

# OUR HOUSE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

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### Our Club, Our Community

The Our Club out-of-school program is a great resource for residents of Our House and families with school-age children. Every year, we provide **approximately 200 students** from kindergarten-12th grade a safe, consistent, and comfortable place to learn and grow. The Children's Center is located on the Our House campus at **302 E Roosevelt Rd.**



## The Role of a Mentor

*As a Mentor you will be working directly with our youth clients to help them achieve their goals.*

### Description of Tasks

A Mentor is an individual who wants to have a positive impact on a young adult's life. He or she is a trusted person who is caring and provides support. As a mentor, you will have the privilege to present a wide array of opportunities to the youth (mentee). As a mentor you will use the mentor, mentee, & parent agreement as an ongoing guideline for your partnership.

### Qualities

- Caring and encouraging
- Active listener
- Flexible, open, and approachable
- Dependable and enthusiastic
- Nonjudgmental attitude
- Committed
- Resourceful

### Responsibilities

- Attend mentor orientation
- Make a commitment of a minimum of 1 year
- Meet in-person with mentee for at least 8 hours a month. Additional contact each month by phone or e-mail is also allowed, as needed.
- Focus attention on the mentor, mentee, & parent agreement.
- Participate in occasional community service activities.
- Communicate twice a month with Our House Mentorship VISTA for data collection and monitoring purposes.
- Attend program ceremonies, including a kickoff event, Family Fun Nights, Holiday ceremonies, and a match celebration at the end of the program year.
- Provide all needed data for program evaluation, including an exit survey.

## Eligibility requirements

- Must be over 18 years of age
- Must complete an application
- Attend an interview session
- Pass criminal record and child abuse registry checks
- Satisfactory employment and personal reference checks
- Must have reliable transportation
- Must go through Orientation
- Must Be Vaccinated Against Covid-19

## Benefits

- Guiding youth towards achieving their education and career goals, while gaining a new friend
- Experience the fulfillment of watching your mentee grow, develop skills, and gain confidence
- Become a part of a new network of change agents
- Learn more about your community and its diversity and its future
- If you are interested in pursuing a degree or career in teaching or early childhood development, volunteering with us can help you build your resume with hands on experience.
- Explore career options in the non-profit field, and gain experience working with youth who have experienced crisis, trauma, and/or transition.
- Volunteer hours can be certified and are kept in our records, should you ever need a volunteer reference.
- Connect with Our House's network of volunteers, donors, and community supporters.
- Personal fulfillment knowing you are making a difference in a child's life!
- Connect with Our House's Career center and vast resources we have available to the community.



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## Volunteer Times

| School Day   |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Monday - Friday  | 2:30 pm to 6:00 pm |
| Out-of-School Day/Summer Program   |                    |
| 8:30 am to 3:30 pm   |                    |
| *Additional days and times may be available after the mentorship agreement is completed. Ex: weekends and time at school** |                    |

## Training and Support

All Our House volunteers receive a tour around the Our House campus, and they get training on the aspects of their volunteer role. All Children's Center volunteers must undergo a background check (typically taking around 2 weeks to process), a Child Maltreatment Check, and a volunteer orientation (lasting around 1 hour). They also receive support, advice, and guidance from the Children's Programs VISTA and Children's Center team.

## Application Procedure

1. Application Form
  - a. Includes check with NSOPW (registered sex offender list)
2. Informal Interview and orientation with Mentorship Program VISTA
3. Child Maltreatment Check and Criminal Record check
  - a. If you have lived outside of Arkansas in the last 5 years, FBI Record check is required

## Contact Information

Christian Honorable, Mentorship Program VISTA

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