



WHAT IS KIDS HOPE USA?

Kids Hope USA (KHUSA) is a national organization that equips churches to serve their local public elementary schools by providing positive adults to serve as mentors. Because KHUSA mentors are trained to respect the separation of church and state, these programs are welcomed in hundreds of districts across the country.

KHUSA is a proven program that increases school engagement for selected children at no cost to the school.



THE MENTORING HOUR

Trained Kids Hope USA mentors form one-on-one relationships with students through weekly, one-hour visits at the school.

- During their hour together, the mentor and student play games, read together, and get to know each other.
- Time together is focused on supporting the students social, emotional and academic development. Mentors are not intended to be tutors.
- Building their relationship supports the student's academic growth.



THE STUDENTS

Students in a Kids Hope USA mentoring program are referred by parents, teachers, principals or school counselors who believe additional support and attention will benefit the child.

- Mentors are often considered PBIS Tier 2 support.
- Referral focus is on younger children in K-5. Early years are critical for forming values, developing self-esteem, and acquiring academic skills.
- While it's up to the school to refer children, younger children allow for the opportunity to have a longer mentoring relationship.

THE SCHOOL

Schools welcome their community partner. The school maintains minimal responsibilities in a Kids Hope USA program.

- The school offers an opportunity for the church to introduce KHUSA partnership to the school staff and teachers.
- They identify and refer students who would benefit from having a mentor. They assist in matching mentors and students.
- They secure guardian consent for the mentoring program.
- They designate an appropriate space for weekly mentoring.



THE CHURCH

The church partner manages the program responsibilities and covers all program costs.

- The church recruits and supports a staff member or volunteer to direct the program.
- The director goes through extensive training (takes on average one month to complete).
- The director recruits, screens, trains, and supports volunteer mentors.
- Once the church commits to being a KHUSA partner, it takes about three months for recruiting, screening, and training the volunteers for mentoring to begin.



INTERESTED IN A KIDS HOPE USA PROGRAM AT YOUR SCHOOL?

We would love to help you secure a church partner to serve at your school. To learn more or discuss the next step, please call 616.546.3580 or email info@kidshopeusa.org to connect with our Partnership Growth Team.

We look forward to the opportunity to serve you and your students!



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