

Oasis Grand Champions

Information for Caregivers

Thank you for allowing the child in your care to work with an Oasis Grand Champion. According to the National Mentoring Resource Center, **program-based mentoring for children in foster care** (across a range of ages and mentoring formats) **can have positive impacts on mental health, educational functioning and attainment, peer relationships, placement outcomes, and life satisfaction**. The Oasis Grand Champions program will help to meet the needs of children currently residing in foster care.

Grand Champions volunteers are fueled to work with children who need it the most. The purpose of Oasis Grand Champions is to enrich the lives of older adults and children in foster care by creating a meaningful relationship in which the child feels seen, safe, and experiences positive affect from a new relationship with a consistent, thoughtful, and responsible adult presence in their lives. Creating an opportunity for the child to build necessary life skills in a safe, non-judgmental environment.

What You Can Expect

Session Planning

Oasis Grand Champions are trained to work with adolescents on life skills from organizational skills to self-regulation and conflict management. Volunteers are given a toolkit with workbooks and other items aimed to breed connection and support.

Session Location and Time

Grand Champions are expected to work with the foster family or caregiver to decide where and when the mentoring sessions will take place. Volunteers are also trained to be flexible given the schedules of the population they serve. If a need to change arises or if the volunteer is unable to make the scheduled session because of travel or illness, they are trained to communicate with the family about the change so that the child does not feel abandoned.

Care, Consistency, and Communication

Oasis will provide initial and ongoing training to mentors. These trainings will include information on how to run your mentoring sessions, cultural sensitivity, trauma-informed instruction, and social and emotional learning. We equip Grand Champions with every tool we can for them to be successful.

Additional Information

Mentoring Relationships Take Time

Oasis Grand Champions commit to mentor one child, once a week for one full year. We realize that mentoring relationships take time to build and volunteers are trained to build the child's trust first in order to set future sessions up for success. This approach helps make it easier for the mentor to introduce the curriculum provided.

Oasis Grand Champions are Here to Help

Should you have any questions or concerns, you can contact Oasis's Chief Purpose Officer, Stephanie McCreary at (314) 687-1122 or at smccreary@oasisnet.org.



About Oasis

Founded in 1982, Oasis is a non-profit educational organization active in over 250 communities and reaches thousands of individuals annually. Our mission is to promote healthy aging through lifelong learning, active lifestyles, and volunteer engagement.

For more information about the Grand Champions program or Oasis, please contact our Oasis Chief Purpose Officer Stephanie McCreary. You can also visit our website at stloasis.org.

(314) 862-2933 ext 239
smccreary@oasisnet.org

oasisnet.org/tutoring

