. Mentors also receive pre-match and post-match training, and mentor each other in group meetings.

WHERE Can I Mentor?

Wherever you and your young friend like to go. You can take a hike, go to a ball game, see a show, make supper, visit the library, explore a cave, and attend lots of fun mentoring program events!

WHY Be A Mentor?

Because one individual can make a powerful difference in the life of another.