

YouthBuild USA National Mentoring Alliance: Fact Sheet

“There are a lot of young people out there that want to do the right thing, that want to learn and grow and that are truly gifted but don't always have the proper guidance or structure to do it alone. They need people who will step up to the plate and help.”
(Mentor, Project REBUILD, Inc., OH)

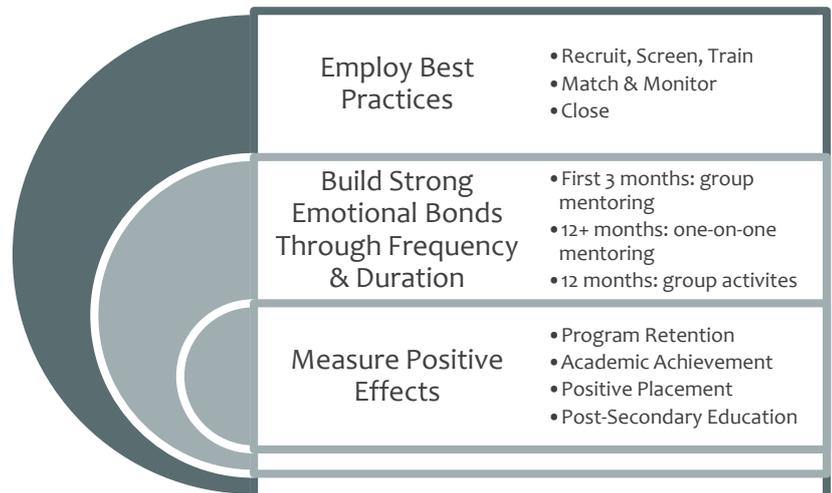
The YouthBuild USA National Mentoring Alliance (NMA) is a collaboration of over seventy YouthBuild programs across the United States and its territories committed to the belief that a caring mentor is a birthright. To date, these programs have connected thousands of supportive adult volunteers and older youth in positive mentoring relationships through an innovative approach that combines group and one-on-one mentoring. The NMA is:

- **Evidence based.** NMA programs employ an evidence based program model based on the universally trusted [Elements of Effective Practice](#).
- **Youth oriented.** Youth voice and choice are key values as students engage with the guidance of committed, caring community volunteers who take a personal stake in their lives.
- **Innovative.** NMA programs are supported by an engaged community of practice, continually raising the performance of all members through lessons learned and best practices.
- **Successful.** The NMA has over-delivered in all measurable performance areas for major funding partners.

The NMA's vision is to embed quality mentoring into the DNA of 200+ YouthBuild programs, expand resources focused on the mentoring of “opportunity youth” starting with YouthBuild, and support mentoring research that raises the level of impact across all community-building, youth-serving programs.

The Evidence-based Model

NMA programs provide a full fifteen months of mentoring to YouthBuild students by tapping into the natural community assets of the youth within a mentor rich environment. By employing group mentoring in the first three months to support one-on-one matches over the next twelve months, NMA programs are able to recruit volunteers more easily, build trust between mentors and mentees more quickly, and sustain longer and more effective mentoring relationships.



“He supports me when I am feeling down... and keeps me motivated. I do things now that I never would have done before like going to poetry events instead of getting in trouble and doing drugs with my friends. I want to make a difference now and be more politically active. I feel like I have a friend now.” – Mentee, CCEO YouthBuild, CA

Youth Oriented Impact

The positive impact of mentoring on YouthBuild students, mentors, and staff is best told in their own words. For example, Lani and Jean, the mentee-mentor pair from Santa Rosa YouthBuild (California) pictured to the right, speak in this [brief video](#) about how they met and connected, and how their mentoring experience has had a positive impact on their lives.



As an example of the significant impact that mentoring has made in NMA programs, this [case study](#) provides a close up look at the work of the River City YouthBuild-AmeriCorps Program (North Carolina): http://youthbuildmentoringalliance.org/webfm_send/727

“The impact on the youth is amazing! I can honestly say that each youth with a mentor seems to be more comfortable with themselves. More able to take risks, challenge themselves, ask questions, venture out into the world looking for jobs or heading to our local community college.” – Mentoring Coordinator, YouthBuild Santa Rosa, CA

Innovations

The NMA’s web-based [Community of Practice](#) features all of the innovations coming out of NMA programs, training, and research. Updates are made regularly to news, products, services, events, e-learning modules, discussion boards, research, and resources for YouthBuild mentors, mentees, mentoring coordinators, and other champions. Recent additions include:

- [Finding Mentors, Finding Success](#) (guidebook)
- [What’s Next: College Knowledge](#) (e-learning module)
- [Quick-Start Guide for New YouthBuild Mentoring Coordinators](#) (toolkit)

Success

The NMA was formed in 2009 with a three-year grant from the [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) (OJJDP) to provide for a dedicated Mentoring Coordinator in 40 local programs to coordinate all programmatic elements for the mentoring of 1500 YouthBuild students. With that seed grant, 58 YouthBuild programs have matched over 4,000 successful mentoring matches. As demonstrated in the table to the right (data as of September 2013), the NMA has over-delivered in all measurable areas. In 2013, the NMA received an additional round of OJJDP funding to expand and strengthen mentoring in YouthBuild programs across thirty-eight states.

Proposed	Actual
1,500 Matches	4459
250 Community Service Projects	1334
65% Program Completion Rate	82%
52% GED Attainment Rate	58%
50% Positive Placement	59%

With grateful acknowledgement for the contributions of our strategic partners:

*Bank of America Charitable Foundation * Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation * Stephen and Mary Agnes Hamilton, Cornell University * Corporation for National & Community Service * Education Northwest
John Jay College CUNY * MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership * State Street Foundation
US Department of Justice/Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention * US Department of Labor*

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