The YMCA Mentoring Program responds to the needs of young people growing up in high-risk environments. Youth participants and adult volunteer mentors are matched together as “Y-PALS”. The adult mentor works with the parents to provide individual tutoring, support, new experiences and companionship as well as modeling healthy behavior and choices for the youth.

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Things of the 
Spirit
Differ from things material...
The more you give,
The more you have.
-Christopher Moreet

Kelly Hall YMCA Mentoring Program

“When the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”
-Mahatma Gandhi
Participation in the Y-PALS program gives the mentor an opportunity to make an impact in a child’s life and the community by being a positive role model, building self-esteem and reinforcing strong values. The student Y-PAL is a child in grades 1st – 12th who will commit to the program for at least one school year with the consent of their parent or guardian. Activities usually include homework, fieldtrips or just talking. Visits are weekly and arranged around both participant’s schedules. The goal of the program is to build relationships that help the youth be successful academically, emotionally, spiritually and socially.

A small commitment makes a BIG DIFFERENCE

For the student

The mentor

The community.

Mentor Responsibilities and Guidelines

- Commit at least one hour per week to a child
- Complete Mentor training and background check
- Show genuine interest in developing the potential of a youth
- Accept a child as an individual and show patience and understanding in dealing with the youth’s limitations and problems
- Understand the needs and concerns of a youth
- BE DEPENDABLE

Other Volunteer Opportunities

- Assist with special events
- Assist with fundraising
- Tutoring/homework assistance
- Corporations are needed for job shadowing opportunities to help youth explore career opportunities
- Special volunteer projects
- Community Service Learning hours opportunities available

Mentoring Program visits the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and the American Jazz Museum while visiting Kansas City, Kansas