



## **The Ervin Academy Mentoring and Leadership Program:**

### **Mentor Criteria and Requirements**

The Ervin Academy's Mentoring program is designed to match our students with outstanding male role models and leaders in the community who recognize the need for today's teen males to have positive role models in their lives. Studies have shown that teen males who have active male Mentors and role models in their lives are three times less likely to perpetrate long term destructive and negative behaviors. Behaviors which often lead to incarceration. Seventy percent (70%) of all inmates in 2009 lacked the presence of a positive male role model in their lives during their teen years. In addition, teen males with positive role models are more likely to graduate from high school and college and become productive healthy members of society.

Our Mentoring program consists of two parts: a junior (college age) and adult male Mentors. The Mentors are adult men who are committed to providing our Mentees with unlimited emotional, consistent and professional support. The support includes but is not limited to active monthly visitation, participation in scholastic and extra-curricular activities and correspondence.

The **college and adult male Mentor** required qualifications are:

- A 2.8+ GPA (College Mentor requirement only).
- Outstanding moral and ethical character.
- Active participation in several campus organizations. (College Mentor requirement only).
- Outstanding leadership qualities and behavior at all times.
- Clear and positive communication skills.
- Two (2) letters of reference.
- Must pass a criminal background check.

- A Bachelor's degree (Preferred for adult Mentors).
- Prior community service experience is highly preferred.
- Must possess the ability to display excellence in modeling acceptable behavior in adverse circumstances.
- Prior Mentoring experience, coaching and supporting "at-risk" male teens is preferred but not mandatory.
- Must possess excellent listening skills.
- Must be willing to be a life skills coach and advocate for your Mentee.
- Patience, flexibility and consistency are necessary.

All Mentors must be: trustworthy, nurturing, possess integrity, be confidential and positive. Mentors must support our program's mission and core beliefs that:

- ✓ Each Mentee can learn.
- ✓ Each Mentee can be transformed if given the right opportunity and tools.
- ✓ Each Mentee can contribute positively to society.
- ✓ Each Mentee deserves support.
- ✓ Each Mentee deserves greater and additional opportunities.
- ✓ Each Mentee **WILL** be successful.