

STUDENT AND MENTOR TESTIMONIALS

"I want to make a difference in that child's life. I hope that the child will open up to me and consider me not a mentor/teenager, but a friend. I hope to boost that child's self-esteem and give them a memorable experience they can remember for the rest of their lives".

Kim Edwards—mentor

"Mentoring is more interesting than most volunteer jobs. Interacting and having an affect on a younger person does a lot for you and lets you know that you have helped someone else. Basically, I just want to know that I've had a role in helping someone".

Alex Rohvarger—mentor

"I like the program just the way it is, because I learned a lot of things. In fact this program helps me improve in school and I love the program".

Marian—student



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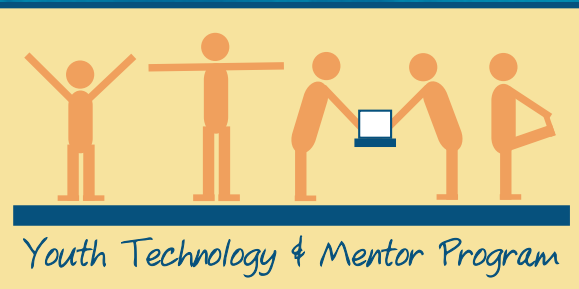
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THE PROGRAM

The Youth Technology and Mentor Program offers computer training with the assistance of individual mentors to children from disadvantaged families.

Eighty grade 6, 7 and 8 students participate in a 15-week two-hour after-school workshop which provides them with:

- Instruction by computer professionals;
- The opportunity to open a computer and learn how to replace parts such as video cards, RAM and microprocessors;
- Training in the installation, configuration and removal of an operating system;
- Internet research skills and training in software programs including Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Publisher and FrontPage;
- Individual mentoring by volunteer high school students who participate in mentor training workshops;
- Free door-to-door transportation;
- A dinner meal; and
- A free computer and software for home use upon completion of the program.

GOALS OF THE YOUTH TECHNOLOGY AND MENTOR PROGRAM

Student Focus

- Computer Literacy
- Access to Activities
- Improved Self-Confidence
- Improved Academic Performance

Mentor Focus

- Leadership development
- Community Involvement
- Improved Self-Awareness



Graduation Class

WHY WE NEED THIS PROGRAM

Thirty percent of Toronto's children under twelve live in poverty. The Toronto Report Card on Children has acknowledged that when family lifestyle declines so can the academic performance of children.

Computers are a universal tool that ignite passion for learning in all children, whether they have dominant analytic or creative skills.



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"The time that I spent getting to know my mentee provided me with the opportunity to not only grow and learn as a person, but help someone else to do the same".

"45 hours of involvement and I was a changed person, having made great new friends, both mentors and mentees, talked about different social issues that before never really crossed my mind, and best of all I create a bond with a younger person.

I am a stronger person for this experience and hopefully so is she".

Hailie—mentor

