

## Mentoring Findings

### New research focused on academic gains and preventing delinquency.

Drawing on a variety of research studies discussed at the National Mentoring Summit, sample insights included:

#### ■ The importance of working together:

Given the same mentors and same kids in a program, impact was far greater when the kids designed the program!

#### ■ Balancing purpose and play: Keenly important!

#### ■ Mentor training and support matter a lot:

Well-supported mentors were much more likely to continue a second year.

#### ■ "Sage" mentors:

(i.e. those who asked questions and served as advocates, not just "friends") were the most highly valued by young people and helped achieve greater outcomes.

#### ■ Excellent mentors do what good parents do: They are supportive but also expect strong effort.

## Michelle Obama inspires at Washington Mentoring Summit



A hawk that somehow gained access to the towering 200 foot rotunda of the beautiful U.S. Library of Congress had the best view of all 500 delegates at what may have been the largest national gathering of mentoring leadership ever. Convened by MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership, and

capping the 10th annual National Mentoring Month, the research and networking-based conference, held January 25, was highlighted by First Lady Michelle Obama. She was followed by a panel of Cabinet-level panelists including Eric Holder, Secretary of the Department of Justice; Kathleen Sibelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services and Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education, who provided added insights into the impact of mentoring.

Said the First Lady: "Having a mentor is more important than ever before—because growing up is harder than ever. You've got an entire generation of young people truly in desperate need of a friend, someone they can trust, an example they can follow."

Joining the Mentoring Center Program Manager Kimeta Dover and Director Marilyn Pritchett were Advisory Board Chair Art Flesch and Randy Ware, Manager of Financial Planning and Analysis for AEP, a major supporter of the Mentoring Center.

And the hawk? He was ultimately tricked into coming down hoping to dine on two starlings brought to the Library floor. Happily, that allowed his capture and all three birds returned to the sky!

## First-ever Research Alliance to Advance Youth Mentoring



Saying that "There's no such thing as someone else's children," Chancellor J. Keith Motley of the University of Massachusetts/Boston announced a first-of-its-kind Research Alliance with MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership. The alliance will support the advancement of

youth mentoring efforts and be led by Dr. Jean Rhodes, MENTOR board member and chair of its research and policy council. Dr. Rhodes, who is a globally recognized expert on youth mentoring, will hold the endowed chair for that position.

*Continued on next page...*



Michael Karcher, Ed.D., Ph.D.  
Keynote Speaker

## Regional Mentoring Conference Comes to Columbus

The International Mentoring Association (IMA) will hold its first Midwest regional conference in Columbus, Friday, May 6, highlighted by keynoter Michael Karcher, Ed.D., Ph.D. from the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA). Karcher, who heads the Department of Counseling at UTSA, has received "glowing feedback" as an inspiring keynoter at other conferences. His research has focused on cross-age and school-based mentoring; he also co-authored the Handbook of Mentoring, considered the definitive collection of research on mentoring to date. He will use the movie *The Jungle Book* to highlight quality mentoring practices.

*Continued on next page...*

## In the News

**Center Helps Train School Mentors:**  
www.10tv.com - Female Focus page

**Workshop Held For Mentoring Program Coordinators:** www.wmfd.com - Search terms "mentoring center"

To reach our staff: 614.839.2447

Marilyn Pritchett x163 | Kimeta Dover x103 | Tessie Belue x171 | Joyce Chapman x171  
Stephanie Hughes, Training & Background Checks: MentorLine 614-233-MENT (6368)

# OSU Hub Partners Build Thoughts of College Futures



Youth from the Godman Guild TEENS program tour OSU college campus

With the number of mentors up 17% and a marvelous 425 OSU students serving as mentors, Buckeye Hub partner agencies and their mentors are helping make college or other post-secondary education an understandable idea to children who may not have

anyone in their family with this experience. touring the OSU campus, and OSU students consistently sharing about their college life." At one of the Hub sites, teens in the Godman Guild program are paired with OSU students who discuss college life and work on resumé and job building skills.

