

SUPPORTING MENTORING DURING COVID-19

As we continue to navigate these challenging times, MENTOR Nebraska is working closely with our partner mentoring programs and school districts to be receptive, responsive, and supportive during these times. Seeing the new landscape for virtual work, MENTOR Nebraska has adapted its service models to accommodate virtual needs. Although the MENTOR Nebraska team is working remotely, we are continuing our important work to ensure mentoring relationships are being sustained in ways that are intentional and safe. Below are just a few of the ways we are working to support young people.



LEADING NO-COST WEBINAR TRAININGS

MENTOR Nebraska is developing training webinars to support mentoring programs and mentors throughout Nebraska. The training webinars focus on screening volunteers, trauma-informed care, racial equity, combatting white saviorism, social and emotional learning, and the best practices of mentoring.



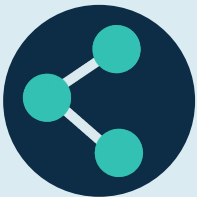
MATCHING JUVENILE JUSTICE YOUTH WITH MENTORS

MENTOR Nebraska is continuing to support young people involved in the juvenile justice system through our Youth Initiated Mentoring (YIM) program. We are connecting with youth, families, and mentors through phone calls and online platforms. Our partner mentoring programs have also developed plans to maintain and support mentor and mentee relationships.



STRENGTHENING MENTORING PROGRAMS

MENTOR Nebraska is providing no-cost resources to mentoring programs and matches. To ensure program practices meet quality standards that are safe and effective, MENTOR Nebraska is continuing to support programs through technical assistance and the National Quality Mentoring System (NQMS).



CONNECTING THE MENTORING SECTOR

MENTOR Nebraska is connecting the Nebraska mentoring sector by leading group video calls for leaders of mentoring programs. The group is able to discuss challenges and solutions, share resources, and review the state of youth mentoring in Nebraska.



COORDINATING VOLUNTEERS

MENTOR Nebraska is assisting with the distribution of food packages to families in need. This effort is a partnership with Omaha Public Schools, Food Bank for the Heartland, and the Omaha Police Department. MENTOR Nebraska and our partner mentoring programs have joined the efforts by coordinating volunteers to help distribute food packages to hundreds of families in need.



PROVIDING VIRTUAL MENTORING

MENTOR Nebraska is working with MENTOR National, iCouldBe, and CricketTogether to offer mentoring programs free access to the Virtual Mentoring Portal, a safe and monitored mentoring platform for mentors and mentees to continue their relationships while they may be separated due to COVID-19.