



Family Mentors

Mentors are an integral part of our ongoing support for our residents at Life's River. As an individual or family mentor, you will have the opportunity to connect, mentor, and walk through life with an individual or a family residing at Life's River. Along with our Executive director, case management team, support staff, and program director; family mentors come alongside to help residents through relationship building and working through goals and tasks the residents and case manager have put in place while at Life's River to transition into independent housing. Expectations of a volunteer mentor:

Mentors help by:

Praying for our individuals and families.

Build a trusting relationship with one of our individuals or families residing at Life's River as the residents work toward their goals.

Collaborate with Life's River's case management team for ongoing assessment of individual or family needs and progress including short-term and long-term goals.

Be an encourager, listening ear, and companion to your assigned individual or family while maintaining boundaries and strict confidentiality.

Be dependable and consistent in your support. Encourage, embrace, trust, and uplift.

Provide emotional support as well as practical advice and support. For example: What has the case manager talked about regarding budgeting, parenting, career choices, nutrition etc.? You will be a support to the case manager, support staff, and program director.

Be positive and supportive in conversations and feedback.

Recognize and celebrate the wins, big and small.

Expectations:

Check in with your assigned resident individual or family once a month or more as connections are strengthened.

Attend training session for family mentors. Initial training and expectations meeting and quarterly meetings in March, June, September, and December each year.

Age 25 and up. May be a single person or couple.

Commit up to 4 hours per month to support the individual or family unit. The individual and family have up to 18 months to complete the program. After leaving the house, we would ask that you continue to meet with the individual or family for 6 months after, unless circumstances dictate otherwise.

After you have successfully been with an individual or family, we require a 6-month sabbatical before re-applying to be a mentor at Life's River.

Complete the Mentor application.

Consent to a background check.

Provide personal references.

Cannot be on Sex Offender List. No active substance abuse or addiction.

What you are not to be

You are not to fix the individual or family.

You are not to be their landlord.

You are not to be their lender.