

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
**Male Mentorship Program**  
**F.L. Stanton and Peyton Road Elementary Schools**

**Mission Statement**

The Male Mentorship Program is a structured approach to providing elementary school age males with positive exposure to mature adult male role models with the intent of sustaining/improving their academic performance, exposing them to potential career interests, increasing their awareness of and engagement with the world around them, and improving their ability to communicate to adults their personal needs and social well-being.

**Vision Statement**

The mission will be achieved through the recruitment of adult male mentor role models who will commit themselves to several hours of personal contact/coaching weekly within and outside of the school context. A standard curriculum of contact and activities will be employed, tailored to the personal, educational and developmental needs of each mentee. The intended outcomes of the program are socially well adjusted students, who are achieving academically at or above grade level, and who are more engaged and curious about their community and the world around them.

**Assessment Statement**

On an annual basis each student in the program will be reviewed to discern if there has been measureable growth in his academic achievement, social and personal well-being that can be directly attributed to his relationship with a mentor.

**Selection Criteria for Mentees**

Students selected to participate in the mentoring program should be between the third and sixth grade levels and performing academically from slightly below grade level to above grade level. The program is not intended as a resource for students who are developmentally challenged, have histories of behavioral issues, or who may have physical disabilities that would preclude their ability to engage the program. Parental involvement is encouraged and parental permission is required for enrollment. In an effort to enroll and serve as many students as is

possible, the formal school based mentoring program will be only a year in duration. New students will be recruited each school year.

## **Selection Criteria for Mentors**

Adult male mentors will be recruited through the agency of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and will consist of parishioners or individuals known to members of the parish or the parish leadership. They will have agreed to the principles of the program and will have agreed to contribute their time and resources to the program's success. This agreement includes visitation time at the schools and time spent after school hours with the student. The mentors will acknowledge school district rules and regulations for engaging students. If applicable and required by the School District, potential mentees must take a screening for suitability for working with adolescent males. The mentors serve at the discretion of the parish leadership and the school district.

## **Mentor Selection Process**

Initially, thirty men will be selected, fifteen each at Peyton Forest Elementary and F. L. Stanton Elementary. They will be identified through a volunteer registration process with selected men's organizations at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Once identified, potential mentors will be taken through an orientation program that will clearly articulate the vision of the project and their responsibilities as mentors. Having been cleared by the screening process, the new mentors will be introduced to the administrative leadership of their assigned school as well as with specific teachers involved in the program. With the approval of the administrative leadership, not more than two mentees will be assigned to each mentor.

## **Program Curriculum**

The school district instructional year will be the mentor program activity year. Additional programming is optional for the summer recess. Twice annually (opening and ending of the school year) students from each elementary school will come together for a working activity session recognizing their involvement in the mentoring program. Each semester students in their specific school will come together for a large group activity. Every month each mentor will have met with their mentees not less than twice. Where possible, every mentor will be required to meet the student's parent(s) or guardian.

- **Opening/Closing Sessions** - These sessions will be held at the school site perhaps an hour and one-half in duration on the weekend. They will consist of an introduction to the program, mentors and activities for the year. Parent(s) and guardian(s) are invited to

attend. The closing meeting will be celebratory in nature recognizing student achievement.

- **Specific School Site Meetings** - Each semester all students involved in the mentoring program will be engaged in a large group age appropriate activity designed in part to expose them to information that may help to clarify their interests and talents.
  - Motivational speaker
  - Science program
  - Careers
  
- **Monthly Mentor/Mentee Meeting** – At a minimum of twice monthly, each mentor will have met with their mentee(s) at the school site. The length and timing of the visit is subject to the approval of the principal and teachers involved. The mentor should be knowledgeable about the academic progress, behavioral issues, and other special needs that the student might have. The mentor will act as a coach, motivator, and resource person/advocate for that student. If a tutor has been assigned to the mentee, the mentor should have a supportive relationship with that individual.

Outside of the school context, when and where permissible, the mentor should use his personal network to offer exposure to educational opportunities that the student may not ordinarily experience.

- Area colleges and university campuses
- High Museum of Art
- Civil and Human Rights Museum
- Telus Natural Science Museum
- Atlanta Aquarium
- Atlanta Children Museum
- Fine restaurant dining experience
- Visit to a business site
- A “shadow” experience

On special occasions such as the mentee’s birthday or Christmas, modest gift giving is encouraged.

This activity is acknowledged as program of the OutReach Center, affiliated the St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Atlanta, Georgia .