

Program E-News



October 2007

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UPCOMING TRAININGS

- **Beyond Ruby Payne Symposium. Saturday, October 27, Portland.**

This Saturday, October 27th, the University of Portland is hosting a symposium on poverty and education. The symposium will examine the strengths and weaknesses of Ruby Payne’s framework and will offer other models for responding to poverty in our schools and our community. Although the breakout session and lunch are filled, the *Beyond Ruby Payne* keynote and the panel discussion from 9 to 11 am are still open. The event is free. For more

- information, contact Celeste Janssen at Oregon Mentors.

“That’s A Family”. November 7, Salem. RSVP by October 31.

Oregon Mentors is partnering with the Respect for All Project to bring “That’s A Family” training to Oregon. Bring your program staff and invite your mentors to “That’s A Family” on Wednesday, Nov. 7th, 4:30 to 8:00 pm. The training

provides a fresh and revealing look at the different kinds of families in America today. Participants receive free workshop manual, curriculum guide, and copy of the award-winning documentary. To attend, RSVP by October 31st at registration@respectforall.org or (800) 405-3322 ext 380. Training location: Boys and Girls Club of Salem. Dinner and childcare will be provided.

- **“Let’s Get Real” training. November 8, Salem. RSVP by October 31.**
Oregon Mentors and the Respect for All Project are partnering up for the “Let’s Get Real” training on Thursday, Nov. 8th, 4:30 – 8:00pm at the Boys and Girls Club of Salem. “Let’s Get Real” is a innovative look at name calling and bullying among middle school youth. Participants receive free workshop manual, curriculum guide, and copy of the award-winning documentary. To attend, RSVP by October 31st at registration@respectforall.org or (800) 405-3322 ext 380. Dinner and childcare will be provided.
- **Q& A with the National Mentoring Center. November 15, Portland.**
Join Michael Garringer, from the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory’s National Mentoring Center and bring your questions! Michael will discuss hot topics in mentoring, the National Mentoring Center, and newly revised mentoring manuals. This meeting will also be a good opportunity to network with other mentoring professionals. Please RSVP to Elia at info@oregonmentors.org. The location for the training will be Legacy Emanuel, room TBA. The event will be from 9 to 11 am.
- **Mentor 101 with the Oregon National Guard. November 7 & December 5, Beaverton.**
The Oregon National Guard is once again hosting a free evening training for mentors on November 7 and December 5th, beginning at 6:30 pm. Mentor 101 teaches mentors basic skills for mentoring youth. The interactive course will cover effective communication skills, stages of the mentoring relationship, listening skills and more. Participants should sign up at www.oregonmentors.org. If the course interests you but the date doesn’t work, call Oregon Mentors to set up your own Mentor 101 training for your program.

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

- **FREE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MENTORS offered at Innovation Partnership’s Making Connections launch party. October 30, Portland.**
Innovation Partnership is a nonprofit organization that recently created an online tool for building relationships with kids. Join Oregon Mentors at the ***Making Connections launch party, October 30th 5-7pm at the World Trade Center Building 2.*** This is a free party for volunteers, mentors and non profit agencies that work with kids. At the party, you will learn about the online tool, and how it can support you in the work you do with kids. Everyone will walk away with at least one user scholarship to *Making Connections*, a \$35 value! *Kindly RSVP to lydia@innovationpartnership.org.*
- **Connected By 25. Portland.**
Connected By 25, an initiative of the Portland Schools Foundation, is asking youth-serving programs to sign on to the 9th Grade Counts Campaign. Get involved with this historic coalition. For more information, contact Oregon Mentors or Connected By 25. **To get in the campaign:** Go to the Cx25 Website and fill out the EASY (2 minutes) form if your program serves 9th graders you’ll want to be included in the campaign: www.connectedby25.org/.

FUNDING

- Mini Grants Available from Oregon Volunteers. Due November 13, 2007.**
 Oregon Volunteers, Commission for Voluntary Action & Service is pleased to announce the availability of \$6,500 to be awarded in mini grants of up to \$1,000 for service day projects that support the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. These projects, which must take place on or near MLKDay (January 21, 2008), must also demonstrate a strong partnership with at least one national service program or host site. Additionally, proposed projects must address compelling needs through service in order to both celebrate and honor the life of Dr. King. Applications, available on line at www.oregonvolunteers.org, must be received by Oregon Volunteers no later than 5:00pm on November 13, 2007. Please direct any questions to info@oregonvolunteers.org.

