



The City-Wide Mentoring & Tutoring Campaign

A project to get a mentor or tutor for every DC kid who needs extra support,
and

To show ourselves and the world that we really CAN work together for the long-term with love & wisdom to make a resilient & caring community, and a better world for all.



A joint project of DC Tutoring & Mentoring Initiative (DCTMI), MENTOR Maryland | DC, DC Action, CityTutor DC ... & many more!

We must work with passion and determination to bridge the gulf between our scientific and technological progress, on the one hand, and our moral and spiritual progress on the other. If we do not learn to live and work together as brothers and sisters, we will perish together as fools.
- Martin Luther King (lightly edited)

The Need

- ◇ Two out of 3 DC students are reading below grade level — more than 60,000 kids. Even more need help with math, or just need an extra caring adult in their lives
- ◇ At least half of students in most DCPS high schools aren't even "near proficient" in their English and math skills
- ◇ Nearly 1 in 5 students are absent at least a day a week (on average)
- ◇ Nearly 900 students drop out each year, or 10,000+ dropouts between age 18 & 30.

Join a Working Group

- ◇ Employers
- ◇ Universities
- ◇ East of the River
- ◇ Faith Community
- ◇ **Your** neighborhood or group? *We'll work with you to help you create your own*

A Comprehensive & Holistic Path Forward: Guiding Principles & Action

- ◇ **Now is the time!** To paraphrase Winston Churchill, "Never let a good crisis -- or a tumultuous year of change -- go to waste."
- ◇ **The education potential:** If 1 out of 10 employees or residents in DC helped out 2 hours a week, every DCPS or charter school student who needs extra help could receive it! (In early 2024, there were 765,000 jobs in DC and 60,000+ kids were reading below grade level.)
- ◇ **Take the Long View:** If we treat other people—our own kids, other kids, adults—as basically good people who want to do the right thing, help others, and be capable contributing members of their community who can learn and grow as human beings, **THEN** over the long term (but not necessarily the short term), almost all people will actually become more capable, kinder, more "prosocial" members of their community. It's what good parents understand. It's the well-researched orientation of good teachers who "set high expectations" for their students.
- ◇ By taking on our tough civic challenges, **we grow as leaders and as human beings.** Tired of being just a "cog in the wheel" at work? We have the opportunity to use our heads, hearts and hands together; to bring out our creativity and intuition; and to act from our deepest values in our volunteer work. This project is not only about helping kids but about developing **our** potential as adults, too. Help as a tutor or mentor, or help us engage others to build a real movement of people working together with a shared vision of what our community can become.
- ◇ It will take a **comprehensive "ecosystem"** of neighborhood teams, employers, retirees, college students, teachers, nonprofit after-school, tutoring, and mentoring organizations and schools. Together, we can help kids academically and connect them with the outdoors, the arts, community service, and civic engagement.

The Partners

DC Tutoring & Mentoring Initiative (DCTMI) recruited 6,000+ volunteers for its 50+ partner organizations & schools to build a civic culture where we all take more responsibility for one another & our community.

MENTOR Maryland | DC's mission is to fuel the quality and quantity of mentoring relationships for Maryland and DC's young people and to close the mentoring gap.

DC Action uses research, data, collaborative advocacy, and a racial equity lens to break down barriers that stand in the way of all kids reaching their full potential.

CityTutor DC funds & supports high-impact tutoring & strategic staffing models to serve thousands of students, and is DC's trusted partner in citywide initiatives related to tutoring, talent, and truancy reduction.

Get involved or learn more...

- ◇ Join or start a Working Group
- ◇ Sign up to tutor or mentor
- ◇ Connect us with your employers, congregations, or groups
- ◇ Learn more: Set up a time to chat, email or text us. *Let's talk!*
- ◇ **leadership@dcTutorMentor.org** or **202-688-1261** (text or call).