

Dear Friends of Kids Hope USA,

The new school year is beginning, which means mentors will begin building relationships with students again this fall! We are grateful for the thousands of volunteers who make it possible for Kids Hope USA programs to thrive and for kids to experience the love and care of a mentor.

Just this week, we received a note from a former director of a Kids Hope USA program that has been running for more than 20 years. She shared with us how Kids Hope USA has been an integral part of their community over the years:



“Our Kids Hope USA mentors have attended the weddings, baby showers, and high school graduations of the students they mentored as young children. They made a commitment to them, and when those kids needed them, they were there. Our program has been running for a long time, and Kids Hope USA gave our church the vehicle to step into these children’s lives.”

Our theme this year, Thrive, highlights our pursuit of innovations, continuous improvement, and evaluation to help support kids, mentors, schools, churches, and communities in the best possible way.



Mentors and students will thrive when...

- mentors complete our updated training so they are well prepared to build strong, healthy, and positive relationships with their students.
- programs are led by passionate directors and co-directors who provide support and longevity for years to come.
- prayer partners lift up mentors and students by name, seeking God’s blessings for their friendships!
- existing programs have opportunities to expand their current reach by inviting more mentors, partnering with another school in their community, and extending their mentoring impact through NEXT middle school programs.
- the network of Kids Hope USA is expanded into new areas for more programs to start and for more mentors and students to experience the power of one-on-one relationships.

Join me in praying that when students and mentors reconnect or meet for the first time this fall, they will form a mentoring relationship based on openness, encouragement, humor, and consistency.

With your support and God’s leading, we are excited that Kids Hope USA mentoring continues to make a difference in the lives of students and mentors.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Pearson".

Karen Pearson, Ph.D.
President, Kids Hope USA

Did you know?

**Kids Hope USA mentors
and prayer partners gave**

545,000+ hours

**of volunteer service during
the 2022-23 school year.**

Celebrating Relationships

Mentor & Director Survey Results, 2022-23 School Year

35%
of mentors have
been with their
student for 2+ years

99%
of mentors found
their time valuable
with their student

10,690
lives impacted through
Kids Hope USA program
in 2022-23 school year
(includes mentors and students)

90%
of mentors were
encouraged about
their relationship
with their student

Top 5 States with Programs:
Michigan
Texas
Indiana
Illinois
Ohio



"I love the intentional focus of one child with one adult to **build relationships that can help children flourish** and shape the hearts of adults to deepen their learning and love."
- Kids Hope USA Mentor



"As a pastor, I love the opportunity to be able to enter the school and **show the staff and students that we care about them.**"
- Kids Hope USA Mentor & Pastor



"What I love most about being a Kids Hope USA director is getting a front seat to the **transformational work God is doing in our community** - in both the mentors' and students' lives."
- Kids Hope USA Director

What We're Hearing From Mentors...

STUDENT IMPACT

Three key areas mentors saw the biggest impact in their students:

1. Social-Emotional Skills
2. Confidence
3. Attitude



MENTORING HOUR

Top Activities During the Mentoring Hour:

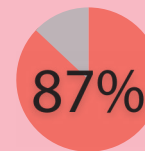
- Games
- Conversation
- Creative activities
- Reading



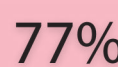
K-2nd graders more often engage in creative activities and reading.

3rd - 5th graders more often engage in conversation and character building.

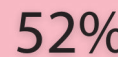
FAITH IMPACT



87% of mentors said they feel more connected to their church because of mentoring.



77% of mentors said they grew in their faith.



52% of mentors said mentoring has connected them to their local community.

YOUR GIFT MATTERS

At Kids Hope USA, we rely on the generosity of our donors and friends to support our mission and the many investments our teams make in training, equipping, and expanding a growing network of Kids Hope USA programs represented in schools and communities across the country! This is possible because of each gift, and we know that to reach our goals this school year, we'll need the continued generosity of our Kids Hope USA community. That's why we made an intentional commitment to lean into a giving philosophy that mirrors our mission: **simple, yet faithful consistency over time that has a significant, long-term impact. We call it Hope for Tomorrow.**



Monthly goal for Hope for Tomorrow giving



Hope for Tomorrow is a monthly giving community that is making one-on-one mentoring relationships a reality for both today and tomorrow. When you join this faithful group of Kids Hope USA supporters, you join a community of people who believe in building life-changing relationships one at a time and who are committed to making this mission a reality through simple and faithful generosity and prayer. Each Hope for Tomorrow donor stays regularly engaged with the impact of their giving through prayer cards sent each semester, success stories and celebrations, and personal engagement with our team to help you stay involved and connected to this important work!

We hope you'll join us in generously supporting this work. No matter the size of your gift, your gift matters and is making life-changing relationships a reality for kids who need it most.

For the kids,

Kara Nguyen

Director of Generosity and Growth

Want to give securely online?
Make your monthly gift today at
www.kidshopeusa.org/monthly-giving

