

T.E.A.M. work

*A guide to youth mentoring opportunities in
Spartanburg County*

TEACH * ENCOURAGE * ADVANCE * MENTOR



**United Way
of the Piedmont
Young Leaders Society**

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All young people have the potential to succeed in life and contribute to society. However, not all children get the support they need to thrive. Mentors give our young people guidance, support, perspective, and hope for a prosperous future so that they are empowered to make positive life choices.

As mentors, adults can help to reduce high school dropout, adolescent pregnancy, and juvenile crime rates by taking an active role in the lives of youth.

If you're ready to teach, encourage, advance and mentor a youth, you are ready to be a member of the T.E.A.M.! This TEAM Work guide will give you the basic information you need to get started including the types of opportunities available in our community and who to contact. Every opportunity is unique. Find the opportunity and organization that fits your personality, interests, and availability and go for it! There's no better time to get involved in the lives of our youth than right now. If you want to make this a better community for all, this is a great way to start.

Bethlehem Center

Organization Mission: The purpose of the Bethlehem Center is to strengthen families physically, emotionally, spiritually, socially, educationally, and intellectually.

Director: Paula Wiggs

Volunteer Coordinator: Kathy Gilliam

Email: bcadm58@bellsouth.net

Direct Phone: 864 582 7158

**Mailing Address: PO Box 3501
Spartanburg, SC 29304**

**Physical Address: 397 Highland Avenue
Spartanburg, SC 29306**

Mentor Opportunity: Mentoring opportunity available in small groups or one-on-one between 3pm-6pm, Monday thru Friday. Specifically related to: homework assistance, group informational workshops, career sharing, study skills development.

Time Commitment: See above

Age Range: 5-16

Location: 397 Highland Avenue, Spartanburg, SC 29306

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Volunteer pays

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Organization Mission: Big Brothers Big Sisters helps children reach their potential through professionally supported one-to-one relationships with proven results.

Director: Charlene Cheeks

Volunteer Coordinator: Sarah Prosser

Email: prossers@bbbsupstate.com

Direct Phone: 542-9328

**Mailing Address: 161 E. Kennedy Street
Spartanburg, Sc. 29316**

Physical Address: same as above

Mentor Opportunity: Mentors can do a wide range of activities, depending on their personal interests. Anything from going to the park, hiking, movies, to making cookies or getting an ice cream cone together.

Time Commitment: We ask that volunteers commit to the program for one year. We ask that they spend between 6-8 hours per month with the child, which can be arranged around the volunteers schedule and free time.

Age Range: children in the program

Location: The volunteers will pick the child up from home or school and return them after the outing, back home.

Additional Information: Our organization requires a brief interview, in order for us to get to know the volunteer a little. When we "match up" a child with a volunteer, it is a personalized process and thus the need for the interview.

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Upstate

Organization Mission: To inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

Director: Greg Tolbert

Volunteer Coordinator: Nikki Caulk

Email: nikki@bgcusc.org

Direct Phone: 583-4867 ext. 104

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2794
Spartanburg, SC 29304**

**Physical Address: 901 S. Pine Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302**

Mentor Opportunity: Mentors may choose to work with children and youth in any of our five core program areas:

- 1. Education and Career Development (help with homework, tutoring, or career prep.)**
- 2. Health and Life Skills (drug, gang prevention, healthy lifestyles)**
- 3. Sports, Fitness and Recreation (coaching, leading a sports/fitness group, attending sporting events with/ playing games with youth)**
- 4. Arts (art, photography, dance, drama or creative writing, attending cultural events with children)**
- 5. Character and Leadership (community service projects, youth civic clubs, good character programs)**

Time Commitment: Flexible within our Club hours which are Monday - Friday from 2pm-6:00 pm.

Age Range: 6-18

Location: Carver Jr. High, Jesse Bobo Elementary

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

Children Shelter of the Upstate, Inc.

Organization Mission: To provide a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment for abused, abandoned and neglected children and teens.

Director: Hoyt Bynum, Jr.- CEO

Volunteer Coordinator: Tammy Nolan

Email: jbauer@childrenshelterupstate.org

Direct Phone: 864-580-3612

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2663
Spartanburg, SC 29304**

**Physical Address: 202 Hudson L. Barksdale Blvd.
Spartanburg, SC 29306**

Mentor Opportunity: Reading to Children

Art Therapy

Homework/Tutoring

Life skills

Career Development

Time Commitment: Flexible

Age Range: Birth - 18

Location: Children Shelter of the Upstate

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Volunteer pays

Colors Inner-City Youth Art Studio

A Program of the Spartanburg Art Museum

Organization Mission: To improve the lives, choices and opportunities available to at-risk youth by providing safe and creative places to be during the critical after-school hours, thereby producing successful, productive members of our community. We do this within a professional studio environment where young talent is developed by giving them the tools to experience the positive power of their own creativity.

