

## Bulletin Update - Florida Mentoring

September 11, 2005

### Florida State Agency Employees Serve as Mentors

State agencies are once again actively engaging their employees as mentors throughout Florida. During July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005, the following state agencies had 10% or more of their employees serve as mentors:

- Department of Elder Affairs
- State Board of Administration
- Agency for Workforce Innovation
- Executive Office of the Governor
- Agency for Health Care Administration
- Florida Lottery
- Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

For more information on state agency mentoring, visit [http://www.flamentoring.org/state\\_agency\\_mentoring.php](http://www.flamentoring.org/state_agency_mentoring.php)

### Department of Education Establishes New Hotline

Florida Department of Education Commissioner John L. Winn has announced a toll-free, telephone number established to provide information on elementary through university education opportunities available to long-term evacuees temporarily residing in Florida following Hurricane Katrina. The 1-877-FLCARE1 (1-877-352-2731) hotline is intended for students and families seeking information on access to Florida public schools, community colleges, career preparation programs, and public or private colleges and universities. It will become active at 8 a.m. (EDT) tomorrow. Callers will be directed to resources to assist them with enrolling themselves or their children in K – 12 public schools and institutions of higher learning. The dedicated e-mail address is [Florida.CARES@fldoe.org](mailto:Florida.CARES@fldoe.org).

### Gilchrist County Mentor Receives Point of Light Award

Governor Jeb Bush has recognized Dana Jones, Bell, Florida, as a Point of Light Recipient. A guidance counselor at Bell High School, Dana Jones has a record of helping students in need through mentoring and community service. She reached out to a terminally ill student at Bell High School whose goal was to pass the FCAT and graduate high school before her battle with brain cancer ended her short life. With Jones' help as a mentor, the student achieved her goal of passing the FCAT and fulfilling her requirements to graduate. Additionally, Mrs. Jones is credited with organizing community events to honor graduates of Bell High School that have overcome adversity in their own homes in addition the classroom.

### Teen Trendsetters Reading Mentors (TTRM) - Update

Each TTRM establishes a club of mentors at their high school who serve as reading mentors each week with third grade students. A 30-second PSA recruitment tool has been developed to help them inspire their peers to become involved as mentors. The Teen Trendsetters™ Reading Mentors Program is a partnership between the Florida Mentoring Partnership, a program of the Volunteer Florida Foundation, and Florida Trend's NEXT magazine. The annual Teen Trendsetters summit is funded by private donors committed to mentoring. The 2005 Teen Trendsetters Summit sponsors include AAA Auto Club South, premier sponsor; the Florida Lottery, platinum sponsor; gold sponsors - Cingular, Comcast and Universal Orlando; and silver sponsors - Golin Harris, Cooper DDB, Wyndham Orlando Resort and Scholastic. The Teen Trendsetter program is operated in cooperation with the Florida Department of Education's Just Read, Florida! For more information, visit <http://www.flamentoring.org>.

Please forgive any cross-posting and advise us at [flamentoring@aol.com](mailto: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

Toll-Free: (800) 825-3786; <http://www.flamentoring.org>

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