The Godman Guild teens are also having the unique experience of working with engineers and professionals from the Columbus Idea Foundry (CIF), a DIY learning center and creative space providing introductory hands-on classes in fields such as smart technology, welding, and laser cutting. The teens are also interning at CIF to learn first hand about career skills.

This ongoing access to career professionals and OSU college mentors provides mentees with a fresh outlook about their future that may include college and/or other career aspirations. Several teens that were enrolled in the TEEN program last year at Godman Guild are first generation college students now attending Central State, Shawnee, Columbus State Community College, and Northern Kentucky University.

anyone in their family with this experience.

Says Stephanie Sparrow Hughes, who works directly with Hub partner agencies and OSU student mentors in her role as Mentoring Center Manager for Operations & the Buckeye Mentoring Hub, "Training mentors to build successful sustaining relationships is crucial for long-term success." When I meet with mentors and mentees directly, I am delighted to hear success stories of mentees making gains in academics,

## Mentoring on the Move!



Two new organizations have joined the Mentoring Center's 40+ partner agencies: Faith Community—Say Y.E.S. and ROCK on the Hill:

Sue Rowe with mentee from the Y.E.S. program

**Say Y.E.S.** is a 4-day per week after-school program on Columbus' Westside serving almost 50 youth ages 6 to 11 in the Franklinton area. Led by Sue Rowe, Director, Say Y.E.S. partners with area parents and schools to equip young people to excel academically, socially, spiritually and emotionally.

**ROCK on the Hill** is an after school arts-emphasis mentoring program that includes friendship, socialization and academic help to almost 30 youth in first to fifth grades. Mentors meet with the students every week throughout the school year. Desired outcomes for the mentees include self-control, socialization, artistic expression and in-depth relationships with the Christian adults who nurture them.

**Kids Connect** of the Educational Council and the Mentoring Center were featured in an article in Business First, February 25, p. 26, highlighting the need for mentoring training. The Educational Council has 6 sites in southeastern Franklin County.

**YouthBuild Columbus** recently received notice that it will be funded by an OJJDP youth mentoring grant (awarded through YouthBuild USA) beginning in September 2011. The Mentoring Center will keep recruiting mentors and guide aspects of the mentoring program.

## Regional Mentoring Conference, cont'd from pg.1

IMA membership has strong representation from university faculties and professional coaches as well as staffs of adult-to-youth and adult-to-adult mentoring programs. Participants are expected from Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia, Tennessee, Illinois and Pennsylvania as well as Ohio.

Presentations include: Successful Handling of Race and Culture in Cross-Cultural Mentoring; Building Rapport; Mentoring: Competing for College Student Attention; Mentoring & Training; Is there a difference?; Helping New Teachers Adapt and Excel through Mentoring; Using Best Practices to Help Your Program Flourish! and Helping Mentors Go the Distance!

Presenters are from California, Georgia, Pennsylvania, New Mexico, Michigan, Ohio and Illinois.

**To Register**  
[ima-midwest.webs.com](http://ima-midwest.webs.com)  
For scholarship help  
due 4/26/11:  
Marilyn Pritchett,  
614.839.2447 x163  
mpritchett@  
mentoringcenterco.org

## Research Alliance, cont'd from pg.1

The Alliance seeks to create "an open and efficient exchange of evidence-based youth mentoring research among researchers, practitioners and policymakers, with an ultimate goal of improving the lives of the nation's underserved youth," said Dr. Rhodes. The center will both "hasten and strengthen the exchange of information in ways that ensure that ideas are properly interpreted and implemented and more youth receive the caring support of effective mentors."

### Thank you to our key supporters:



Stimulus Grant (ARRA)



With important help from:

The Robert Weiler Company, Progressive Medical, ODW Logistics, The Columbus Foundation, Women's Fund of Central Ohio, and Siemer Family Foundation



Help us increase mentoring impact!  
Visit us online to donate:

[www.mentoringcenterco.org](http://www.mentoringcenterco.org)