VOLUNTEER MENTOR POSITION DESCRIPTION

*Refugee Youth Project’s College JUMP (Journey Upward Mentoring Program) seeks to empower high school refugee and asylee students in Maryland  to acquire the knowledge, skills, and mindset to gain admission and feel prepared for success in postsecondary institutions.*

**ROLE OF THE VOLUNTEER MENTOR**

* Meet weekly with an 11th or 12th grade refugee or asylee student to serve as his or her mentor
* Assist the student in developing a college wish list and exploring higher education options
* Assist the student in career exploration and strengths identification
* Assist the student in completing the various stages of the college application process (essay, requesting letters of recommendation, scholarship applications, etc.)
* Assist the student in preparing to attend college, both physically and mentally
* Attend trainings to provide up-to-date information to the student
* Utilize personal experience as a college student to give the student an accurate depiction of college life and help the student make informed decisions
* Provide consistent support and encouragement to the student
* Attend monthly group events with the student to expose him or her to various aspects of college life

**TIME COMMITMENT**

* Approx. 2 hours each week with mentee (plus travel time)
* Group events once a month for about 3 hours
* 2 reflection sessions each semester (1 hour each)
* Training sessions/check-ins as needed (includes 6 hours of pre-service training and a 30-minute check-in at the end of each semester)

**ELIGIBILITY**

The Volunteer Mentor must:

* Be at least in his or her second year of college
* Be willing to agree to at least a one-year commitment to the program (September-May)
* If a UMBC student, be willing to enroll in the Shriver Center’s Service Learning Practicum (PRAC 096)
* Be willing to adhere to all policies and procedures of the program
* Commit to meeting with the mentee once a week for approx. 2 hours
* Commit to attending all monthly activities with mentee
* Attend mentor trainings as required
* Have reliable transportation and be willing to travel to and from the student’s area of residence weekly
* Be willing to communicate regularly with the College JUMP Coordinator and submit weekly journals
* Have a clean criminal history
* Not be a user of illicit drugs
* Not use alcohol or other controlled substances in an excessive or inappropriate manner
* Complete an application process including completing a written application, providing three personal references, and participating in a personal interview
* Once accepted, undergo a criminal background at a low personal cost (being matched with a student is contingent on this)

**BENEFITS**

* Personal fulfillment through contribution to the community and an individual
* Satisfaction in empowering a young person to mature, progress, and achieve academic and personal goals
* Training sessions and group activities
* Personal ongoing support and supervision to help the match succeed
* Mentor group support and reflection

**TO APPLY CONTACT:**

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College JUMP Coordinator

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