

# Community Mentors Program (CMP) Mentors Application Packet

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## Mentor Information

The Community Mentor Program (CMP) is designed to forge relationships between high school age students and young adults to provide a resource for guidance and a positive support system for the mentee. In addition the program will create the investment necessary to foster a new generation of stakeholders in the Japanese American community for both parties.

Participants can expect opportunities to engage with the Southern California community and its many organizations. Mentees will have the chance to earn volunteer hours at events like the ESGVJCC's Aki Matsuri, enjoy social activities such as the holiday cook-off and seek advice, whether personal or academic through one-on-one mentoring occasions. Participation is free for mentees. The program coordinators and mentors are volunteering their time and may incur nominal costs.

Mentees must be current high school students. Mentors must have completed degrees at a higher education institute. Mentees should exhibit an interest in the Japanese American community and its future. The time commitment is contingent on the age of the mentor, but is expected to last through high school graduation. A variety of events are offered throughout the year and participants are expected to attend a minimum of 16.

What is unique about the CMP is the eclectic pool of mentors that have been selected to be a part of the program. Just like the Japanese American communities in Southern California, each mentor's experience in their respective community is unique. All mentors chosen have demonstrated commitment and dedication to the perpetuity of the Japanese American community.

Following the completion of participating in the CMP, participants will have learned the importance of community in their growth as a civically minded individual. Mentees will have acquired the resources and the skills necessary to be a lifelong participant in whatever community they come to identify with. They will have also established a network of multi generational connections within the Japanese American community.

CMP is a collaborative effort of the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center and Kizuna. Their respective missions are "to foster and preserve the cultural heritage unique to Japanese American ancestry; and to serve the community through social services, artistic, recreational, and educational programs" and to "build a vibrant Nikkei community by: creating an empowering culture and environment; engaging and advocating for the community by igniting the passion of young Japanese Americans; Building collective identity through multi-generational and multi-ethnic collaborations".



# Mentor Application Form

## Contact Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, Province: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth (mm,dd,yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_  
Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

## Mentoring Information

What do you hope to gain from participating in the program?

Have you had any other previous experience in mentoring programs? If so, please describe below:

What is your profession? Or what are your major career interests?

Please describe your education background.

What are your hobbies or personal interests?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Mentors Contract

## General

- I understand that the Community Mentor Program is an experience designed for my mentee and me to engage and discover opportunities to become involved in the community. Additionally, I am engaged in this project as a means to personally develop community youth.
- I will always be a positive role model to my mentee and lead by action.
- I will agree to the terms of the Special Service for Groups Application for Volunteers

## Attendance

- I will make my best effort to regularly attend 8 mentor/mentee activities throughout the year.

## Communication

- Prompt and clear communications with my mentor about scheduled events and check-in's. More specifically:
  - Notifying my mentee when I cannot attend meetings or events at least a week in advance
  - Promptly providing my mentee with a list of several dates that work for check-in's to allow for schedules to align
  - Communicating during check-in's regarding events that are already set in the calendar that may preclude my participation on later events.
- I will be positive but also honest about my experience with my mentee

As a mentor and a representative of the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center and Kizuna I will not engage in inappropriate behavior, activity or community with any mentees in the program. Some precautions include:

- Cross-gender single-ride (as in one passenger) transportation is prohibited (i.e. Female mentors cannot provide transportation to a individual male mentee and vice-versa)
- Mentors are prohibited from visiting the residence of a mentee
- Mentors will retain a strict professional distance from mentees utilizing their best judgment.
- Mentors will not engage in any activity that could result in defaming Kizuna and/or the Little Tokyo community.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

