



The Pathways Mentor Program



Dear Parents,

Thank you for encouraging your child to help support our community by getting involved in Pathways for Exceptional Children's **Mentor Program**. Pathways has received statewide recognition for our successful, innovative programs and activities that offer children opportunities to perform community service and gain the invaluable

experience of mentoring another child. We do our best to match up our children with special needs with our trained mentors based on many factors including schedules, interests, and requests.

The Mentor Program starts with a two-hour training that provides mentors with the skills they need to work with children with many types of disabilities. Mentors receive a monthly email with a newsletter listing the current programs. To sign up, they must email **mentor4pathways@yahoo.com** or call **973-856-9587** and will receive a confirmation. Mentors are responsible for checking in at every class or their hours may not get logged in. If they will be absent, they should contact us in advance by email or phone. Mentors' hours are documented at the end of every program and count as community service. All this information is available in the *Mentor News* or on our website, **www.PathwaysKids.org**.

We want to be sure that you understand the mechanics of the programs your child participates in as a mentor. Please review the program descriptions on this page with your child. Complete the attached permission slip, sign and mail it to us. If you are new to the program and registering for a mentor training, include the bottom section and registration fee. We will confirm your date by email. Pathways is dedicated to making our programs enjoyable experiences that benefit everyone involved. Please contact us with any questions. We welcome your comments and suggestions and look forward to seeing you soon!

Program Descriptions

Recreation Programs

Time Commitment: 1-2 hours weekly for 4-6 weeks

Description: Mentors work together with children and a coach or instructor in noncompetitive team sports, art, music, reading, or recreational activities. Good choice for a mentor who likes a supervised group environment. Number of mentors is based on attendance and program needs. If field trip is included, bus transportation outside of Montville requires signed permission by the parent. Adult supervision is always provided either by individuals employed and/or contracted by Montville Township Recreation Dept to run the programs, or private entities where programs take place.

Home-Based Buddies Program

Time Commitment: One year of unlimited visits on a schedule designed by mentor and family of child

Description: A mentor is matched with one specific child and visits their home to provide companionship. Good choice for a mentor who wants a one-on-one environment with a flexible schedule. The parent of the child with special needs signs a written agreement that the Home-Based Buddies Program is NOT for babysitting purposes. The mentor spends time at the child's home on a volunteer basis. This agreement also requires that the parent* remain on the premises to train the mentor involved with their child and supervise all activities for an enjoyable and successful experience for both children. If at any time the parent* fails to follow this agreement, they will forfeit use of the program. The mentor's parent is welcome at any time to call the child's parent, meet with the family, and/or accompany the mentor to their home until they feel comfortable with the mentor staying there alone. The parent* takes full responsibility for supervising the mentor during this time.

Disclaimer: The Montville Recreation Department and Pathways for Exceptional Children cannot provide direct supervision of mentors during the Home-Based Buddies Program, nor can they assume legal responsibility of any kind during this time. As the children become friends, the families may choose to spend time together outside of the home. Pathways is encouraged to see friendships evolve, however we cannot assume any responsibility for monitoring or supervising these activities, which are up to the full discretion, supervision, and responsibility of the parents of the children involved.

*(parent) of the child with special needs

Pathways for Exceptional Children works in conjunction with the Montville Recreation Department to help develop the special needs recreation and mentoring programs. As with all other programs provided by the Montville Recreation Department, the special needs recreation and mentoring program DOES NOT provide accident insurance.



Montville Township Recreation Department & Pathways for Exceptional Children

Mentor Permission & Registration Form

Please print clearly. *Provide an email and phone number that you check regularly. Include parent signature and date.

Permission: All mentors must complete this section for the 2010-2011 school year. Registration below is for new mentors only.

Name _____ Mentor since _____ New mentor

*Email: _____ *Phone _____

Mailing Address _____

Town/State/Zip _____ Date of birth _____ Grade _____

Any special needs we should know? _____

Emergency Contact Name & Phone _____

Image Use: Pathways publishes stories and photos that showcase the accomplishments of children participating in our programs through various types of media, including newsletters, websites, slide presentations, promotional materials (brochures, flyers), and public media (newspapers, magazines). Your child may appear in photo images, videos, or be referred to in an article or caption. We will limit such usage in accordance with the boxes checked in the section below by you, the parent or legal guardian of the child (under age 18). You may notify Pathways in writing at any time to make changes.

Photo Release: (Parents of child under 18 must read both bullet items and sign)

- By signing below, I grant Pathways for Exceptional Children permission to use images of my child participating in their programs or events in all media stated above, EXCEPT FOR (no permission for use in): newsletters & website, presentations, promotional materials, public media;
- I grant permission to refer to my child in writing using his/her full name, first name only, first name and last initial, no identification.

I have read and fully understand all details related to the mentor program described on pages 1 and 2 of this form. By signing below, I give my child permission to participate in Pathways for Exceptional Children's programs and give release for photo usage in accordance with selections checked above.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

(Print Name) _____

Mail this page to: Pathways Mentor Program, 11 Glenwood Dr., Montville, NJ 07045

Or place in Drop Box at Montville Township Municipal Building parking lot at 195 Changebridge Rd in an envelope marked "Recreation/Pathways."

Registration: New mentors wanting to take the Mentor Training Workshop must also complete this section.

Register me for the next Pathways Mentor Training!

To reserve your spot (maximum 25 participants), complete the permission above and the box at right. Enclose \$10 registration fee, cash or check, payable to *Pathways for Exceptional Children*. You will receive email confirmation. At completion of the training you will receive a mentor t-shirt.

Cancellation: If you wish to cancel or reschedule your training, please contact us up to 24 hours before the training by email: mentor4pathways@yahoo.com or phone: 973-856-9587. We have a waiting list, therefore, late cancellations and no-shows will forfeit the t-shirt and \$10 fee. We will notify you in advance of any changes in the schedule or location.

DATE OF TRAINING: _____

T-SHIRT SIZE: **S** **M** **L** **XL**

(OFFICE USE ONLY)

Date Received _____ Confirmed

Amount _____ Check # _____ Cash

Notes _____

Mail this page with registration fee to: Pathways Mentor Training, 11 Glenwood Dr., Montville, NJ 07045

Or place in Drop Box at Montville Township Municipal Building parking lot at 195 Changebridge Rd in an envelope marked "Recreation/Pathways."

Questions? Visit Pathways' website at www.PathwaysKids.org.

