

City of Charleston
Mayor's Mentoring Consortium Portfolio of Opportunities
March 2023

Mentoring works! Youth need and want positive mentors in their lives to help guide them and provide support for them as they grow up. The Charleston community has many diverse mentoring programs that would love to have you as a volunteer. This document contains information on several local programs and how you can connect.

Please reach out today!

Be A Mentor

www.beamentornow.org

Volunteer Point of Contact-Emily Cruse

Email: ecruse@beamentornow.org

Phone: 843-870-3052

Be A Mentor provides mentoring opportunities in elementary, middle, and high schools throughout the Lowcountry. Mentors must be at least 21 years old, successfully pass a background check and complete a mentor orientation training before being eligible to volunteer in schools.

- We provide school-based mentorship throughout the Low Country (28 Sites).
- We ask for a 1 hour per week commitment during the school year.
- We work with youth as young as 4-18 years old
- We serve all Genders, race and socio-economic (though the majority of our focus is on youth who are living below the federal poverty level)
- We have multiple Programs in addition to one to one in school where a person may choose to be a facilitator or guest speaker:
 - Entrepreneurship Program
 - Leading Ladies Program where youth explore their community, work on social skills, serve in the community and learn how to become a future leader.
 - Young Men Group- Grade 3-5 youth explore their community, work on social skills, serve in the community and learn how to become a future leader.
- Don't have time to volunteer right now?
 - Occasional speaker, help with our snack program at our St. Julian Devine location and schools. Support a Village party- Purchase pizza and snacks for a mentor party at one of our sites.

You may sign up on our website under get involved. The first step in being a mentor is completing our mentor training. After signing up, we will send future training sessions and details.

Lowcountry Youth Services (LYS)

<https://lowcountryyouth.org/>

Volunteer Point of Contact- ReZsaun Lewis

Email: rlewis@lowcountryyouth.org

Phone: 843-375-6474

Youth participating in the programs offered by Lowcountry Youth Services, namely Distinguished Gentlemen's Club (DGC), Queens' Being (QB), Young Men Rise (YMR), and Girls On The Rise (GTR) are from Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester counties in South Carolina. Our organization serves youth who are in grades 3 through 12. Our programs are available to young people from all ethnic, social, and economic backgrounds. It doesn't matter if a child is a straight-A student who happens to be distracted by a traumatic situation at home or a child who has been charged with multiple juvenile offenses and labeled "high-risk." The reality is every child can benefit from structured support, and every child can win if given the opportunity. And, each child learns the immensely satisfying feeling of being a part of something bigger and giving back to their community.

How to sign up by program:

DGC and QB

To begin the enrollment process, a candidate must complete an application form. Once the application is completed, they will be notified of the open enrollment meeting. At the meeting, the child and the parent will be part of an interview process.

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/4831725/Participant-Application>

YMR and QB

A memorandum of understanding must be set between the school and LYS, then the school will provide the names of the students attending the cohorts.

BOYS WITH A PURPOSE

boyswithapurposesc.org

Volunteer Point of Contact: **Kenneth Joyner**

Email: boyswithapurpose@gmail.com

Phone: **443-989-8887**

A specific description of the opportunity, including time commitment, ages served, gender served, location, etc.

We operate at the College of Charleston - Wednesday - Friday 3:30-6:pm - We serve Elementary and Middle School scholars ages 7-15, young boys. We operate at the Thaddeus Street Education Center 25 St. Phillip St. Charleston, SC 29401 Rm 217- We mentor them in the areas of academics, SEL, and character development. We would love to have them come in and teach our scholars about robotics.

For more information and to find out how you can volunteer, call or email Kenneth Joyner.

[Making A Difference](#) w Kendra Scott 2021

[Steve Harvey Show](#)

[Kendra Scott Campaign 2022](#)

Charleston Youth Leadership Council, Inc., Beaux Affair Program

www.thebeauxaffair.org

Volunteer Point of Contact: Cal Morrison

Email: palcal99@att.net

Phone: 843-345-5977

The CYLC- Beaux Affair Program is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization that promotes and enhances character and leadership development in males transitioning from male-hood to manhood.

