



WEST VIRGINIA'S PROMISE

THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH

Pamela Dugan, State Director

147 Possum Trot Lane Kearneysville, WV 25430
Phone (304)661-1460 Email: pdugan@frontiernet.net
www.fivepromises.wv.gov

Does your organization serve children and youth that fit one or more of the statements below?

The students we serve are:

- ✓ At risk of dropping out of school
- ✓ From low income families
- ✓ At high risk of not graduating high school on time
- ✓ High risk in being in unhealthy relationship or start unhealthy habits
- ✓ Having problems with schoolwork, social issues

West Virginia's Promise-The Alliance for Youth invites you to join with us in mobilizing communities to bring the fundamental supports to our most vulnerable young people, we can together lower the dropout crisis and transform the life of a child.

Youth provide fresh perspectives, energy and enthusiasm and close connections with peers and young children. When directed in the right direction youth make the connections by raising awareness, driving advocacy, supporting community and building alliance.

Across the country young people are fulfilling the Five Promises in many ways; volunteering and organizing projects, speaking up for what kids need and getting their friends involved. We must work together to see that more young people receive the fundamental resources they need to succeed; the Five Promises.

- 1) **Caring Adults:** Ongoing relationship with a caring adult – parents, mentors, tutors or coaches;
- 2) **Safe Places:** Safe places with structured activities during non-school hours;
- 3) **A Healthy Start:** Healthy start and future;
- 4) **An Effective Education:** For Marketable skills and lifelong learning; and
- 5) **Opportunities to Help Others:** Opportunities to give back through community service.

The past three years West Virginia's Promise-The Alliance for Youth has developed and promoted Each One Reach One (E1R1) project through our active E1R1 committee; E1R1 has been sponsored by State Farm Insurance.

What is Each One Reach One? The Each One Reach One program aims to strengthen the capacity of youth to transition from middle school to high school thus improving the graduation rate. It will identify, engage and train high school students at-risk of dropping out of school, empowering them to serve as positive peer mentors to middle school aged students to provide encouragement, support and friendship to lower their chances of quitting school, using tobacco, alcohol and or drugs or of making other negative choices.

What is Peer Mentoring? Peer mentoring programs are student-led and adult coordinated. The programs infrastructure, selection process, training and oversight are coordinated by an adult leader within your organization or school. Peer mentoring programs match older youth with younger students in one-on-one relationships to provide guidance for the children. Through this special relationship, peer mentors provide advice and support and serve as role models for younger students who need help. Challenges facing those being mentored include problems with schoolwork; social issues, such as pressure to drink or smoke; family



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problems or tension; and other typical difficulties of growing up. A peer mentor can also simply be someone for a younger student to spend time with.

Mentoring programs, when carefully designed and well run, provide positive influences for younger people who may need a little extra attention or who don't have a good support system available to them. For example, a young person who has recently lost a parent or close family member or who has experienced neglect or abuse or who simply feels lonely or uncomfortable in large group situations may especially benefit from the support, attention, and kindness of a peer mentor, along with other supports.

Goals: To strengthen the capacity of youth to transition from middle school to high school thus improving the graduation rate. To identify, engage and train high school aged students at-risk of dropping out of school, empowering them to serve as positive peer mentors to middle school aged students to provide encouragement, support and friendship to lower their chances of quitting school, using tobacco, alcohol and /or drugs or other negative choices.

Activities: Identify and match student mentors with mentees. Trained mentors will develop and train new recruited mentors and mentees with adult guidance to become peer to peer mentors. E1R1 teams are hosting meetings and or events to market the program in their school, engage new students, and recruit new mentors.

Outcomes: An increase in the number of student mentors matched with student mentees; increased number of students that successfully make the transition from 8th grade to 9th grade and stay in school; more energized community efforts to strengthen the network of support for students; celebrate success.

Steps:

- ✓ Initial Meeting: Scheduled by the grantee, one administrative personnel from each school/agency/organization **and** the key adult leader must be present at the initial meeting to discuss the requirements, steps, and guidelines.
- ✓ Identify one youth male and one youth female that understands the goals and supports E1R1 project
- ✓ Identify At Risk Students: Maximum 10 high school aged students and 10 middle school aged students
- ✓ Develop a Contract: Agreement between Youth Mentor and Youth Mentee (WV's Promise has a template)
- ✓ Commitment between Adult and Youth Mentor (WV's Promise has a template)
- ✓ Determine Events, Meetings Dates and Locations: Minimum of 7 times a year, averages at least once a month meeting
- ✓ Develop Your Projected Budget Expenses for a Year
- ✓ Secure One Adult Male and One Adult Female Volunteer to serve as a leader for Summer Camp
- ✓ Start Fundraising: to hold meetings, fun events, or as a community service project
- ✓ Develop a letter with the E1R1 purpose/outcome, goals, and your plans. (E1R1 logo will be made available)
- ✓ Show your need for funds for each of your planned events.



