



WHAT IS KIDS HOPE USA?

IMAGINE YOUR CHURCH WALKING INTO YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, EACH WEEK.

Through school-based mentoring programs, Kids Hope USA connects community-focused churches with their neighborhood elementary schools. Since 1995, Kids Hope USA has equipped and mobilized mentors to go into the schools to enrich the lives of students through one-on-one relationships.



WHY MENTORING?



Research shows that a positive relationship with a caring and consistent adult can make a significant difference in a child's life.

A Kids Hope USA mentor meets with their student one hour a week to provide encouragement, support, and consistency.



"We love seeing the mentors come into our school to meet with our students. Their consistency and encouragement is transforming our students."

-Principal

Just as God shows up in the person of Jesus and loves us unconditionally, mentoring a student one-on-one allows us to share unconditional love with a child.



THE CHURCH



Churches live into their passion for missions with a Kids Hope USA program to help meet the need of a school in their community.

Volunteers—directors, mentors, and prayer partners—become active participants in serving students.

THE IMPACT

Mentoring supports students' social and emotional development. Teachers report that after spending time with their mentor, students:

- Improved in positive interactions with their peers.
- Showed progress in their academic skills.
- Improved in their behavior, self-regulation, and control.

In addition to the life change for students, mentors also report a strengthened faith and a deeper connection to their church and community.





THE MENTORING HOUR



By coming alongside parents, teachers, principals, and counselors, mentors help show kids they can reach their full potential.

- During their time together, the mentor and student build a life-changing relationship through talking, laughing, reading, and creative play.
- Meetings are held at the school, during the school day.
- Building this relationship supports the student's academic growth and social/emotional development.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES



The church manages the program responsibilities and covers all program costs. The school holds minimal responsibilities.

- **The pastor casts** vision for the church's program to the congregation, provides support and encouragement to the director, and serves as a mentor if able.
- The church appoints a **program director**. The program director can expect to spend an average of eight hours a week at the start of a new program, with less time as the program continues.
- **Volunteer mentors** from the church are recruited, screened, and trained prior to starting mentoring. They complete a brief progress report after each session.
- **The church pays** an annual partnership fee and a one-time implementation fee to cover training and program launch. The church also provides liability coverage for the program participants.



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“Kids Hope USA helped our church keep the vision of connecting with our community in front of the church. This reminds us that we also have that ministry to those outside our church.”

-Pastor

START A KIDS HOPE USA PROGRAM AT YOUR CHURCH

Join the movement of building life-changing relationships, one student at a time. To learn more about how your church can get involved, please connect with our Partnership Growth Team by emailing partnerships@kidshopeusa.org or calling (616) 546-3580.



[KIDSHOPEUSA.ORG/
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