



Kansas Mentors Connection  
November 2009

*As we begin to reflect on those individuals in our lives that we are most thankful for, we at Kansas Mentors want to share our sincere gratitude for the work that each of you do for the state's mentoring efforts. Even though budgets are limited and staff are spread thin, you are waking up each day and choosing to help make a difference in the lives of young Kansans. What powerful work and a reason to celebrate during this festive time of year!*

#### **COACHES' CHALLENGE 2009:**

##### **Watch for the announcement of the winning state this Saturday!**

The winner of the 2009 Coaches' Challenge will be announced this Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at the K-State/Nebraska football game in Lincoln, NE. Tune into the game, which will be aired nationally on ESPN beginning at 6:45 PM central time, as last year's TV crew aired footage of the on-the-field presentation that announced Kansas as the winning state. We are hoping they will feature the presentation again this year.

At the end of October, the score stands at Kansas: 3,785 new mentors, Nebraska: 943 new mentors. The final score will be revealed during the presentation on Saturday and a press release will also go out on Monday. Look for email from us with a localized version of the press release that you can customize with your program's information and send out to your local media outlets for additional follow up. THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this year's challenge!

#### **NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

January is National Mentoring Month and January 21, 2010 is Thank Your Mentor Day – don't forget to mark your calendars. In the next few weeks a resource page will go live on the Kansas Mentors website where programs can locate all things related to National Mentoring Month. In addition, Kansas Mentors will be receiving a supply of posters and bookmarks from the National Mentoring Month steering committee with this year's theme: "Expand your universe. Mentor a child." Look for communications over the next few weeks to announce the availability of these items, launch of the resource page and a detailed list of Kansas Mentors' statewide efforts. Feel free to check out the National Mentoring Month website at:

<http://www.nationalmentoringmonth.org>

#### **PUBLICIZE YOUR MENTORING EVENTS... FOR FREE!**

##### **New Feature to be Added on [www.kansasmentors.org](http://www.kansasmentors.org)**

In late November, Kansas Mentors will be adding a new feature to our website – a calendar highlighting upcoming events. We would LOVE to help you publicize your local mentoring events – please include the who, what, when, where and why in an email to [mentor@kdheks.gov](mailto:mentor@kdheks.gov) and we will get them added as soon as it goes live!

**LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH:**

**Kansas Youth Leadership Forum Seeking Delegates & Volunteers**

The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities (KSYLF) is currently searching for motivated young leaders to attend the tenth annual forum held June 8-12, 2010 at Washburn University in Topeka. KSYLF is also searching for adults to serve as volunteers for the week of KSYLF. Students must reside in KS, have a disability as defined with the Americans with Disabilities Act, be in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade as of 12/30/2009 and have demonstrated leadership potential in school and the community. Youth applications must be submitted by December 15, 2009. Volunteer applications must be submitted by February 5, 2010. For more information visit:

<http://www.kyea.org/content/view/35/57/>

To obtain an application contact: Carrie at [carrieg@kyea.org](mailto:carrieg@kyea.org) or 866-577-5932.

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*Be a Role Model. Be a Mentor. [www.kansasmentors.org](http://www.kansasmentors.org)*

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