



## **New Mentor Application Packet Mentor Me Petaluma**

Dear Friend:

**We are delighted that you are considering becoming a mentor!** Our mission is to match every Petaluma child who needs a mentor with a caring adult role model and friend. Your decision to mentor will help us reach our goal. Mentoring is not therapy or tutoring. Mentors provide a listening ear and non-judgmental guidance. They act as good role models for their mentees, helping them learn to set healthy boundaries and become happy, resilient people.

**New mentor application steps are outlined on the next page. Attached are a mentor application and three reference forms.** Once we have had a chance to review the information on the application and references, we set a date for training. Once trained, we match you first with a school and then with a child. Taking the time to make a good match is the most important component of mentoring partnerships that last.

**The magic of mentoring lies in the relationship and trust that flourish over time.** Therefore, Mentor Me Petaluma hopes that our mentors will remain in their mentoring friendships for at least two years. Mentors meet with their mentees once a week for an hour, on school campus, during the school day and during the school year. We understand that flexibility may be necessary from time to time!

**Orientation and training** will provide information about good mentoring practices. Safety and support for mentors, mentees and families are of utmost importance. Ongoing training and mentor support meetings occur throughout the school year. Please visit our website at [www.MentorMePetaluma.org](http://www.MentorMePetaluma.org) and click on "Calendar" for upcoming Orientation and New Mentor Training dates.

**It is required by law that all volunteer mentors have a background check, including fingerprinting and a TB test.**

Thank you for your commitment to the children and the future of Petaluma! If you have any questions, please call me at the office at 778-4798 or email me at [ddalton@mentormepetaluma.org](mailto:ddalton@mentormepetaluma.org).

Sincerely,

*Deborah*

Deborah L. Dalton  
Program Operations Manager

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**[www.MentorMePetaluma.org](http://www.MentorMePetaluma.org)**