

SPONSORS AS MENTORS

Sponsors

- ♥ Communicates weekly with Youth & Family Ministry Director
- ♥ Facilitates Sponsors meetings
- ♥ Creates the Agenda for the business & Annual meetings with the Officer Team
- ♥ Acts as a guide, coach and mentor to the Y.O.U. Officer Team & chapter members and occasionally their parents
- ♥ Lovingly reminds all YOUer's of agreements, commitments and responsibilities
- ♥ Encourages Spiritual Truths to be used on all levels, in all activities
- ♥ Drives to events; maintain responsibility for teens during events; mentors teens at events through program material and processing of individual emotional response
- ♥ Communicates with each Project Coordinator regularly to ensure all is progressing

As a Mentor to a YOU Officer or Emerging Leader

Understand their office, assist them in setting an intention for the year and empower them to consciously and prayerfully step up to do their best.

Activities

Coach teen(s) to plan, implement and delegate tasks of the activity as needed in a prayerful manner. Assist in recruiting and coaching teen to recruit adult & parent participation for activities. Coordinate calendar with YFMD, post to YOU calendar and communications officer. Plan to attend activity if possible for supervisory support.

Communications

Coach teen to keep communications flowing: email, phone calls, written communication. Assist in details needed for effective communication. Empower to have accurate records kept of fundraisers, events and activities to have records to use as a guide in the future. Prayer & Gratitude.

Written communications to Church thru YFMD: web, newsletter, thank yous, etc.

Prosperity

Assist in coaching the teen in correct tracking and accurate updates of the YOU funds. YFMD and Ministers require Quicken ledger reports monthly. Assist in creating the budget, planning expenses, setting a goal for outcomes of fundraisers, affirmative prayer & gratitude. Support YOU Chapter prosperity awareness, gratitude and practice of tithing. Directly responsible for cash box during all fundraising events.

Spirituality

Coach Officer in leading affirmative prayers and meditations. Empower all YOUer's to pray out loud and create written affirmations, prayers and meditations for the YOU notebook. Empower all YOUer's to utilize the classroom copy of the "Daily Word for Teens". Music and CD's also recommended. Care for YOU classroom resources.

Service

Assist on YOU Hospitality Sunday. Assist in creating a consciousness of service in Chapter. Assist in coordinating service to Youth Ministry at the church during busy activities for children such as Easter, Christmas, etc. Enroll chapter to involve themselves in chapter service activities in the community. Enroll the assistance of the congregation when possible and work in conjunction with existing church staff, Service Ministry or Out Reach Coordinator if there is one.

SPONSOR'S ROLE IN DEVELOPING LEADERS

Many youth leaders make the mistake of trying to be "all things to all people" thinking they must plan, coordinate, and carry out the YOU activities and projects themselves. This is not the case. As often as possible, the sponsor should encourage and help develop leaders within the group. The sponsor, who continues to "do it all," will never experience the rewards of seeing students learn to do it themselves, and more than likely, will become the victim of "burnout."

Gradually, turn more and more leadership over to the youth. You can do this by assisting and coaching them about their responsibilities until the youth are completely in charge of their own activities and learning. However, *the delegation process begins anew each year with the arrival of new students.*

Did you know?

As an adult sponsor, you are in an ideal position to encourage all teens to develop as responsible individuals.

Help them realize:

- ♥ The more responsibility they take, the stronger and more capable they will feel
- ♥ As they take responsibility, they learn they have the power to shape their own life
- ♥ They should be responsible on a daily basis, not just once in a while
- ♥ They should talk with an involved adult if they feel too much is being expected of them
- ♥ Taking responsibility can be fun and will open new doors of opportunity

5 PHASES OF MENTORING LEADERS

The following phases of mentoring leadership are designed around the premise that it is necessary for someone to be "in charge" for effective leadership to take place. Also leadership can only be effective if people have the necessary skills. These are progressive effective steps in developing leadership skills helping Y.O.U.'ers. (See Graphic Next Page)

- ♥ I Do It
- ♥ We Do It Together
- ♥ You Do It, I will Support
- ♥ You do It, I Will Move On
- ♥ You Teach Someone Else

After working together with a new chairperson or officer, you can usually determine when it is time to step aside and allow him or her to lead. When this time comes, let the student, or co-sponsor know you feel it is time for you to step aside but that you will remain close and be supportive.

Somewhat like letting go of a child who has learned to walk, this phase requires the sponsor to let go and allow the youth to experience leadership on their own. Even though there will be times you may feel you can do it better, by allowing the youth to succeed as well as fall, you give them vital leadership opportunities.

Source: Association Youth of Unity Handbook