

What People Are Saying

Families . . .

"My mentor helped me see I really was making progress! She didn't give up on me when I wanted to give up on myself."

"I didn't think I could pass the job certification test but my mentor insists I can do it and helps me study. I'm now almost there!"

"It was painful to face my financial situation, but together we worked through it. Now I have a plan to work out of this hole and the future looks brighter."

Mentors . . .

"I thought this would just be giving to others-I didn't realize how much I would be getting."

"I've worked with several families. I used to think I had the answers about what goals should be. I've learned that to make progress, people have to be working on what matters to them."

"My own kids tell me I'm a better listener since becoming a mentor."



Partnering for Success

*A program of
Family Promise of Greater Roanoke*

*37 East Clay Street, Salem, Virginia 24153
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WWW.FAMILYPROMISEROANOKE.ORG



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What a Mentor Does

A mentor is trained to offer both practical and emotional support by helping to:

- Recognize and appreciate the family's unique strengths
- Define and set goals and action steps
- Encourage family members to take action toward their goals
- Review progress regularly
- Provide a link to the larger community by identifying and locating community resources
- Celebrate each achievement along the way



HOW FAMILY MENTORING WORKS

Who Can Be a Mentor?

Mentors are individuals from the community who want to provide a supportive, peer relationship for at-risk families that are striving to achieve better self-sufficiency and stability. Potential mentors are screened through a criminal background check. Upon acceptance into the program, mentors participate in a thorough training before being matched with a family. They also receive ongoing support sessions during their service as mentors.

How Families Begin Mentoring

Participation in the mentoring program begins when Family Promise refers a family to the Family Mentoring program. It is an adult-to-adult relationship of mutual respect. The mentoring director determines the appropriateness of mentoring for the family, based on conversations with the family.

Making a Match

The mentoring director matches families and mentors and assures they understand and commit to program purpose and policies. The family and mentor agree to meet weekly for approximately one year to focus on building a relationship, defining goals and taking steps to achieve those goals.

The paths that matches take vary widely, based on the goals pursued by each family. The program director monitors and supports each partnership during the entire match. Matches are formally closed at an appropriate time, but often relationships continue informally.



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Greater Roanoke

*The goal of the
Family Mentoring Program
is for mentors to build
committed relationships with
low-income families to help
them define and meet goals in
order to achieve and maintain
self-reliance and independence.*

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