

Neighborhood House Mentoring Programs

Our overall purpose is to assist young people in reaching their full potential through one-to-one relationships with positive role models. To this end, we offer two different mentoring program options:

The North x Southwest Mentoring Project is a community-based mentoring program serving young people ages 7 through 14 who attend selected schools in SW and N Portland. Youth are individually matched with carefully screened adult volunteers, usually of the same gender. Volunteer mentors get together with their matched young person for two to three hours each week and for a minimum of one year. The volunteer shares low or no cost activities with the youth while offering friendship, support and guidance. The program coordinator supervises and supports each mentoring relationship, maintaining regular contact with the mentor and the youth's family.

Lunch Buddies matches elementary aged students, one-to-one, with caring volunteers (16 years of age and older) for weekly visits during the child's lunch and recess period at school. The volunteer talks, listens and shares activities with the student on the playground, in the library or in a designated classroom. The goal is to provide friendship, support and encouragement toward enhancing the child's self-esteem, social skills and overall school performance. Participating schools are located in Southwest and North Portland neighborhoods.

For more information about these programs, or to receive an application packet, please contact John Grueschow, Mentoring & SUN CS Specialist at 503-869-8623 or jgrueschow@nhweb.org.