HOT TIPS

- Update your partner Web sites.**
 Don't forget to periodically update your information on partner Web sites, such as Oregon Mentors, MENTOR National, Hands On Greater Portland, Volunteer Match, and Idealist. If you need help signing in or changing information on the Oregon Mentors Web site, call us.
- NEW Idealist Volunteer Manager Resource Center.**
 This summer, Idealist launched a new information resource center for Volunteer Managers. Check it out at: <http://www.idealist.org/en/vmrc/index.html>.

OREGON MENTORS UPDATES

- Oregon Mentors Annual Awards and Recognition Luncheon.**
 Thanks to everyone who attended and helped with the Oregon Mentors Awards Luncheon on October 3rd. The sold-out event featured Governor Barbara Roberts, Tony Hopson from SEI, and Roger Hinshaw from Bank of America. Oregon Mentors raised \$335,000 in money and in-kind support. The Awards Luncheon is Oregon Mentors only fundraising event.

Congratulations to the 2007 Award Winners:

Individual of the Year: Tom Keller, Ph.D.

Exceptional Program: Big Brothers Big Sisters Columbia Northwest.

Mentor/Mentee Pair of the Year: Toni Dennison and Rosie B. from the LIFT Program at the Salvation Army White Shield Center

Innovative Partner: Liberty Northwest

Award winners were chosen by a panel of volunteer readers. Don't forget to nominate your program or pair next spring!

Oregon Mentors will again grant \$15,000 in mini-grants to mentoring programs. Stay tuned for the upcoming RFP.

- Mentoring Conferences.**
 In September, Oregon Mentors co-sponsored a mentoring and tutoring conference with the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory. The conference brought together over 160 participants, including representatives from 22 programs in Oregon and SW Washington.

Save the Date: If you missed the recent conference, consider joining Oregon Mentors and the Prevention Council in Medford for a conference will be held January 17 and 18 in Medford. The title of the conference is "Facing and Taming

the Dragons: Recognizing and Responding to Childhood Challenges." Ba Luvmour will be the keynote speaker, and the breakout sessions will focus on children, addiction in families, aggressive behavior, family disruptions, etc. More information and registration information will follow.

A MESSAGE FROM CAROLYN BECIC, OREGON MENTORS' EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Focusing on Goal 3: 40k by 2010.

Oregon Mentors has been working hard on accomplishing the following goals:

- Convene the Provider Council and listen to them on how to best serve mentoring programs;
- Open our Southern Oregon office and hire a new manager;
- Place VISTA's in regions of the state outside of Portland to expand our state-wide presence;
- Update our Web site to have better search functionality, current research, on-line "trainings in a box", and links to additional resources;
- Collect match data from 114 mentoring programs throughout Oregon;
- Host our fourth annual Recognition and Awards Luncheon;

What we are hearing from mentoring program providers is that they really need help recruiting volunteers. Specifically, they would like Oregon Mentors to focus on awareness building for mentoring in Oregon. In the coming months, you will see more of our time and resources focused on marketing and communications—public relations, earned media, advertising, public speaking opportunities, volunteer fairs, recruiting opportunities, strategic partnerships.

What can you do to help?

- If you haven't already done so, PLEASE send us your match data so that we can report out the number of youth with mentors and more importantly, the capacity of mentoring programs to utilize volunteers. We need to get the word OUT and we need accurate data. Hate forms? Call us and we'll ask you 12 questions and fill it out for you.
- Our new and improved Web site will launch in January. NOW is the time to tell us what you want to see on our site. January is the time to give us feedback on what works and doesn't work on the site. We want your toughest criticism.
- Feed us information about recruiting opportunities and help us communicate the call to action to get more adults to volunteer to mentor. You've all had the experience of getting the same dumb joke emailed to you from several friends—viral marketing works! We hope that the network of mentoring programs, board members, and volunteers can help us spread the word about the need for every adult in Oregon to do something to help kids whether it is to volunteer or to give a donation to a local mentoring program. Show kids we care. Let's have 40,000 children matched with a mentor by 2010.

-Carolyn and the Oregon Mentors team