



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 workshop that provides mentors with the skills needed to work with children with many types of disabilities. Mentors receive a monthly newsletter listing current programs and activities. To participate, they need to sign up by email, mentor4pathways@yahoo.com or phone, **973-331-3366** and we will follow up with a confirmation. Mentors are responsible for checking in at every session to log in their hours. If they will be absent, they should contact us to let us know. Certificates are awarded with the total hours of community service at the end of the programs. All this information is available in the *Mentor News* or on our website, www.montvillepec.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 workshop, 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 Mentor Program

Mentor Permission Slip



All mentors must send in a permission slip every year. Complete all information in box. Please print clearly. *Provide an email and phone number you use on a regular basis so we can tell you about programs and cancellations. Include parent signature and date. **Mail to:** Pathways Mentor Program, 55 Madison Ave, Suite 400, Morristown, NJ 07960. **To become a mentor, register below.**

Mentor's Name _____ Date of birth _____ Mentor since _____ New mentor

Email* _____ Phone* _____

Mailing Address _____

Town/State/Zip _____

List any special needs we should know _____

Emergency Contact Name & Phone _____

Photo Release: Photos taken at Pathways programs and events may be used in newsletters, websites, brochures, flyers, presentations, newspapers or magazines. Parent or guardian: please indicate how your child's photo and name can be used in conjunction with our program by checking the appropriate boxes below and signing your name at the bottom. You may notify Pathways in writing at anytime if you wish to make changes.

- I give Pathways for Exceptional Children permission to print my child's: photo , full name , first name only , in conjunction with related Pathways events in: Newsletters , Website , Brochures/Presentations , Local Weeklies , Town Publications , Daily Newspapers .
- I have read and fully understand all details related to the mentor program as described on the two pages of this form. I give my child permission to participate in Pathways for Exceptional Children's Recreation Programs , Home-Based Buddies Program .

Parent/Guardian Permission (print name) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____

If you are new to the program, please register. Returning mentors, leave this part blank. Contact us if you would like to purchase a t-shirt.

Check here to register for a Pathways Mentor Training

To reserve a spot, complete the permission slip above plus date and t-shirt size in box at right. Maximum 25 participants. You will receive registration confirmation by email and a t-shirt at the training. Enclose \$10 registration fee, cash or check payable to *Pathways for Exceptional Children*.

Mail this page and registration fee to:

Pathways Mentor Training, 55 Madison Ave, Suite 400, Morristown, NJ 07960
(or drop in Payment Drop Box at Montville Township Municipal Building parking lot located at 195 Changebridge Rd in an envelope marked "Recreation/Pathways.")

Cancellation: You may cancel up to 24 hours in advance by email: mentor4pathways@aol.com or phone: 973-331-3366. Late cancellations and no-shows will forfeit the t-shirt and \$10 fee. If a training is cancelled due to weather, etc., we will contact you by email to reschedule.

DATE OF TRAINING _____

CIRCLE T-SHIRT SIZE

Youth **L**

Adult **S M L XL**

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received / Conf. _____

Payment: Cash _____ Check _____ # _____

Notes _____

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

