

MENTORING THIS MONTH

January

JANUARY 2024
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Happy New Year, Mentors!

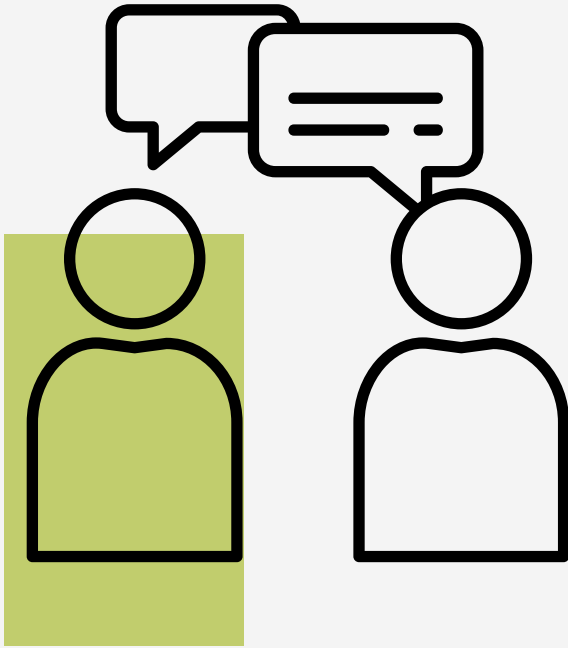


2024 has arrived! This year will be like none other, and while we await new beginnings, we also anticipate changes for all of us, but especially for the young people we work with daily. They are growing, maturing and making plans for their futures -- whether it's entering, navigating or exiting high school. As we all know and experience, time moves swiftly! In just a few short months, MCOCP will have another cohort of high school graduates! There is a lot of work yet to do between now and then. We know you remain excited to help your mentees inch closer to crossing that finish line. Get ready, set, and let's go!

This issue will continue to highlight information about the FAFSA. It opened on 12/31/23, so by now, your mentees and their parents should be working on completing and submitting it (if they haven't already done so). Be sure to check out the various newsletter features, including the "News You Can Use" and "College Access Corner."



JANUARY DISCUSSION TOPICS



- If you made a New Year's resolution have you kept or broken it so far? Why?
- What are your three most favorite things to do?
- If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do? How would you spend the money?
- If you were the dad or mom of the house, would there be any rules? If so, what would be your top three?

(*Sources for some questions: Family Talk game and Dayton Children's On Our Sleeves® conversation starter cards.*)

For more information about the On Our Sleeves® initiative, visit:

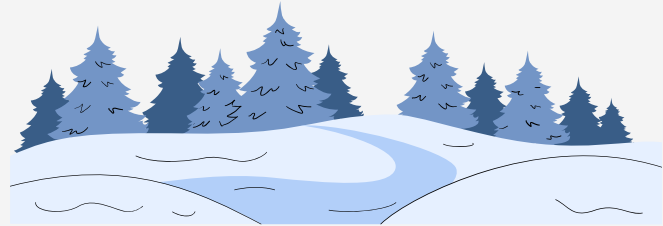
- <https://www.onoursleeves.org/>
- <https://www.onoursleeves.org/mental-wellness-tools-guides/conversation-starters>
- <https://www.childrensdayton.org/onoursleeves>



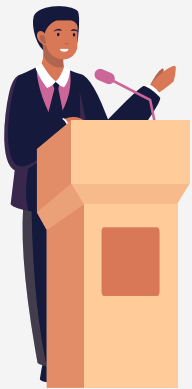
- **All Mentors:** With MLK Day and Presidents' Day in January and February, please remember to check the school calendar to ensure that you're not meeting on those days or other days when school is not in session.
- **All Mentors:** In the Spring, we hope to schedule some more fun and fellowship with mentees and mentors as a group during the lunch period at the schools. Be on the lookout for additional details in the future.
- **All Mentors:** We're in the process of selecting 55 mentees for our 14th cohort! If you know of anyone who may be interested in becoming a mentor, please connect them with Patrick. Also, if you have a graduating senior, and would like to extend your time as a mentor, please let Patrick know. We would love to keep you on board!
- **10th Cohort Mentors:** The 2024-2025 FAFSA had its "soft" launch on 12/31/23. Therefore, your mentees and their families should have either submitted it or are currently working on it. The launch has been off to a rocky start, so please encourage your mentees and their families to be persistent and not give up on the process. They can access it here: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>. Remember, the student and at least one of their parents must sign up for their FSA ID on the Federal Student Aid website: <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch> in order to complete the FAFSA. **Last of all, please remind your mentees that it is absolutely critical for them to pay close attention to the FAFSA and application deadlines of our partner schools.**
- **11th Cohort Mentors:** Please mark your calendars for The College Promise Scholar Night, to be held on Thursday, 2/22/24 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in UD's Kennedy Union Ballroom. Correspondence with more details will be sent to students and their families soon. All mentees are expected to attend so that they can meet and interact with our college partners. Families and mentors are invited to attend as well.



OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL...



Below, please find some suggested ideas for activities to do with your mentees in the coming weeks. These links provide a more comprehensive listing:



- <https://www.daytonlocal.com/things-to-do.asp>
- <https://www.dayton.com/events/#/>
- <https://downtowndayton.org/things-to-do/>
- <https://www.daytoncvb.com/things-to-do/>
- <https://dayton937.com/>
- <https://dayton.bibliocommons.com/v2/events>
- <https://www.metroparks.org/programs-events-finder/>

- MetroParks Ice Rink -- Now through 3/1/24
- Skateworld of Vandalia or Skateworld of Kettering -- Ongoing
- Dayton Art Institute Special Exhibit -- You Don't Know Me: Works by Unknown Photographers -- Now through 2/18/24
- Young's Jersey Dairy 155th Birthday Celebration -- 1/12-15/24 (Check the website for hours of operation.)
- MLK Memorial March -- 1/15/24, 9:30 a.m. (Meet near Drew Health Center, 1323 W. Third Street, Dayton, OH 45402. March ends at Sinclair Community College.)
- Dayton Metro Library Monthly Adulting 101 Seminar -- 1/29/24, 3-4 p.m. at the Main Library



FAFSA Updates

- https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/paying-for-college/articles/completing-the-fafsa?src=usn_college_extrahelp&utm_term=Extra%20Help:%20College%20Admissions&h_eid=9f4d596022fa8d8f88ec057ded9fc38031e0ede9c5b9ec5681f206d056bd4d2f&utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Extra%20Help:%20College%20Admissions%2012/19/2023
- <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/why-changes-are-coming-to-fafsa-and-how-it-will-affect-financial-aid-for-college>



Mentoring

- **January is National Mentoring Month! Here are some important remaining dates to remember: January 17: International Mentoring Day; January 25: Thank Your Mentor Day.** You can learn more and download toolkits at: <https://www.mentoring.org/>.
- <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-moment-youth/201301/mentoring-youth-matters>

Podcasts

- *College Uncovered* episode 8, “The Enrollment Industrial Complex”: https://castbox.fm/episode/Eps-8-The-Enrollment-Industrial-Complex-id5628605-id656480024?utm_campaign=a_share_ep&utm_medium=dlink&utm_source=a_share&country=us
OR <https://castbox.fm/vb/656480024>



- <http://www.daytonfoundation.org/scholars.html>
- <https://www.nitrocollege.com/>