



The Skillman Foundation Presents

YAKTIVITIES FOR HELPING KIDS

VIP Mentoring

VIP Mentoring has been instrumental in breaking the cycle of truancy, dependency, abuse and incarceration for at-risk children and adults for more than 35 years.

In fact, the program has been so successful it has since inspired thousands of similar programs in cities and towns across the United States and Canada.

The mission of VIP Mentoring — whose name stands for Volunteers in Prevention, Probation & Prisons, Inc. — is to create sustainable, meaningful mentoring relationships for children whose difficult circumstances seriously compromise their opportunities to succeed.

The program serves children throughout the tri-county area, with special emphasis on the City of Detroit.

Mentoring relationships are created early in each child's life and are supported long-term in order to prevent and curb behaviors that could lead to the child's involvement with the judicial system.

Today, VIP Mentoring continues to be composed of an efficient, results-driven team of professionals dedicated to matching at-risk youths, 7 to 14 years of age, with responsible, caring adult mentors.

Actively attracting, screening and training potential mentors is just the beginning of what the program does. It carefully matches each mentor with a child for a minimum of one year. And it provides intensive supervision and support for each mentor/mentee pair to help ensure positive, meaningful, lasting relationships.

Why become a mentor?

In every child's life there are moments that require the wisdom, understanding and guidance of an adult figure — moments of growth, times of transition, periods of uncertainty.

In as little as two hours per week, a mentor can alter the path of a child who may desperately need attention and direction.

Best of all, it really isn't that hard. Just show up. Take an interest. And be there to provide the stable, positive influence the child needs.

Just be a friend — a person with whom the children can share their successes, their failures, their hopes and their dreams.

In the end, you'll learn as much as you teach and receive far more than you'll ever give.

www.vipmentoring.org



VIP Mentoring Training Dates:

- Saturday, October 4, 2008 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, October 14, 2008. 11 a.m.
- Thursday, October 30, 2008. 6 p.m.

Location: VIP Mentoring, 28 W. Adams, Suite 1310, Detroit 48226

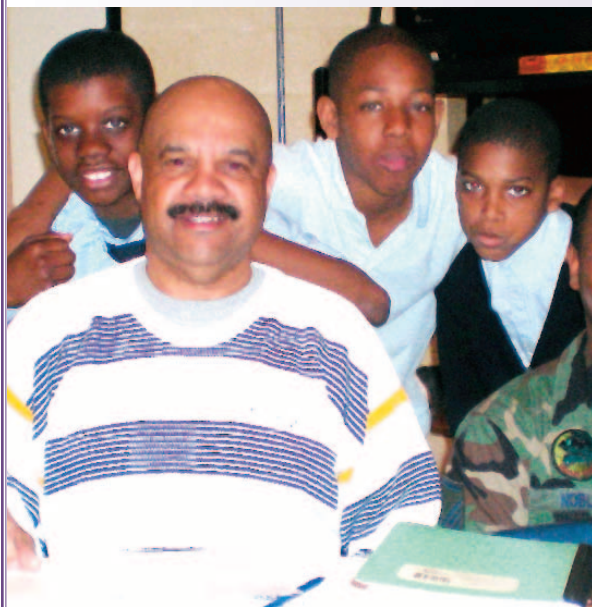
Host/Instructor: Jackie McNaughton

Call: Winnifred Thornton-Nelson at 313-964-1110 for more information

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Opportunities & Activities

VIP Mentoring has a host of events and activities year-round to get everyone connected with community-based mentoring. Get involved! Take a strong interest in becoming a stable and positive influence in a young person's life.



THINK ABOUT MENTORING

Mentors share their skills, experience and time to help others learn and gain confidence. Mentors show children, teens or young adults ways to be successful and ways to avoid trouble. They provide support during times of growth, challenge, transition or uncertainty. Everyone can benefit from mentors who have experience and skills to share. With family or friends, talk about something you would like to do, or something you would like to do better. Then make a list of different kinds of people who could help you by being a mentor. Finish by brainstorming ways you could mentor someone younger than you by sharing your skills and experience.