

Judith & Jack Rosenberg **Mentoring 4 Kids**  
is a program of  
Alpert Jewish Family Service.

Since 1998, our program has been working  
to achieve a healthy future for the children  
in Palm Beach County.



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Judith & Jack Rosenberg



MENTORING FOR KIDS

A Non-Sectarian Program  
for Single Parent Families



[www.mentoring4kids.org](http://www.mentoring4kids.org)



Funded by the United Way of  
Palm Beach County.

# Mentoring 4 Kids

*A non-sectarian program  
for single-parent families*

## Program Overview

The Judith & Jack Rosenberg **Mentoring 4 Kids** program at Alpert Jewish Family Service has helped many families since it was established in 1998.

- ◆ **M4K** is a **no-cost, non-sectarian** mentoring program.
- ◆ We serve children **ages 6-14** who are being raised in a single parent family due to the **loss or absence of a parent/guardian**. The program also provides mentors for children being raised by grandparents.
- ◆ We match children with volunteer mentors who provide **unconditional friendship** and support to help **fill the void** of the absent caregiver.
- ◆ Potential mentors are **carefully screened**.
- ◆ Children are **assessed for eligibility**.
- ◆ Throughout the match, **supervision and ongoing support** are provided to mentors and families.
- ◆ Together, the child and mentor share in a wide range of community-based activities while building a **long-lasting friendship**.

*“My child has access to a world  
that prepares her for the future.”*

*- Parent of Mentee*



## Parent Responsibilities

- Encourage child to be a great friend to his/her mentor.
- Communicate with child's mentor to help coordinate outings.
- Provide activity report to M4K after each outing your child has with his/her mentor.
- Participate in supervision with M4K program clinical social worker.

## What our parents love about M4K

*“I love that my children have another adult as their support but above all a role model to look up to.”*

*“The support of having another adult in my child's life.”*

*“The graceful heartfelt approach they take toward the service they give.”*

## What our mentees like best about having a mentor

*“To have a friend that I can trust.”*

*“I like that I have someone else to talk to and have fun with.”*

*“My mentor teaches me new things.”*

*“Having someone to talk to.”*

# Mentoring 4 Kids

*No-cost program for single-parent families*



## Criteria for Mentee Participants

- Children **ages 6-14** being raised in a single-parent home due to the **loss or absence of a parent/guardian**. The program also provides mentors for children being raised by grandparents.
- Child is in need of a **same gender** role model to help fill the void of absent parent.
- Child's home must be **stable**; no conflict with non-custodial parent; **Legal custody documentation** required.
- Child must be **motivated** to have a mentor and be able to establish a relationship with a caring adult.
- Extenuating circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- AJFS is an **accredited social service agency** and has specific criteria that a family must meet prior to being accepted into the M4K program.



*"It is a pleasure being a part of M4K. David is a joy to be with. His charisma and passion for life makes me a better person." -Andy  
(pictured on front cover with his mentee David)*

- \* Children in foster care are not eligible as there must be a consistent primary custodial parent/guardian residing with the child.
- \* Children with serious mental health or behavioral issues are not appropriate for the program.

## Benefits of Mentorship

As evidenced by **M4K** program outcomes, mentoring helps mitigate potential at-risk behaviors in children.

### *Research shows that mentoring:*

- **Raises children's self-esteem**
- **Increases academic performance**
- **Strengthens communication skills and family values**

*"The encouragement, planned group activities and support truly enhance the program." - M4K Mentor*

## Keys to M4K Success Rate

- ♦ **Annual surveys** are used to measure program goals and satisfaction.
- ♦ **Ongoing supervision, support and training** to volunteer mentors and families ensures longevity of the match.
- ♦ **Group outings** help to connect all the program participants leading to greater satisfaction with the program.

# Mentoring 4 Kids

## Make a difference. Be a Mentor!

A volunteer mentor is a **caring** person who shares a one-to-one friendship with a child of the same gender.

A mentor is a **positive role model** who offers guidance, support and encouragement.

Mentors gain an increased sense of **personal satisfaction**.

*“My mentoring relationship is very fulfilling; I love knowing that I’m making a positive difference in my mentee’s life” - M4K Mentor*

## Criteria for Volunteer Mentors

- Mentors must be at least 25 years of age with a valid FL driver’s license and car.
- Mentors must be year-round FL residents.
- Mentors commit to seeing the child a minimum of twice a month for at least one year.

## Screening Process for Mentors

- Interview at AJFCS with our Director of Volunteer Services and Clinical Director.
- Background check; Driver’s record (7 years); Fingerprinting; Drug test; TB Screening; 3 Reference checks.
- 2-hour assessment at mentor’s home.

## Be A Mentor ...

## Mentor Responsibilities

- Successfully complete orientation.
- Provide activity report after each visit with the mentee.
- Participate in ongoing supervision with M4K program director.
- Attend trainings and mentor network meetings.
- Provide fun, community-based activities.
- Attend group outings hosted by the M4K program.
- Optional CPR and First Aid training provided.



*“Steve’s a really great guy and he’ll always be by my side.” - Sam (pictured with his mentor Steve)*

## What our mentors like best about M4K:

*“Gaining and giving trust and respect to and from a mentee.”*

*“Watching the mentee have a good time and continuing to grow.”*

*“The ability to connect to a young person who might need my help in navigating life.”*

*“The opportunity to help someone.”*

*“Having an impact on a child who would have otherwise not experienced many of the things I have introduced him to.”*