

Mayor Mallory's Message for the Week, January 22, 2007

Mentoring Benefits Everyone

One of my priorities as Mayor is to expand Mentoring in Cincinnati. I am passionate about Mentoring because of my own personal experiences. Mentoring really does change lives. I have had mentors, who helped me as I was growing up and who continue to this day supporting me and giving me advice. I have returned the favor by becoming a mentor to several individuals. Some of my mentees have gone on to become elected officials, including a State Representative and a Columbus City Councilman. In fact, one of my mentees, Shawn Butler, now works in my office as the Community Liaison.

Too many of our youth in Cincinnati are in need of positive adult influences in their lives. Some have no strong relationships with adults, and some just need additional positive adult relationships. By stepping up and becoming involved in their lives, you will have an amazing result. I truly believe that young people in Cincinnati want to grow up to be productive adults; all they need is the proper support network to allow it to happen.

This month is National Mentoring Month, and all month my office is celebrating and promoting the invaluable effect that mentoring can have on young people's lives and on our community as a whole. I have started the Mayor's Mentoring Initiative to recruit city employees to become mentors with a goal of recruiting 10% of city employees get involved. If you a city employee and interested in becoming a mentor, contact Shawn Butler in my office at 352-3649 or shawn.butler@cincinnati-oh.gov. But, that is just one effort to get people into mentoring.

There are several organizations around Cincinnati that offer mentoring programs. So, this January, as we celebrate National Mentoring Month, I encourage you to get involved. Find at least an hour per week in your busy schedule and volunteer to become a mentor. It will not only change the life of a child; it will change your life as well. Improving the futures of our youth will make all of Cincinnati a stronger, safer, and healthier community.

– Mayor Mark Mallory

Click [here](#) to read more about the Mayor's Mentoring Initiative.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the benefits of mentoring.

[Cincinnati Youth Collaborative](#)

[Big Brothers Big Sisters](#)