Problems Faced by Youth: Young People in Mentoring Are at Risk

- Negative Feelings About Self: 55%
- Poor Family Relationship: 49%
- Poor Grades: 42%
- Hang Out with Wrong Crowd: 41%
- Trouble at School: 36%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Most Young People in Mentoring Relationships Are at Risk for One or More Problems

- No Problems: 20%
- Some Problems (1-5): 57%
- Many Problems (5 or More): 23%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Youth in Mentoring: Family Income
Nearly Half Live in Low-Income Families

- Comfortable: 46%
- Struggling Financially: 38%
- Financially Desperate: 7%
- Don't Know: 1%
- Well-Off: 8%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Youth in Mentoring: Family Structure
Barely Half Live in Two-Parent Families

- **Live in Two-Parent Family**: 56%
- **Live with Single Parent**: 30%
- **Live with Someone Other than Parent**: 11%
- **Other**: 3%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Mentoring Impact on Youth Problems
Mentors Believe They Made a Difference

Percent of mentors who believe they "helped a lot" with the youth problem

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Mentors View Mentoring as a Positive Experience

- Positive Experience: 97% Very Positive, 24% Somewhat Positive
- Likely to Mentor Again: 84% Very Positive, 30% Somewhat Positive
- Likely to Recommend to a Friend: 91% Very Positive, 32% Somewhat Positive

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Adults Are Motivated to Mentor Because They Believe the Young Person Needs Help

![Bar Chart]

**Reasons Adults Mentor**

- **Young Person Needed Help**: 43%
- **Do Good for Others**: 27%
- **Want to Work with Young People**: 17%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Prevalence of Mentoring in the Population
Nearly One of Three Adults Has Mentored

- Have Mentored: 31%
- Previously Mentored: 17%
- Current Mentors: 14%
- Never Mentored: 69%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Adult Volunteer Activities with Youth: Mentoring Is a Prevalent Activity

Percent of adults who have ever participated in activity

- Sunday School/Other Religious Activity: 47%
- Girl/Boy Scouts: 38%
- Little League/Sports Team: 37%
- Mentoring: 31%
- Community Recreation Program: 26%
- Academic Tutoring: 21%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Adults Who Mentor Are Likely to Be Involved in Volunteer Activities with Children

- **Sunday School/Other Religious Activities**: 61% Mentor, 42% Never Mentored
- **Little League/Team Sports**: 50% Mentor, 32% Never Mentored
- **Girl/Boy Scouts**: 48% Mentor, 33% Never Mentored
- **Academic Tutoring Programs**: 39% Mentor, 15% Never Mentored

Source: *The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People*
Who Is Likely to Mentor?

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Longer Relationships Are More Likely to Help with or Prevent Problems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YOUTH PROBLEMS</th>
<th>Two or More Years</th>
<th>Up to Two Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Negative Feelings About Self</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hang Out with Wrong Crowd</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble Out of School</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking and Drugs</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Family Relationships</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Mentors Participate in a Variety of Activities with Youths They Mentor

- Teach Social Skills: 83%
- Stand up for Youth When in Trouble: 75%
- Provide Social, Cultural Experiences: 71%
- Expose to Own Work: 68%
- Career Introductions: 62%
- Teach Job-Related or Work Skills: 54%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Mentoring Relationships Work Best with a Wide Variety of Activities

PERCENT WHO HELPED WITH OR PREVENTED ALL IDENTIFIED PROBLEMS

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Informal Mentoring Relationships Are Most Prevalent

Informal Mentor 83%

Formal Mentor 17%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People
Mentors’ Views of Skills and Personality Traits of a Good Mentor

- Understanding & Patience: 22%
- Good Listener and Available to Mentee: 22%
- Caring and Kind Person: 14%
- Well-Educated, Accomplished, Employed: 13%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People

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Both Mentors and Mentees Are Committed to the Relationship

- Mentor Hardly Ever or Never Cancels: 77%
- Mentee Hardly Ever or Never Cancels: 73%
- Spend at Least 11 Hours per Month Together: 48%

Source: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Adults Mentoring Young People