

# YSA Mentorship Program



Would you like to accompany young adults from Youth Spirit Artworks on their journey? YSA is starting a Mentorship Program for the young adult participants of the YSA program, some of whom are residents at the newly opened Tiny House Empowerment Village. Some mentees need a buddy to talk with; others need more support because of past trauma, homelessness, instability, or other challenges.

Mentors are adults who can be a caring, positive, consistent presence in the life of a young adult. They are volunteers who are supportive and loving and who believe in the innate goodness and unlimited potential of the young adults they mentor. Mentors are good listeners, cheerleaders, companions, role models; they are not psychologists or therapists or case managers.

We are looking for people who can commit to meeting with a mentee at least twice a month for a year or longer. We will provide training and support throughout your mentoring relationship. Mentors get to know someone's life story, hopes, dreams and struggles. They usually get much more out of a relationship than they give.

To apply, fill out the attached application form and send it with a short (30-second to two minutes) video to [ysamentor@youthspiritartworks.org](mailto:ysamentor@youthspiritartworks.org). On the video, introduce yourself as if you are meeting a mentee for the first time—give your name, preferred pronouns, three interesting things about yourself and your hobbies if you like. Have fun doing this!

We will interview all applicants. As there are likely to be more mentor applicants than mentees, not everyone who applies will be matched. If we can identify a potential mentee for you, we will provide a training before you are matched. YSA requires that all mentors have a federal background check and be fingerprinted. After the training, we ask that mentors pay for the cost of their own background check; the average cost is \$85-90. We will provide details about how to complete your background check at the training. If you cannot afford the cost, or if you or your congregation/organization can sponsor the cost of someone else's background check, please let us know.

For more information, contact [ysamentor@youthspiritartworks.org](mailto:ysamentor@youthspiritartworks.org).

# Mentor Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Why would you like to be a mentor?

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What do you hope to gain from this relationship?

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What type of relationship are you envisioning with your mentee (i.e., level of engagement)?

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What areas are you most interested in helping a mentee with (check as many as you wish)?

- career guidance
- hobbies
- emotional support
- sharing life experience and sage wisdom
- other: \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the following do you feel you have the capacity to work with (check as many as you wish)?

- youth with poor boundaries
- youth with anger issues
- CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Youth) youth
- youth who have been traumatized
- youth with abandonment issues
- other: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any personal or life experiences that might make you a helpful support for youth with similar experiences (i.e., history of substance use, member of LGBT community, mental health challenges)?

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Please return this form and a 30-second video to [ysamentor@youthspiritartworks.org](mailto:ysamentor@youthspiritartworks.org).