

Press On Mentor



Program Description

Informed by consistent themes found in current research and best practices for youth development, Press On is a holistic, multifaceted strategy designed to align with families and the community to increase students' capacity to thrive. Throughout the school year, students participate in a mentoring relationship, a community of peers with a purpose, academic enrichment, Bible study and play. In addition, Press On will create a culture of belonging and provide financial, emotional, occupational or other support for students and families according to their unique needs.

Press On will help to create an asset-rich community where students and families can thrive, we will encourage and equip parents to deal with the challenges and joys they will face, and we will create a pay-it-forward culture of community in North Idaho.

Position Description

Press On Mentors are one very important piece of a complex puzzle. They will commit to engage with students for the duration of the school year and will be encouraged, but not required, to maintain contact throughout the summer months. Ideally, mentors would maintain the match until the student graduates into high school. Mentors should expect to invest approximately four hours per month and connect at least every other week. This includes taking advantage of the many opportunities to play at the Kroc Center at least once per month.

Mentors will be equipped through high quality mentor training, ongoing support from Kroc staff and a variety of resources to ensure a positive mentoring experience. Kroc staff will be in regular communication with Mentors about the match, the development of the relationship, logistical questions or concerns, and any red flags they may have with regards to the student or student's family.

Qualifications

Press On Mentors:

1. Demonstrate a life in line with the Christian faith;
2. Are willing to actively support the mission of The Salvation Army Kroc Center;
3. Have an interest in engaging middle school students – getting to know them, listening to them, learning from them and challenging them. Press On will equip mentors with strategies on how to engage middle school students;
4. Are willing to invest their time and energy into helping students be successful;
5. Demonstrate discernment with regards to opportunities for evangelism and discipleship;
6. Are dependable, at least 18 years of age and out of high school;
7. Relate to youth and adults with sensitivity and compassion for unique needs and situations;
8. Have a desire to see our community transformed with a culture of encouragement, responsibility and participation.

Requirements

1. Complete The Salvation Army Volunteer Application specific to Press On Mentors including consent for a background check and reference checks.
2. Complete all aspects of initial mentor screening and training including an interview, two short online trainings and a mentor orientation.
3. Participate in the Press On kickoff and end of the year celebrations
4. Meet with student for at least four hours per month for the duration of the school year.
5. Briefly document each meeting and any notes with Kroc staff.
6. Communicate with Kroc staff by phone, email or in person at least once per month.
7. Participate in a critical assessment about Press On at the end of the year.