



What should I expect from my Child's mentor?

A mentor is someone who has more experience, who will be there to help, encourage and guide you.

Your child's mentor should

- Be there to encourage and support your child
- Help set healthy examples (like eating healthy, or the importance of physical activity)- you could discuss with your child's mentor area's that you would like to see improvements or behaviors that are important to you
- Listen to your child (this could range from your child sharing about a new video game, to a problem they had at school)
- Model positive behaviors (effective communication, and listening skills, being on time, keeping a commitment)
- Meet with your child regularly
- Help your child set and achieve goals (these could range from learning how to play baseball to setting a goal to apply to colleges or a part-time job)
- Encourage academic achievement
- Share fun activities and expose your child to new experiences



You can expect your child's mentor to:

- Value your child as a person
- Develop mutual trust and respect
- Listen to your child & be someone they can talk openly to
- Focus on your child's personal development (helping them set and achieve goals, introducing them to new experiences, and new ideas)
- Have a positive attitude - be enthusiastic and accepting of others
- Be able to keep an open-mind about new ideas
- Flexible- willing to be adaptive, and creative



Above all else, the role of your child's mentor is to be available, be open, and to be a consistent presence in your child's life.

Your child's mentor is someone that they can spend time with, doing things they both enjoy!

What mentoring is not

A mentor is not meant to:

- Replace a parent, guardian, or teacher
- Be a disciplinarian or decision maker for the child
- Be a babysitter- not meant to watch siblings unless offered
- Be a guidance counselor



If you still have questions about the role of your child's mentor please e-mail Kristina at kdidiano@amachipgh.org

Reminder

When you signed the Parent/Guardian Contract, you agreed to:

- Be respectful of the mentor's time by making sure my child is ready, on time and appropriately dressed for outings with the mentor.
- Communicate well with my child's mentor, return calls in a timely manner, and notify Amachi and my child's mentor immediately if my phone number or address changes.
- Be flexible when scheduling mentor outings.
- I have the right to refuse any mentoring event that I think is appropriate.
- Not reward or punish my child by allowing or not allowing them to spend time with their mentor.
- Not ask personal favors of my child's mentor. Therefore I will not rely on my child's mentor for: Free babysitting, Household chores, or Transportation
- Any other activity that is not relevant to the mentoring relationship
- Not encourage other siblings and/or friends to participate my child's activities with his/her mentor.
- Not ask my child's mentor to purchase anything for my child or other members of my family.
- Not ask or expect the mentor to discipline my child for any reason, including family related issues.
- Not criticize my child's mentor in front of him/her
- I will not embarrass my child by criticizing him/her in front of the mentor.
- Discuss the mentoring experience with my child and learn how he/she feels about the activities and the mentor.
- Give feedback about my child's behavior, match activities, and feelings about the friendship in general, upon request.
- Contact the Mentoring Specialist immediately if a problem develops that affects my child's best interests or if I have a question or concern about any of the aforementioned policies.