

STATE OF DELAWARE



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT DOVER

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER TWENTY-SIX

RE: RECOGNITION OF THE STATEWIDE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DELAWARE MENTORING COUNCIL

WHEREAS, research shows that mentoring improves the social and academic well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, Delaware enjoys broad-based community support and involvement in education; and

WHEREAS, both school-based and community-based mentoring programs have been shown to be effective; and

WHEREAS, statewide coordination and support of mentoring will ensure greater efficiency and effectiveness of mentoring programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RUTH ANN MINNER, by the power vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, hereby declare and order that:

1. The Delaware Mentoring Council (the "Council") shall be recognized and established as the statewide organization responsible for the coordination and facilitation of mentoring programs for school-aged children.

2. The Council, in cooperation with the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Volunteerism, shall support a statewide mentoring network and promote both school-based and community-based mentoring that focuses on the building of academic and social and life skills.

3. The Council shall have fifteen voting members appointed by the Governor. The membership of the Council shall be composed of:

- (a) The Secretary of the Department of Education;
- (b) The Director of the Division of Volunteerism;
- (c) Department of Health and Social Services;
- (d) A representative of the Governor's Office;
- (e) A representative of the Department of Public Safety;
- (f) The Chairperson of the House of Representatives Education Committee;
- (g) The Chairperson of the Senate Education Committee;
- (h) A representative of the Delaware State Education Association;
- (i) A representative of the Delaware Association of School Administrators;
- (j) A representative of the Chief School Officers Association;
- (k) The President of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce;
- (l) Two representatives of statewide mentoring organizations;
- (m) A representative of Delaware State University;
- (n) A representative of each of Delaware Technical & Community College; and
- (o) A representative of the University of Delaware.

4. The Governor shall appoint the Chair(s) of the Council. The Council shall have no more than fifteen non-voting members appointed by the voting members who shall include business and community leaders, parents, mentors and mentored youth and shall be appointed to such terms as the Council shall establish.

5. The Council shall:

- (a) Advocate for the mentoring of children in our public and private schools and communities with the ultimate goal of providing a mentor to every child who needs one;

- (b) Identify and promote best practices and standards, including the implementation of appropriate assessments of the ongoing effectiveness of mentoring in Delaware;
- (c) Raise awareness and promote the recruitment of mentors;
- (d) Work to ensure an adequate level of resources to support mentoring programs statewide;
- (e) Support efforts to provide and improve training, technical assistance and evaluation of mentoring programs;
- (f) Provide an annual report of its activities to the Governor each year after the execution of this order; and
- (g) Conduct a full evaluation of its activities and administrative arrangements within five years of the execution of this order and provide a report to the Governor of its evaluation, which shall include a recommendation as to the continuation of the Council.

6. The Department of Education may utilize the University of Delaware, College of Human Services, Education and Public Policy, for a period of up to five years, to provide staff and administrative support to the Council, using funding allocated to the Department of Education for such purposes. The Council shall, in its evaluation described above in paragraph 5(g), provide recommendations to the Governor for the prospective staffing and administrative support for the Council.



Approved this 10th day
of January, 2002.


Governor

Attest:


Secretary of State