



# MENTOR



## **Request for Information (RFI): Relationship-Centered Schools and Programs**

**Do you work in a school or at a district that prioritizes relationships? Would you consider your school a relationship-rich environment? We'd love to learn more about your school or program!**

The CERES Institute for Children & Youth is partnering with MENTOR to support a relationship-centered schools initiative and we want to hear from individual schools and programs around the country that share our deeply held (and evidence-based) belief that relationships are essential to a young person's success and well-being. This initiative is being designed in collaboration with and in support of education leaders to create and implement relationship-centered strategic action plans that integrate building and sustaining quality relationship-supports for ALL students enrolled in a school or district.

### **About the CERES Institute**

The [CERES Institute](#) for Children & Youth at Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development is dedicated to community-engaged research and evaluation. Our work is premised on the belief that the best solutions for strengthening programs for children, youth, and families emerge by authentically partnering the expertise in communities with the expertise of community-engaged researchers and evaluators. Through a co-constructive process, communities and community-engaged researchers can identify the core problems that young people are facing, design solutions that capitalize on the inherent assets of young people and their communities, and continually learn and improve on these solutions until positive education and life outcomes are realized by all.

### **About MENTOR**

MENTOR is the unifying champion for expanding the quality and quantity of mentoring relationships across the United States. 30 years ago, MENTOR was created to expand opportunities for young people by building a youth mentoring field and movement. The result: a more than 10-fold increase in young people in structured mentoring relationships. Today, MENTOR is the primary resource and expert for the youth mentoring field, representing a movement that meets young people everywhere they are – from schools, to workplaces, and beyond. MENTOR operates in collaboration with 24 local Affiliates across the country. For more information, visit [www.mentoring.org](http://www.mentoring.org).

## Request for Information/ What we need from YOU!

### Basic Information

School/Organization/Program Name:  
Parent Organization or School District Name (if applicable):  
Mailing Address:  
Website:  
Location (City, State):  
Urbanicity (Rural, Suburban, Urban):  
Staff Size:  
# Young People Currently Serving:  
Age Range of Young People Served:

Primary Contact Name:  
Primary Contact Email:  
Primary Contact Phone:

Would you be interested in being interviewed for us to learn more about your program, school or approach?

### ***If you represent a school, please respond to the following questions:***

- 1) Describe how your school intentionally focuses on relationship building with your students. Please think about programs or habits that are at the individual classroom level or school wide. (150 words maximum)
  
- 2) Describe your school's student population. Consider backgrounds, strengths, and challenges. (150 words maximum)
  
- 3) What tools, surveys or other methods do you use to deepen your understanding of the important adults and peers in a young person's life? (e.g., school climate survey, relationship mapping)
  
- 4) What specific partners have you engaged to help you better connect with young people? Do any of these partners offer integrated student supports?
  
- 5) Do you use specific curricula or classroom activities to help you to build and maintain relationships with young people? Are relationship-building efforts focused on a subset of the student population?
  
- 6) Is there anything else you'd like to add?

***If you represent a program that operates within a school setting, please respond to the following questions:***

1) Describe your program model and theory of change (if applicable). How long has the program been in existence?

2) What are the goals of your program and how do the various activities of your program contribute to achieving those goals? (150 words maximum)

3) Who does your program serve? Describe the young people who are engaged by your program and what their lives are like. Consider typical backgrounds, strengths, and challenges. (150 words maximum)

4) What tools, surveys or other methods do you use to deepen your understanding of the important adults and peers in a young person's life? (eg: school climate survey, relationship mapping)

5) How do you build relationships with the students you serve?

6) What specific individuals within the school building have you engaged to help you better connect with young people?

7) What specific activities help you to build and maintain relationships with young people? Are relationship-building efforts focused on a subset of the student population?

8) Is there anything else you'd like to add?

Thank you for your time! Please contact [ceres@bu.edu](mailto:ceres@bu.edu) with any questions.