

Bulletin Update - Florida Mentoring

December 16, 2005

Season's Readings! Book Drive

Once again the Volunteer Florida Foundation is joining Verizon Wireless, Scholastic and the National Center for Family Literacy in gathering books as gifts for children. Make your donations between now and January 13, 2006. Florida's State Agency Mentoring Coordinators are facilitating the annual book drive by using their offices as collection sites throughout Florida. For a list of the sites, visit: <http://www.volunteerfloridafoundation.org>.

Focus on Achievement Programs

The Florida Mentoring Partnership, in keeping with the state's pledge to America's Promise, to help students excel in school and life by recruiting Floridians to become mentors is leading a new initiative called "Focus on Achievement." There are two programs under this umbrella initiative - Elementary Focus on Achievement and President's Focus on Achievement.

The Elementary Focus on Achievement program is specifically targeting elementary schools around the state. The Florida Mentoring Partnership is working with key municipal and county leadership, along with respective school districts, to increase mentors at these schools. This program has already kicked off with a press conference at in Miami-Dade County with Mayor Manny Diaz and in Orange County with Mayors Crotty and Dyer. More kick-offs are being planned during National Mentoring Month in January.

The President's Focus on Achievement program will target underserved middle school students with specific mentoring curriculum which will provide encouragement and engage excitement about the opportunities of achieving a higher education. This program was created in partnership with Florida Campus Compact, alongside the state's institutions of higher learning. The President's Focus on Achievement will roll out at a press conference led by Governor Jeb Bush in January. For more information on this Initiative, please contact Kay Kammel, Volunteer Florida Foundation, kay.kammel@vffund.org.

Funding Opportunities

Second Notice: The Volunteer Florida Foundation, through their partnership with Grant Station, now offers a complimentary weekly e-mail service that will notify your organization of potential funding opportunities. To register, e-mail Tracey Van Hook at tracey@volunteerflorida.org.

National Mentoring Month in January 2006

On January 10, 2006, Governor Jeb Bush will host the second annual Florida Mentoring Partnership Celebration at the Governor's Mansion in Tallahassee. This event will celebrate the milestones of the Florida Mentoring Partnership (formerly the Governor's Mentoring Initiative) by gathering together over 300 leaders and supporters of mentoring programs statewide. An integral part of this celebration will be to award the Governor's Mentoring Awards of Excellence, which recognize six outstanding mentors in Florida. The Florida Mentoring Partnership is managed by the Volunteer Florida Foundation.

Please forgive any cross-posting and advise us at flamentoring@aol.com if you would like names added or deleted from the Bulletin Update - Florida Mentoring. For prior issues, please visit the Florida Mentoring Partnership, under Bulletin Updates at: <http://www.flamentoring.org>.

Be a Mentor!

Florida Mentoring Partnership - Volunteer Florida Foundation
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