1994 TUTORIMENTOR CONNECTION SURVEY -

These are comments from organizations responding to our Feb/March survey, as of *4/9/94.* They provide a strong endorsement for networking and a broad slate of issues to discuss.

Question 19: How much need would you say there is for increased contact between your program and providers of similar programs? 80 of respondents say there is "some need or a great deal of need" for increased contact.

Why did you answer the way you did?

- I would be interested in finding out how other tutoring programs function and things that have worked for them.
- It's always good to hear others views and activities used
- It's important for the organizations to meet and network
- It would be good to do cross referrals and also it would be good to network for all sorts of reasons
- There's a need for organizations to network and share resources. This would make programs stronger.
- We need to network for the development of the community.
- Networking is very important in providing services to the community.
- It would be good to know how other programs are run and if we have problems with our program we could ask others how they would deal with such a problem.
- The program is at a project stage. We are interested in encouraging other zoos to develop programs.
- The need for networking is very important
- Limited resources make it critical that we be able to borrow good ideas rather than invent new program
- Information sharing, collaboration, grant building
- Staff are highly challenged for time to really work at this level of communication
- I feel we need to know what others are doing
- To mutually support and learn
- We are open to new ideas, but also very satisfied with how our program is going
- I would like to see regularly scheduled meetings between the various programs.
  Frequently we meet with representatives who want to start similar programs. Others initiate the contact.
- Referrals. Cooperation for field trips, competitions, etc.
- Because my organization is trying this program for the first time and we would like to hear from other groups that have done this before
- There are continuous networking meetings between the agencies that service the area The newest development is the Child and Adolescent Local Area Networking (C&A L.A.N.S.)
- To evaluate students progress it is necessary that we network closely with the student's school.
- The need to network for the development of the community
- Other organizations that provide similar services, provide a different format or content
- Our organization believes in collaborative efforts that benefit all collaborators
- Many programs that are similar to ours work in a vacuum
- As a new site we would benefit from others who have implemented successful volunteer tutoring programs, particularly in the area of recruitment, retention, recognition and support of volunteer and participants
- Meet with peers at monthly workshop for volunteers - tutoring
- We would like to have other agencies to share information with regarding orientations
- I think it's important for programs to cooperate rather than compete.
- I think it's important to collaborate w/other providers so each provider can provide a unique, special service that others don't fulfill
- We always look for ways to improve and we seek help wherever it can be found.
- Because creating a new mentoring program is difficult. Without prior experience and I need all the assistance and knowledge I can get now.
- Workshops are helpful depending on organization sponsoring. Contact w/S.O.S. office is helpful with record keeping.
- Could gain knowledge and expertise on developing strong, functional programs on mentoring based on a variety of experiences and settings
- Organizations in community do not work enough together in a strategic way that makes a difference
- We're a new program with leaders with little experience in tutoring. We would benefit a lot by having contact with an established program similar to our situation.

Question 20: How likely is it that you would attend a city-wide conference with other Tutoring/Mentoring providers for minimal or no fee? 68 were "very likely to attend" and an additional 22 were "somewhat likely to attend".

These are the topics suggested for the conference:

- 1) Where to go with your good ideas - resources to utilize and contribute to; 2) exercising understanding instead of judgement; tutors, seeing lifestyle of inner-city youth; 3) way to enhance self-concept through reading & writing exercises; 4) way for tutors/mentors to be "close" to young participants - we spend more time talking about setting barriers & limits to interaction than about healthy and appropriate ways to be "close"; 5) Having an orientation session for the youth who will participate in the program-topics to cover, issues to address, etc.
- Because if your program is working good and the other program is working better, you want to know what you can do to make yours work better.
- I would like to meet other program heads who could give me tips on measurement of program's success, tips on best high schools to send my kids to, sources of funds for new programs or hig school scholarships, etc.
- Supervising/evaluating youth and volunteers
- Volunteer recruitment and fundraising ideas that kids could help with
- Violence, Fund Raising, Networking, Institutionalized racism
- Thoughts on evaluations
- Communication between child/mentor; Techniques on the best way to help in math/readinglwriting
- Recruitment strategies, recognition strategies, funding streams for mentoring, public relations/marketing strategies and program evaluation designs.
- Volunteer recruitment and retainment, funding issues, and volunteer training
- Volunteer recruitment and training. Funding resources and ongoing networking
- How to work with youth (children) mentor/tutor training suggestions
- Volunteer recruitment, training and retention, funding resources, networking in general
- Crossing racial barriers between tutors/students, raising tutors/mentors expectations, Re students; involving parents in program
- Contact between teachers, parents, school and the tutoring/mentoring program. How important is this connection?
- Funding, curricula, volunteer training and attraction
- Volunteer recruitment, student retention, practical tutoring helps
- Togetherness, importance of positive role models, and career counselling
- Networking & keeping tutors happy
- Dealing with special needs children and training mentors to work with them effectively
- Networking, shared (training) workshops
- Recruitment and training tutors. Examples of excellent programs. Scholarship help.
- Recruiting, motivation techniques for students to participate in these programs
- Self esteem building
- Ways and means to be effective in recruiting volunteers
- History, culture, values, education, racism, economics
- Differences between suburban and urban students
- Male role models. Where are they? Educational/recreational activities. The importance of mentoring.
- Resource sharing, curriculum sharing.
- Training, evaluation measures, recruitment techniques, mentoring
- Team building   ,
- Tutor training. Program evaluation. Volunteer screening. Teaching math and reading.
- How to share resources effectively
- Training tutors. help for tutoring remedial students. Finding source material,teaching materials and independent learning packets. Help for tutoring and challenging above average students.
- Ongoing evaluation process. How to get new volunteers, sources of funding, creative ideas for programs
- Evaluation of program. Student/volunteer retention strategies.
- Recruiting & retaining volunteers; how to get kids excited about learning; how to be effective in a "drop-in" setting; how to work with schools, teachers & parents