



CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES

Youth Sponsorship Program

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



Did you recently receive PCS orders and have a school-aged child or teen that's worried about moving? Maybe you've heard them wonder:

- Who will my new friends be?
- What will my new school look like? What activities/sports are available?
- What are the other kids wearing?

The Youth Sponsorship Program connects your child to another youth in the new community to answer these questions and so much more.

Why should my child request a sponsor? A sponsor:

- Allows your child to **get to know their community before they arrive.**
- Provides them with someone who can **show them the ropes** in their new community.
- Helps reduce social isolation, leading to a **healthier transition** with reduced stress and at-risk behaviors.
- Gives youth a **youth perspective** of their new community and school.

- Allows you to focus on other aspects of transition, knowing that your child's needs are being met.

What does the Youth Sponsorship Program provide for my child?

- Their Youth Sponsor will provide a **welcome packet and information** about their new community before arrival.
- Upon arrival, their Youth Sponsor will arrange for them to have a **tour of the community** and, once you know which school they will be attending, **provide information about the school** and arrange for a tour there as well.
- The program hosts various activities and events that will help your child **meet new people, learn about their school and community.**

How do I get a sponsor assigned to my child?

- Once you receive PCS orders, contact the School Liaison Officer at your current installation.

Becoming a Youth Sponsor...

What is a Youth Sponsor?

Youth Sponsors participate in the Youth Sponsorship Program at CYS Centers and schools. They provide information about the community and school to their Sponsee via welcome packets, e-mail, and face-to-face communication

- Youth Sponsors **connect** their Sponsee to other youth with similar interests.
- Youth Sponsors plan events that help transitioning youth feel a **sense of belonging.**
- Youth Sponsors are **leaders** in their community.

Why Should my Child Become a Youth Sponsor?

- **Builds a sense of belonging** in their community
- Provides an opportunity to **give back to others**
- Teaches new **coping and resilience strategies** that can help your child during their transitions
- Provides **leadership** experience
- Provides opportunities for **service learning hours**
- Offers opportunities to **participate** in training and programs with other youth across the community
- Provides **adult mentorship**
- **Inspires** youth to be an active part of their community

Need more information?

Contact your local installation School Liaison Officer.

