



PROJECT FRIENDSHIP
empowering youth through mentoring

2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Project Friendship matches youth with a trained college-age mentor to develop a caring and supportive friendship. **Youth are engaged through intentional activities that open opportunities for social and emotional learning** with emphasis in building confidence, inspiring character and creating connections.

For the past 5 years, the number of Project Friendship matches has grown from 46 to 138, and our average match length is 2.5 years! The growth in participation and match length shows that youth are developing friendships that are strong enough to last over time. While PF has been around since 1965, we are just beginning to hear from our past participants – some of them stating they have remained friends after the mentor graduated from college 10, 20, 30 and in one case over 50 years ago!

STAFF

Sarah VanSickle – Executive Director
Holly Schoenbauer – Match Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Katherine Mateos – Carleton student member & mentor
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CONFIDENCE, CHARACTER, & CONNECTIONS



Above: Mentors & mentees enjoy our Pizza & Pool gathering at the YMCA.
 Right: Kerry & Mark were matched over 50 years ago & still have a strong bond!



CELEBRATING OVER 50 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL MATCHES

Project Friendship knows that one person can enter the life of another and positively influence both lives forever. In fact, **one of our first youth-and-mentor matches has been in each other's lives for 50 years.** They wrote during times of war, stood up for the other during their weddings, and even called on the other to act as a godparent. **Bonds like these are authentic and just why Project Friendship exists.**

PARENTS TELL US...

... **they see attitude and behavior changes in their child**, like wanting to attend school; trying new activities; getting invited to birthday parties; improving manners; playing competitively but respectfully; utilizing age-appropriate conversations; recognizing boundaries; using self control; and learning what college is/means. They make connections to things they like and dislike, **setting them on a path full of experiences and knowledge about themselves.**

MENTORS TELL US...

... **they gain a family**, improve their communication skills, and remember it's okay to have fun, too (not all school work).

YOUTH TELL US...

... **they have a friend who cares about them** regardless of what they say or do or wear. They have someone who is like a big brother or sister, and they have fun!

Throughout our history we have relied on the community to help sustain the program through individual and corporate contributions. **Your support provides opportunities for youth to gain confidence and a friendship that could last a lifetime!**

2018-2019 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

REVENUE

Individual Gifts	\$38,212
Foundations / Grants	\$24,600
Carleton Garage Sale	\$12,000
Other	\$507

TOTAL \$75,319

EXPENSES

Programs	\$59,005
General / Admin	\$9,513
Fundraising	\$7,132

TOTAL \$75,650



For more information, please reference Project Friendship's EIN #41-1565496.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

A special thank you to our foundation and individual supporters!

Your support allowed us to maintain a low staff-to-match ratio (ensuring quality match support), offer multiple ongoing training sessions to our mentors, and provide four large group activities for free to our participants!

OUR 2018-2019 SPONSORS INCLUDED...

- Carleton College Lighten Up Garage Sale
- College City Beverage
- First National Bank
- The Mardag Foundation
- Northfield Area United Way
- Northfield Shares
- POST Consumer Brands
- Rebound Enterprise
- Tradition Capital Bank
- WINGS (Women in Northfield Giving Support)

PLUS...

87 Individual & Corporate Donors

32 Bridge Campaign Supporters



MAKE A GIFT TODAY!

Project Friendship has a long history of empowering youth and is committed to ensuring all youth are connected with caring adults to be their best self. Your support is critical for future programming as we anticipate another year of growth. **Your gift, no matter the size, will help ensure that Project Friendship is sustained in its efforts to serve our youth.**

A DONATION CAN BE MAILED TO:

Project Friendship
1651 Jefferson Parkway
Northfield, MN 55057

OR YOU CAN GIVE ONLINE AT:

projectfriendshipmentoring.org

The 2017 Bridge Campaign raised over **\$60,000** from our community friends and opened up the opportunity for us to secure matching gift funding from grant partners. **In addition, we connected with 74 new donors.** The success of the Bridge Campaign has allowed us to maintain the level of staff support we provide to our matches – 0.5 FTE (full-time employees) in 2014 to 1.5 FTE in 2019.

PROJECT FRIENDSHIP IS NATIONALLY CERTIFIED!

Advanced research shows that quality mentoring practices are a **determining factor in achieving positive youth outcomes.** Project Friendship believes that using best practices protects youth and volunteers and contributes to strong, connected relationships between youth and their mentor. **That is why we obtained our Quality Mentoring Assessment Path (QMAP) certification.**

The QMAP certification helps programs bring their practices into alignment with the Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring™. The process results in a public designation that signifies an organization's commitment to assessing their practices and operating quality programming.

Mentoring works best when steps are taken to ensure program practices meet quality standards that are safe and effective. **Families, volunteers, and funders can feel confident about participating in and supporting Project Friendship as we meet national quality standards!**



1651 Jefferson Parkway
Northfield, MN 55057
Projectfriendshipmentoring.org
(507) 301-7705



PROJECT FRIENDSHIP'S
SUCCESSSES
AT A GLANCE
2018-2019

NUMBER OF YOUTH MENTEES BY GRADE

42 in grades K-3	54 in grades 4-5	42 in grades 6-8
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36 
MENTORS WAITING
to be matched

138 TOTAL MATCHES
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR,
126 in the previous year.
up from ... our **5TH** consecutive
year of growth!

MATCHES MET for a
collective total of
 **1,745**
HOURS!