

Oasis MENTORING*

A LIFELINE FROM THE HEART



It is often said that it takes a whole community to raise a child, and it is with this age-old wisdom that Children, Youth & Family Services offers the Oasis Mentoring Program.

WHAT IS Oasis?

The Oasis Mentoring Program matches safe adults as mentors to school-aged youth who are engaging in risky behaviors and who may have experienced abuse and neglect. Many of the youth who benefit from Oasis are at risk of

being placed in foster care or in a group residential facility. The one-year commitment made by Oasis volunteers provides one-on-one mentoring once a week for 1-3 hours. Mentors help these children and adolescents rise above negativity.

*Member Larimer County Mentoring Coalition



PROGRAM GOALS:

The involvement of community volunteers as Oasis Mentors support the following goals:

- To promote positive youth development among school-aged clients ages 8-18
- To enhance family/peer relationships
- To increase confidence
- To encourage making healthy decisions
- To promote positive self-esteem
- To prevent drug and alcohol use
- To improve academic outcomes
- To enable clients to successfully remain at home

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Oasis Mentoring Program provides opportunities to share community members' unique skills and knowledge with a child age 8-18 who shares similar interests. By matching the abilities and expertise of the mentors with program participants, a bond of mutual respect and trust is formed that is beneficial to the child and fulfilling to the mentor. By serving consistently as a positive role model children receive encouragement to thrive and make healthy choices.



WHAT NEEDS DOES Oasis SERVE?

While the specific needs of our clients vary widely based on the individual, their life circumstances and family situation, the Oasis Mentoring Program helps fulfill an overwhelming need for positive adult role models. Many of the school-aged clients we serve have been without a positive adult in their lives, and the committed efforts of Oasis volunteers provides an all-important positive influence that contributes greatly to our clients' development. They learn important social skills and grow into contributing members of our community.

"Bob is my mentor, he is really a good person and he cares about me. He even takes me with him to the college library. I feel safe with him."

—Jeremy, Oasis Mentee, age 13

GET INVOLVED:

You don't need special skills to volunteer as a mentor. Be a caring adult willing to listen, share experience and offer encouragement. When you volunteer, you're not on your own. You'll have the training and support of the Children, Youth & Family Services Division to assist you.

To learn more about Oasis mentoring opportunities, please contact:

The Volunteer Coordinator
Department of Human Services
Children, Youth & Family Division
(970) 980-2239 or volunteer4dhs@larimer.org

WWW.LARIMER.ORG/DHS/VOLUNTEER

