The Tutor/Mentor Connection
Logic Model: If you agree with the logic, join our team

Connecting Youth And Adults in formal and informal mentoring is a good thing to do.

Most youth are part of informal mentoring provided by the network of adults and learning opportunities provided by their family, school, church or community.

Tutor/Mentor Connection
Tutor/Mentor Institute, LLC
http://www.tutormentorconnection.org
Kids living in areas of inner-city poverty have a smaller network of adults with college degrees and a wide variety of jobs who can help them through school and into careers.

Youth living in high poverty areas also are surrounded by more people who model paths that lead to dropping out of school, or spending time in the jail.

Thus, the schools these youth attend struggle to teach, because student aspirations and preparation to learn are less.

See additional maps like this in the map gallery at [http://www.tutormentorprogramlocator.net](http://www.tutormentorprogramlocator.net)
Many people who vote and determine public policy do not have a personal experience living in big-city poverty, or an emotional investment in what happens to these kids.

- poverty has not changed in the past 10, 20 years
- quality of life for minorities living in segregated poverty is poor and should be something every citizen is concerned about
- education is the key to improving quality of life and to drawing business and families into the city
- people come out when their lives are personally affected
- if you mobilize thousands of people, you threaten (change) existing powers
- we need to build a broader coalition, including whites and suburbanites, not just minorities

This is photo of Dan Bassill, founder of Tutor/Mentor Connection. The map in background is from a 1994 Chicago Tribune article showing poverty areas where more than 240,000 at-risk youth were living.
Connecting adults from diverse backgrounds with inner-city kids in one-on-one tutor/mentor programs is a strategy for civic engagement.

Tutor/Mentor Programs are an on-going form of civic engagement that connects a wide range of workplace adults with minority inner-city kids on a weekly and monthly basis. These adults model a wider diversity of career possibilities for youth than what adults in their own neighborhoods model. They also open doors to learning and career opportunities for youth they mentor.

Many of these adults live in more affluent neighborhoods, including the suburbs of Chicago, where issues of poverty are not part of everyday experience.

This connection leads many of the volunteers to bond with the kids they mentor and take on roles of surrogate parents. As volunteers learn about poverty and the inequalities and injustices of the current system, as well as potential solutions, they become leaders and people who will vote on new public policies.
Tutor/Mentor Programs expand the mentoring network for kids living in high poverty

Connecting a student with an adult who can model a career path, serve as a friend, a coach, a tutor or an advocate, would be a benefit to any youth living in a high poverty neighborhood.

Connecting a group of students and volunteers expands the range of role models and learning experiences, and the network of adults who will help a youth through school and into careers.

This “iceberg” chart illustrates the range of activities and expenses required to support this weekly connection of youth and adults in a non-school site-based tutor/mentor program. Funds are needed for staff, insurance, technology and learning activities. Helping Cabrini Connections and similar programs in Chicago and other cities get these dollars, its volunteers, and provide its services every year, is the responsibility of our leadership board, and of our volunteers.
If we agree that a mentor-rich program like Cabrini Connections benefits teens in one neighborhood of Chicago, then we should agree that it would be good to have similar volunteer-based tutor/mentor programs operating in every poverty neighborhood of the Chicago region.

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The Tutor/Mentor Connection was created to help make this happen. Maps like this are one tool leaders can use to support the growth of mentor-rich programs in more places.

See interactive Chicago tutor/mentor program locator at: http://www.tutormentorprogramlocator.net
The Internet offers opportunities to educate tutor/mentor volunteers, donors and leaders about issues of poverty.

As we help more adults join and stick with tutor/mentor programs, and help these adults bond with kids and learn about poverty, we have the potential to connect volunteers from hundreds of programs into one tutor/mentor connection.

As the numbers grow in this movement, and as we connect volunteers from multiple programs and multiple cities, in Internet based distance learning and activism projects, we have the ability to become a policy force in Chicago and throughout the country.

This is one place where ideas can be shared: http://debategraph.org/mentoring_kids_to_careers
If volunteers help develop business strategies which increase resources for all tutor/mentor programs….

Programs like Cabrini Connections will have a more consistent flow of operating dollars, volunteers and ideas needed to keep youth and volunteers connected each year and moving toward jobs and careers.

If donors and volunteers are motivated by creative advertising to search for programs using map based directories like the Tutor/Mentor program locator, the same way customers search for stores where they purchase goods and services, we can increase the flow of needed resources to ALL programs, while lowering the costs of acquiring these resources for every organization.

This increases the quality of programs and the availability of constantly improving programs in more places where they are needed. This helps more kids succeed in school and builds a pipeline that connects young people with jobs and careers.
If celebrities and high profile leaders adopt T/MC strategy....

Media will pay more attention and more people will here a “call to involvement” every day and in communities all over the country.

If elected leaders, celebrities, faith leaders and CEOs use their visibility, and communications opportunities, to invite people in their network to visit T/MC web sites, or come to events where they learn from each other, and learn to collaborate, more people will participate, and more people will spend time learning from the information available on the http://www.tutormentorexchange.net and related web sites.

This increases the number of people using their time, talent and dollars to help make comprehensive, mentor rich programs available in more places where they are needed. This helps more kids succeed in school and builds a pipeline that connects young people with jobs and careers.
If you agree with this logic....

Become a leader who connects his/her friends, co-workers, family and friends with a tutor/mentor program in Chicago or another city. Set up a discussion group at your faith group, at your business and in your civic group.

Become a leader who makes a personal cash donation to support a tutor/mentor program, and encourages others to do the same.

Learn more about supporting the Tutor/Mentor Institute, LLC and this strategy:  
http://www.tutormentorexchange.net/donations
Learn More.....

Learn more about the Tutor/Mentor Institute, LLC by reviewing the power point essays at http://www.tutormentorexchange.net and the Program Locator data base at http://www.tutormentorprogramlocator.net

• Read the Tutor/Mentor Blog at http://tutormentor.blogspot.com

• Sponsor a T/MC Conference .. http://www.tutormentorconference.org

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