



Launching Your RFK Mentoring Club

A Year-Round Program Model

SUMMER: RFK Camps — *Abused or neglected children (ages 6-12) start and end their year-round program by attending a Royal Family KIDS **Camp**, a five-day residential summer camp with a trained camp counselor for every two children, plus support staff. Children are referred by social service agencies and/or caregivers.*

SCHOOL YEAR: RFK Mentoring Clubs — Designed specifically for RFK Campers and includes:

- **Mentor meetings** – 4 hrs/month (preferably 1-hr/week) of 1-to-1 help and guidance from a cleared, trained and matched Mentor. Mentoring appointments occur in public places or with a second cleared adult present. Mentoring and transportation logs are submitted monthly. Overnight events must be Group Events authorized by Club Mentoring Director — no individual overnight functions.
- **Once-a-month Mentoring Club events** (meeting, field trip or party) for all the Mentoring Club Kids and Mentors with friends from Camp, including a support time for Mentors.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **HOW CAN CHURCHES LAUNCH A Mentoring Club?** Churches or affiliated non-profit organizations that have directed a successful RFK Camp for *two or more years* may apply for training to launch an RFK Mentoring Club for their Campers.
 - Designate one Camp volunteer to be the Mentoring Club Director: (1) A *Mentoring Director* (ideally NOT the Camp Director) is the key Club leader and the one responsible for Mentoring Club
 - Send a team of 3-5 Camp volunteers to the RFK Mentoring Club Director's Training Institute for an intensive 2 ½ day class (includes manuals and leadership resources) with an on-site Mentoring Club visit. The team should include the prospective Mentoring Club Director and other key roles like Club Coordinator, and the Camp Director or other Camp leader (for summer/fall transition planning).
 - After your team is trained they will begin to Recruit Mentors from your Camp program who can meet strict clearance and training standards. A Mentoring Club needs a *minimum of 12 Mentors as well as Mentoring Club Staff and support volunteers.*
 - Provide information for caregivers and social services and a Mentoring Club Interest Form as part of your Camp applications.
 - Commit to raising funds for Mentoring Club costs.

2. HOW CAN I BECOME A MENTOR?

- Complete the local RFK Camp Training (12 hours) including application and screening process
- Spend a week at Camp
- Complete an additional 6 hours of RFK Mentoring Club Training
- Complete national criminal background check
- Commit to one academic year (9 months) of meeting four hours a month with your matched mentee, plus attending the once-a-month Mentoring Club events
- Complete interview and matching process with Mentoring Club Director and Leadership Team also commit to maintaining monthly Mentor/Transportation logs and meeting mentoring standards under the supervision of the Mentoring Club Director

3. HOW CAN I BECOME A SUPPORT VOLUNTEER? Additional cleared volunteers are needed for Mentoring Club Staff positions and to accompany Mentors in more secluded settings (hikes, fishing trips, etc.) where a second cleared adult is mandated.

- Complete National criminal background checks
- Complete application and safety training
- Approval from Mentoring Club Director and Leadership Team

4. WHICH CHILDREN CAN JOIN THE CLUB?

- ELIGIBILITY—Any Camper who attended RFK Camp the summer before Mentoring Club starts in fall can join Mentoring Club as long as he or she (1) has agency and/or caregiver permission and (2) has been matched with a trained and cleared RFK Mentor by the Mentoring Club Director.
- MENTORING CLUB SIZE: It is recommended that Mentoring Clubs have a minimum of 12 Mentor/Camper matches to launch a local program. The number of Campers that you can accept into your Mentoring Club is limited only by the number of Mentors and support resources you have available as well as the geographic area you can serve.

5. WHAT ARE THE COSTS OF RUNNING AN RFK CLUB/MENTOR PROGRAM?

- MENTORING CLUB DIRECTOR'S TRAINING: Tuition for your team includes manuals, training PowerPoint/DVD, Club site visit, polo shirt, Club seal, conference meals, etc. *Conference lodging and transportation to Institute are NOT included in tuition.*
- MENTOR AND MENTORING CLUB STAFF/SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS: (1) *National criminal background checks*; (2) *Manual – Binders, tabs and duplication*; (3) *Mentor/Staff Training Day food, etc.* (3) *National RFK Certification Mentor/Staff Photo ID Cards*; (4) *RFK logo Adult Shirt.*
- CHURCH COSTS: Required site and volunteer insurance coverage (\$1M/\$3M aggregate; plus \$500,000 sexual abuse/molestation).
- CLUB COSTS: (1) Kids: backpack, t-shirt &/or hoodie, Adventure Book, award pendant, puppets, etc. (2) Club Meeting Costs (food, crafts, field trips, etc.) (3) Annual RFK Club Certification fee (waived first year)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact the RFK National Office at **714.438.2494**.

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