



ABCs of Student Referrals

A Kids Hope USA mentoring program is an opportunity to match mentors with students who could benefit from **additional relational support**. Use this guide to assist in the student referral process.

Academics

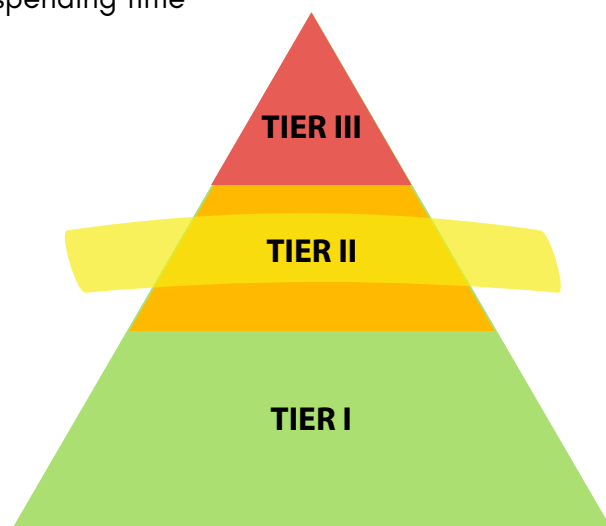
Kids Hope USA mentors are trained to build a relationship with their student. A portion of their time together may be spent learning, engaging in reading, homework problems, and completing assignments. A student's teacher may provide any specific academic support needs. As Kids Hope USA is a mentoring program and not a tutoring program, students and mentors also play games, engage in fun activities, get to know each other, and create a positive experience.

Students who engage in additional academic support services may not be an appropriate Kids Hope USA referral as they are already spending time on significant academic assistance.

Behavior

Students with moderate behavior struggles often thrive when paired with a Kids Hope USA mentor. In the one-on-one setting inherent to the mentoring relationship, these challenges are often minimized and handled appropriately by the mentor, occasionally with support from the program and school.

However, students who face severe behavior challenges may not fare as well in Kids Hope USA mentoring relationships.



Kids Hope USA mentors are considered PBIS Tier II support.

Challenges

Students who face significant challenges including trauma may not be an appropriate Kids Hope USA referral.

While these students would likely benefit from an additional relationship with a caring adult, mentors are not trained therapists nor counselors. A mentor is not a substitute for more extensive outside referrals, as they are not trained to provide professional help.

If you have a student facing significant challenges, check with your Kids Hope USA program director. Occasionally, there are mentors who already have additional training and are willing to mentor students who face greater challenges.