Director: Laura Pinkley

Volunteer Coordinator: Angie Shuman

Email: colors@spartanburgartmuseum.org

Direct Phone: 864-278-9678

**Mailing Address: 200 East Saint John Street
Spartanburg, SC 29306**

Physical Address: Same

Mentor Opportunity: Colors mentoring opportunities include volunteering at the Chapman Cultural Center M-TH 3:00-6:00 or at one of our outreach sites:

Upstate Family Resource Center M, W 3:30-5:30

TK Gregg Tues- 4:00-6:00

Carver Junior High School-Thur 3:30-5:30

Abner Creek Elementary-w 9:25-10:25

***(These are students age 3-6 with special needs)**

Please check our website www.spartanburgartmuseum.org/colors for updates or schedule changes.

We provide art instruction to students in a variety of media: paint, pastels, pencils, clay, collage, water color, and charcoal.

Mentors would work one-on-one with students during the time they are in class. Whether the mentor feels they are "good" at art or not, simply talking to the students and giving them ideas and encouragement will be worthwhile time spent.

Time Commitment: No specific time commitment is required; however, a schedule is recommended.

Age Range: 6-18

Additional Information: Students at Colors do not attend a set number of hours or classes as it is a "drop-in" studio. Mentors can spend quality time with children during the time they are at the studio. However, they need to be aware while there are some students that come on a regular basis, many just come a few times a week or month.

Background Check: No

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

Department of Juvenile Justice Spartanburg County

Organization Mission: The mission of this agency is to support the Governor's mission by protecting the public and reclaiming juveniles through prevention, community programs, education and rehabilitative services in the least restrictive environment.

Director: Jennifer Clarke

Volunteer Coordinator: Debi Turner

Email: dltum@scdjj.net

Direct Phone: 864-562-4208

**Mailing Address: 180 Magnolia Street Court Room #201
Spartanburg, SC 29306**

**Physical Address: 180 Magnolia Street Court Room #201
Spartanburg, SC 29306**

Mentor Opportunity: Volunteers would act in the capacity of an Auxiliary Probation Officer. They would be required to have weekly contact with a juvenile who is currently on probation with our agency. They would also be required to report back to the juvenile's assigned probation officer.

Time Commitment: Varies (1-2 Hours per week) Age Range: Anyone over 21

Location: Homes of juveniles, DJ office

Additional Information: Volunteers must be able to pass a background check.

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

Ellen Hines Smith Girls' Home

Organization Mission: The Ellen Hines Smith Girls' Home provides safety and sustainable life skills for girls who are victims of abuse and/or neglect.

Director: Chamlee Loscuito

Volunteer Coordinator: Americorps Vista

Email: chamlee.ehsg@charterinternet.com

Direct Phone: 573-9223 x1103

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1731
Spartanburg, SC 29304**

**Physical Address: 241 Cedar Springs Road
Spartanburg, SC 29302**

Mentor Opportunity: The girls in our care need mentorship to last for at least 6 months to one year and to involve taking small trips off our campus to do fun activities. Activities should provide the opportunity for the mentor and mentee to build a trusting relationship with each other.

Time Commitment: One hour every other week.

Age Range: 13-19 years old

Location: At the girls home and off site, traveling to Spartanburg city activities.

Additional Information: Training is also required for the mentor and lasts approximately 3 hours.

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

Family Connections

Organization Mission: To empower high risk families and their children to further develop their literacy and related life skills so that they can function effectively in school and the community.

Director: Debra Waldron

Volunteer Coordinator: Debra Waldron

Email: dtwaldron@spart7.org

Direct Phone: 864 596 8448

**Mailing Address: 459 W. Centennial Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302**

Physical Address: SAME

Mentor Opportunity: We serve teen mothers who are returning to adult education. Mentoring opportunities for mother and child: assist/encourage mother w/ GED goals; (reading or math) volunteer/ read aloud/ interact with children for positive interactions; literacy/ vocabulary development to support school readiness for the children

Time Commitment: 1-2 hours weekly

Age Range: 3 months-35 years

Location: Madden Family Connections

Additional Information: A positive role model for our mothers to finish the GED or HS diploma in order to further their education or become employed will result in a better life for the mother and the entire family.