- Beaux Affair Program mentors male high school juniors and seniors in the Tri-County area of Charleston, SC
- Mentoring is administered through a series of workshops, retreats, community service, etc., primarily twice monthly on Sunday afternoons from 3:30pm to 7:30pm
- Our primary workshop location is leased space at LETC community building, 2002 William Kennerty Dr, Charleston, SC 29407
- 12 hours of commitment time per month

For further information or to apply to mentor, please contact: Cal Morrison, Program Coordinator palcal99@att.net 843-345-5977.

Communities In Schools of South Carolina

www.cisofsc.org

Point of contact:

Jennifer Harris, Regional Director of Development

jharris@cisofsc.org; 843-819-2984

Opportunities: CIS staff will work with you to identify your preferred age group and area of town for volunteer placement.

- College/Career readiness activities - one time events to provide information to middle and high school students regarding your career path, ways to prepare to be successful in college, writing resumes, etc.
- Assist with one time events at schools - teacher appreciation week, field day events, etc.
- Weekly/bi-weekly mentoring and/or tutoring at area K12 public title I school (1 hour per visit).

To start the volunteer process, please visit us at <https://cisofsc.org/volunteer/> and fill out the volunteer registration form. Someone from CIS will be in touch with you shortly to get you connected for volunteering. Please note that volunteering as an ongoing mentor/tutor requires additional online trainings totaling about 2.5 hours.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lowcountry

Website: www.bbbslowcountry.org

Volunteer Point of Contact: Toni Freeman

Email: toni@bbbslowcountry.org

Phone: 843-401-3556 x 701

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lowcountry (BBBSL) believes that inherent in every child is incredible potential. Using our gold-standard, evidence-based process, we expertly match caring adult volunteers (“Bigs”) and children (“Littles” aged 7+) in FUN, safe, highly-compatible, one-to-one mentoring

relationships throughout Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester Counties. A full 94% of our Bigs strongly agree they are well-matched to their mentees and 97% of our Littles says their relationship with their mentor is very important to them. With the support of their mentor, our Littles do better in school, develop stronger relationships with peers and family, avoid risky behavior, and develop greater aspirations for their future. Are you ready to become a Big?

Community-Based Mentors

- Must be 18 years or older
- Be in our market for no less than 14 months (approx. 45 days for enrollment and 12 months as a mentor) and commit to mentoring your "Little" for no less than 12 months
- Meet with your Little 2-4 times each month after school or on weekends engaging in "ordinary" activities you both enjoy or wish to experience
- Coordinate with your Little's parent/guardian
- Commit to having a coaching conversation with BBBSL staff once per month

BIG Beyond Mentors

- Engage in e-mentoring every other Wednesday from 11:25 AM - 12:30 PM via Zoom
- Serve as your Scholar's mentor from the beginning of their sophomore year through high school graduation
- Attend quarterly in-person agency-hosted Saturday gatherings with your Scholar and his/her family

Getting Started (45-60 days)

- Keeping kids **SAFE** and finding you the **MOST COMPATIBLE** Little is our priority. As such, getting started can involve a good bit of paperwork. We **PROMISE** once you meet your Little, it will all feel **WORTH IT**.
- To get started:
 - Select whether you are interested in being a [BIG Beyond Scholar Program](#) or a [Community-Based Program](#) mentor
 - Complete an initial inquiry form on our website (www.bbbslowcountry.org) or send an email to Toni@bbbslowcountry.org
 - Schedule a quick orientation call or Zoom to learn ALL the ins and outs and can decide if we are the right volunteer experience for you
 - Complete a full online application inclusive of a background check, references, etc.
 - Complete self-paced online pre-match training
 - Complete a scheduled 90-minute virtual interview so we get to know you well and can find you the BEST Littles/Scholar
 - Receive information about a proposed Little/Scholar and accept or decline
 - Attend your first virtual "Match Meeting" with your Little, your Little's guardian, and BBBSL staff
 - Complete a 90-minute Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion virtual training within first 60 days of being matched

City of Charleston Point of Contact

Mindy Sturm- Director

Mayor's Office for Children, Youth and Families

sturmM@charleston-sc.gov

