



**MENTOR**  
VERMONT

# MENTOR VERMONT



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# Youth Mentoring Works

Youth mentoring is an effective, evidence-based tool to meet youth needs.

Young people need supportive adult relationships to thrive.

Youth mentoring programs operated through both schools and nonprofits help to close the mentoring gap and ensure all young people have a trusted adult to turn to for support.



**THE MENTORING GAP:**

**1 in 3**

**Young people will grow up without a mentor.**



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# The Impact of Mentoring



**52%**

less likely than their peers to skip a day of school



**55%**

more likely to be enrolled in college



**46%**

less likely than their peers to start using drugs



**81%**

more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities



**78%**

more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities



**130%**

more than twice as likely to say that they held a leadership position in a club or sports team



**90%**

youth who had a mentor said they are now interested in becoming mentors

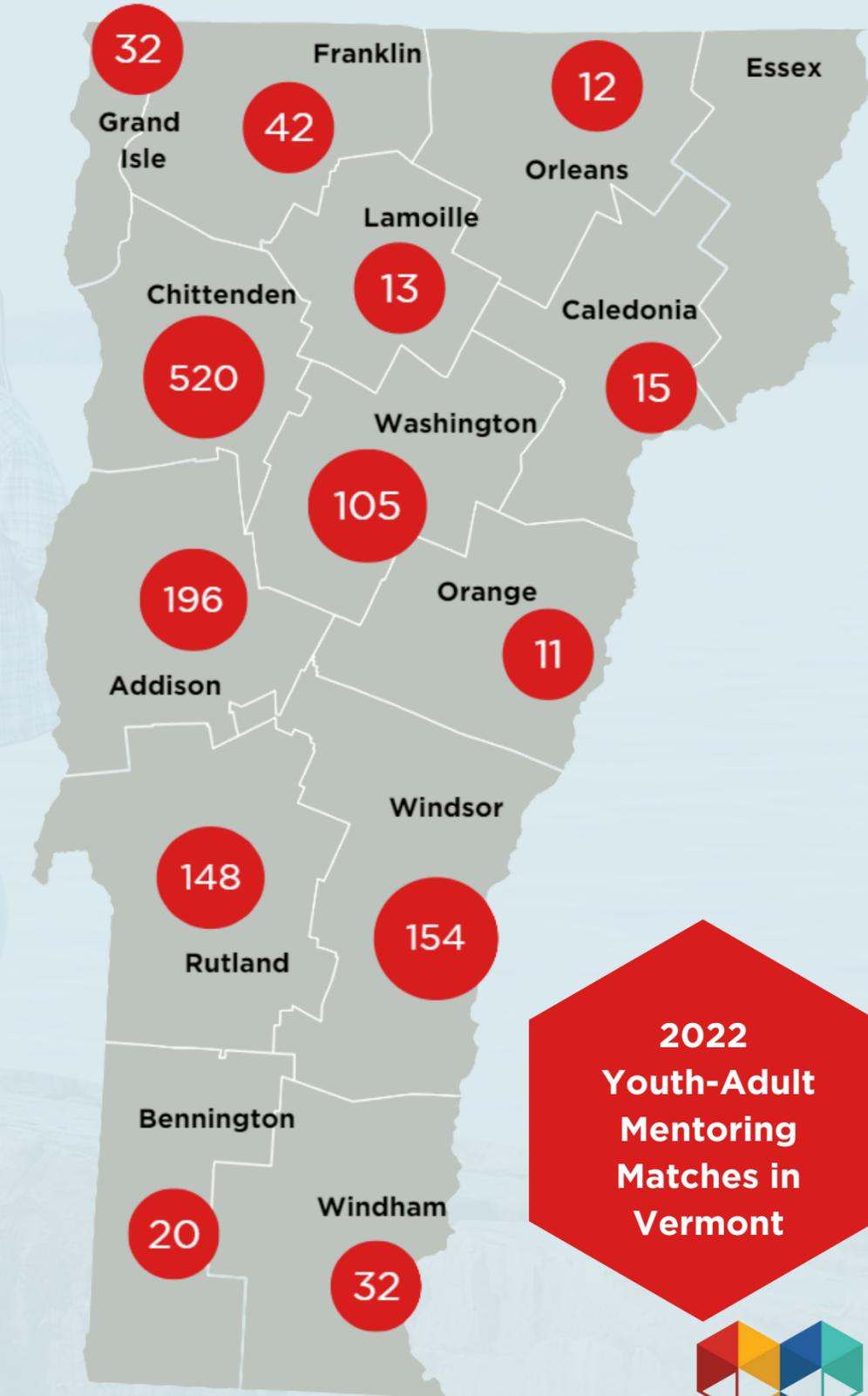


# Mentoring In Vermont

More than ever, youth need supportive, committed adults in their life who see, hear, and champion them.

Since March 2020, despite agencies working diligently to meet community needs, the number of your mentor matches has dropped by 35%.

Most mentoring programs are staffed by just one person, often in a part time role.



**2022 Youth-Adult Mentoring Matches in Vermont**

**35** Youth mentoring agencies supported by MENTOR Vermont

**1,155** Youth-adult mentor matches funded by MENTOR Vermont

**1,300** Estimated total matches across the state

**308** 2021-2022 new matches

**86%** 2021-2022 match retention rate



# Critical Need

## 2022 Mentee Survey Results

91%

"My mentor makes me feel like I matter."

89%

"Having a mentor has made a positive difference in my life."

## 2021 COVID Survey Results

95%

"My mentor is someone I can depend on."

86%

"My mentor was someone with whom I could share my feelings and experiences related to COVID-19."

## State Funding

2007

\$250,000

2011

\$170,000

Despite increased youth mental health needs, and the social and emotional benefits of mentoring, State investment in mentoring has not increased since 2007, and decreased in 2011.

Stagnant funding forces program staff to dedicate valuable time to fund development.

We must find sustainable funding solutions in order for programs to be able to meet the need of their communities and to expand program access to communities with the greatest need.



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# Federal Funding Sources

## Student Success and Academic Enrichment Grants *Title IV-A*

LEAs receive Title IV-A funding through a formula grant program, which they then allocate to schools based. There are three broad areas funding can be spent. Mentoring falls under:

- Supporting safe and healthy students (e.g. comprehensive school mental health, drug and violence prevention, training on trauma-informed practices, health and physical education).

## Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program

### (Title IV-B of the Every Student Succeeds Act)

#### *21st Century Community Learning Centers*

Formula-based program. Mentoring is a listed approved activity:

- Tutoring services, including those provided by senior citizen volunteers, and mentoring programs



# Investing in Youth Mentoring

- Youth mentoring is a cost-effective and evidence-based tool where solutions come from within their own communities
- When youth feel like they matter it improves their well-being
- There is Federal funding schools can tap into for mentoring
- **With adequate investment in youth mentoring by the State MENTOR Vermont can provide:**
  - **New program implementation assistance**
  - **Ongoing hands-on support to individual programs**
  - **Training and professional development for staff and mentors**
  - **Support in meeting nationally recognized best practices**
  - **Resources and program systems at scale**
  - **Grant funds to ensure sustainability and growth**

