

## Some information about the EYMP and how it works:

- The EYMP is a community-based one-to-one mentoring program designed to match volunteer mentors with mentees ages 8-21 who are located in Kitsap County.
- Mentees are matched with trained mentors based on common interests and location, for a minimum of one year.
- Mentors and mentees choose the activities they both want to do based on their mutual interests and meet on their own schedules.
- They are encouraged to meet weekly, for at least an hour, with a minimum of four hours per month. However, when they are unable to meet, they are encouraged to still connect in some manner, such as text messaging.
- It is also possible for a mentor/mentee to only sign up for virtual mentoring or a combination of in-person and virtual mentoring.
- Besides the initial mentor training offered to all of EYMP's mentors, additional training on various subjects relating to mentoring youth is offered on a regular basis. Since, many of the mentees with EYMP have experienced sexual/physical violence, the mentors are trained to be trauma responsive.
- When considering a mentee to refer, it important to remember that a majority of the mentors are not mental health workers, so youth who have severe mental health disorders most likely won't be a good fit.
- On the flipside, some youth may appear to be doing fine and have you thinking that they don't "need" a mentor. Think about referring them anyway. You never really know their circumstances.
- There will be times when a mentor is available to be matched and Robin Carson, the Program Director of the EYMP, will put the word out, looking for the right match. There will be times when you have youth in mind to refer and are more than welcome to send a referral form to Robin. Matches can happen rather fast, or they can take months. It is important that the right mentor is found for the mentee referred.
- To refer a youth, please fill out the EYMP Referral Form. It is okay if you do not have all the information. Do the best you can and the rest can be done in time.
- If you would like more information, have any questions, have referrals for mentees or you or someone else may be interested in becoming a mentor with the EYMP, contact:

Robin Carson- **EYMP Program Director**

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**Visit our website:** [www.kcr.org/eymp](http://www.kcr.org/eymp)

**There is no cost for the child to be matched with a mentor and in most cases, the mentor provides transportation, unless otherwise arranged.**