A mentor for the child will pay dividends toward preparing the child for school.

Our overall goal is breaking the cycle of generational poverty. One factor in moving a person out of poverty is a positive role model/ mentor in that person's life.

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

Hope Remains Youth Ranch

Organization Mission: Hope Remains Youth Ranch is a place where children and youth are transformed through the hope found in Jesus Christ. This mission is accomplished through five endeavors: **Experiential Learning, Character Education, Counseling, Mentoring, Animal and Equine Assisted Learning.** Hope Remains addresses the following types of problems :

Abuse	Emotional Troubles
Depression	Rebellious/Defiant behavior
Suspension/Expulsion from School	Anger Management

Director & Volunteer Coordinator: Melanie Watt

Email: mjwatt@charter.net

Direct Phone: 864-921-2352

Mailing Address: PO Box 160782, Boiling Springs SC 29316

Physical Address: 158 Gate Road, Inman SC 29349

Mentor Opportunity:

1. **Homework help after school**
2. **"Walker" for Horse lessons (walk beside the horse while small children ride)**
3. **Mentor (Big brother, Big sister type mentoring for the children and youth that attend Hope Remains)**
4. **Basic Horsemanship skills**
5. **Wood working skills**
6. **Read stories**
7. **Play games**
8. **Pen Pal with clients**

Time Commitment: 2-4 hours a week

Age range for clients: 5-17

Age range for mentors: 16 and over

Additional Information: Hope Remains is open regardless of weather, so dependable volunteers and mentors are a must. These individuals need to have a passion for hurting children and youth, as well.

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Volunteer pays

Mary H. Wright Elementary

Organization Mission: – Mary H. Wright in cooperation with parents, students, business partners, and other stakeholders, will provide a diverse and supportive learning environment that empowers children to utilize information, skills, and the social awareness necessary to successfully function in our ever changing society.

Director: Wanda Owens-Jackson

Volunteer Coordinator: Wanda Jackson and Karen Pack

Email: Wowens@spart7.org
KPack@spart7.org

Direct Phone: (864)594-4477

Mailing Address: 457 South Church St.
Spartanburg SC 29306

Physical Address: 457 South Church St.
Spartanburg SC 29306

Mentor Opportunity:

A. Become a Mary H. Wright “Homework Helper” by providing assistance with critical thinking, problem solving skills, research, goal setting, and study skills. The MHW Boys and Girls Club meets each school day. The counselor student ratio is 20:1. This does not allow for one-on-one assistance for many students. Homework Buddies can help fill this need. Won’t you join us? Club hours: 2:30-6:00.

B. Become a Mary H. Wright “Reading Buddy” and encourage a child to love reading. Reading buddies generate enthusiasm for books and reading while working with students of all ages. Reading buddies’ help children overcome apprehension of reading and build listening, comprehension, and vocabulary skills while reading to and with individual students. As a reading buddy you will help increase students attention span and their ability to concentrate while forming a positive relationship that builds self-esteem and confidence.

Time Commitment: 1 hour weekly

Age Range: 5 to 12

Location: Mary H. Wright Elementary

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

The Salvation Army Community Center

Organization Mission: The Salvation Army, an International movement is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

Director & Volunteer Coordinator: Sharon Thompson

Email: sharon.thompson@uss.salvationarmy.org

Direct Phone: 864-576-8331

**Mailing Address: 40 Foster St
Spartanburg, SC 29301**

**Physical Address: 40 Foster St.
Spartanburg, SC 29301**

Mentor Opportunity: The youth programs of The Salvation Army include after-school care, summer day camp, fitness and organized sports. These programs stress core educational skills of reading, writing, and mathematics while also encouraging participation in recreational activities, career planning and character-building exercises. The Salvation Army Community Center current enrollment is 92% African American, 3% Caucasian, and 5% Hispanic. In the area surrounding the center over 34.8% of the families live in poverty.

Mentors are needed for

- 1. One-on-one homework assistance during the school year**
- 2. Sports coaches**
- 3. Sharing special talents such as arts & gardening**

Time Commitment: 1 hour twice weekly

Age Range: 4 - 16

Location: 40 Foster St Spartanburg SC 29301

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

The Spartanburg County Foundation Citizen Scholar

Program Mission: The Citizen Scholars program is designed to assist Spartanburg County students with academic potential who would not normally be able to attend college. Students must have financial need, parental support, and a desire to further their education. The seven year program provides each student with enrichment activities, classes to help prepare for college and a relationship with a supportive adult/ mentor. Upon graduation from high school, Citizen Scholars can receive up to \$2,625 a year for four consecutive years toward college expenses.