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Each One Reach One Summer Camp/Retreat:

Teams involved in E1R1 throughout the 2013-2014 school year (as funding allows) will be invited to participate in a summer camp/retreat as a reward to all their hard work. At this camp mentors/mentees will attend sessions and workshops that may include various topics; communications skills, team building skills, problem solving, critical thinking, time management, and goal setting. Teams may be asked to assist with agenda, plan workshops, activities, invite speakers, plan a menu, etc.

Mini-grant:

West Virginia's Promise mini-grants are awarded to E1R1 Teams who are committed to building bigger and better community collaborations for children and youth. Mini-grants may be requested in any amount up to \$1,000 and a community match is required in the amount requested, therefore if you request \$1,000 from WV's Promise a community match of \$1,000 is required and documentation of committed match is required. (In-kind donations-items, food, meeting space, volunteer hours and/or actual funds received). Funding is limited, therefore these grants are competitive. Funding will be awarded to grantees after matching goals have been met.



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Each One Reach One Mini-Grant Application

The 2013-2014 mini-grants will focus on all 5 Promises. The vision of WV's Promise is "All young people in West Virginia are prepared for success in school, work and life."

The **5 Promises** are:

- 1) **Caring Adults:** Ongoing relationship with a caring adult – parents, mentors, tutors or coaches;
- 2) **Safe Places:** Safe places with structured activities during non-school hours;
- 3) **A Healthy Start:** Healthy start and future;
- 4) **An Effective Education:** For Marketable skills and lifelong learning; and
- 5) **Opportunities to Help Others:** Opportunities to give back through community service.

For information about West Virginia's Promise or America's Promise contact Pamela Dugan via email at pdugan@frontiernet.net phone at 1-304-661-1460. For additional information about America's Promise their website is www.americaspromise.org and West Virginia's Promise Program website is www.fivepromises.wv.gov

Grants will be awarded based on the quality of the application.

West Virginia's Promise grants are awarded to the **Each One Reach One** youth teams that will commit to participating in the 2014 Summer Camp and 2013-2014 peer to peer mentoring year long commitment.

Mini-grants may be requested in any amount up to \$1,000 and a community match is required in the amount requested, therefore if you request \$1,000 from WV's Promise a community match of \$1,000 is required and documentation of match is required. (In-kind donations-items, food, space, volunteer hours and/or actual funds received). Funding is limited, therefore these grants are competitive.

Maximum of **4 pages** – including 2 page Grant Application

Applications are due: 3:00 p.m. Friday November 29, 2013 (not postmarked date, no exceptions) you may also email your application. But we must receive a mailed application by Friday November 29, 2013.

Only Officially Accepting Mailed Applications please send your application to:

Pamela Dugan
WV's Promise Director
147 Possum Trot Lane
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Announcement of Grantees Awarded: Friday December 6, 2013.

Report due: Monday June 2, 2014 please email and print and mail report to address above.

The report form will be sent to the Teams that are awarded mini-grants.



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Adult Team Leader Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone:

Name of Administrative personnel from school/agency/organization:

Title:

Email:

Phone:

Name of Adult Male & Female that commit to attending 2014 summer camp:

Adult Male:

Email:

Adult Female:

Email:

Name of 2 Youth that supports starting Each One Reach One:

Male:

Female:

Name of School/Organization/Agency:

Address:

County:

Status: School Non-For Profit State Agency

(Please mark all that apply)

Expense Report/Budget:

(Please attach an itemized budget report of estimated expenses)

Grant Amount Requested:

Community Match promised/received: _____

(Please attach documentation of promised/received community match of actual funds or in-kind donations (space, food, speaker fee, materials, printing, etc.)

Date(s) of Event(s), peer to peer meetings:

Location(s) of Event(s), peer to peer meetings:

Goals: *Please use additional paper if needed.*

Please list any partners name, agency/organization, contact information that is committed to being involved in the developing and planning of Each One Reach One mentoring program:



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Children and Youth play an important role in the **Each One Reach One** concept; their voice, experience, issues and ideas should be the key to planning, developing and executing the goals.

Estimated number of children and youth being reached through activities?

Grant check should be written to: *(name on the check)*

Name:

Organization:

Address:

Signature: (Signed in blue ink)

Print Name:

Email:

Date:

Submit Application to:

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147 Possum Trot Lane
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