Director: Jocelle Allen

Volunteer Coordinator: Jocelle Allen & Amy Vernon

Email: jocelleallen@gmail.com

Direct Phone: 864-592-1905

**Mailing Address: 1002 Anderson Rd.
Chesnee, SC 29323**

Physical Address: same as mailing address

Mentor Opportunity: Mentors are asked to commit, one year at a time, to the seven year program. Co-mentors team with another mentor to assist a child with many needs. Mentors are asked to help our scholars become empowered individuals with a positive life vision by exposing them to the many opportunities available.

Time Commitment: Mentors are asked to make weekly phone contact and see Scholar face to face once a month

Age Range for Mentors: College Graduated or equivalent business experience is required for mentors

Location: We are a privately funded mentoring program with Liability Insurance for our mentors which allows them the freedom to travel with our scholars anywhere their parents allow.

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

The Sisters and Brothers in The Spirit Mentoring Students for Success Program

Mission: Increase graduation rates from high school and career development for students, decrease juvenile delinquency, reduce teen pregnancy.

Volunteer Coordinator: Gloria Shelton

Phone: 599-0511

**Address: 237 River Forest Drive
Boiling Springs, SC 29316**

Mentor Opportunity: Our mentor program matches individuals from the community with seventh and eighth grade students from Whitlock Junior High School in District Seven. The students range in ages from 12 to 14. Our objectives are to: serve as positive role models, encourage students to stay in school and strive for academic excellence, encourage students to set positive career goals, engage students in positive activities, and support the student's development of positive self esteem and self confidence. We accomplish these goals through one-to-one interaction and group activities.

Students volunteer for the program, complete an application, sign a commitment contract, and attend a program orientation with their parents before they are matched with a mentor. Parents must give permission for their child to participate in the program, commit to support the program and the mentor/student relationship. Applications are used to match students with mentors based on interest and needs. Students and mentors are introduced at a matching ceremony.

Time Commitment: A minimum one-year commitment, participation in District 7 Orientation, and on-going training. Mentors call their students weekly, see them individually monthly, and attend a monthly group activity. One to one activities are scheduled with the student around the mentor's schedule.

Background Check: Yes Background Fee: Paid by Dist. 7 Schools

Upstate Family Resource Center

Organization Mission: The Upstate Family Resource Center is a non-profit organization that enriches the Boiling Springs and Chesnee communities by implementing education and assistance programs that build and maintain healthy productive families.

Director: Kelley Ezell

Volunteer Coordinator: Jessie Davis

Email: jessie.davis@spartanburg2.k12.sc.us

Direct Phone: 864-578-6013

**Mailing Address: 1850 Old Furnace Road
Boiling Springs, SC 29316**

Physical Address: same as above

Mentor Opportunity: Our Adult Education Classes are predominately young adults. These individuals often times need role models to encourage them and help them stay on track. Opportunities could include attendance accountability, job interview skills, tutoring in math and reading/writing, computer training skills, financial literacy and modeling positive life skills.

Time Commitment: 2 hours weekly

Age Range: 17-21

Location: Upstate Family Resource Center

Additional Information: These individuals often do not have a support system at home. A mentoring relationship could help them achieve their goals quickly and keep them on track to a safe, healthy, productive lifestyle.

Background Check: Yes

Background Check Fee: Organization pays

10 Principles of Effective Mentoring

- 1. Be a friend (not a parent).**
- 2. Have realistic goals and expectations.**
- 3. Have fun together!**
- 4. Give your mentee voice and choice in deciding on activities.**
- 5. Be positive.**
- 6. Let your mentee have much of the control over what the two of you talk about - and how you talk about it.**
- 7. Listen.**
- 8. Respect the trust your mentee places in you.**
- 9. Remember that your relationship is with the youth, not the youth's parent.**
- 10. Remember that you are responsible for building the relationship.**

For more information on volunteering at local nonprofit agencies, please contact the Volunteer Connections Office of United Way of the Piedmont at 582-7556 or mwofford@uwpiedmont.org.

**www.sypspartanburg.com
www.uwpiedmont.org/youngleaderssociety.php
www.uwpiedmont.org**