

Referral Process

The Youth Aspire Mentoring Program is a referral-based program. Intake occurs on an ongoing basis throughout the year.

How to refer a young person to the program?

Parents and carers, school counsellors, welfare officers and other professionals can refer a young person to the program by completing a referral form outlining how the Youth Aspire Mentoring program will benefit the young person. If the young person is below the age of 18 years, parental consent will be requested.

Are self-referrals accepted?

A young person between the ages of 14-18 can self-refer to the program by completing an application form. A referral from a relevant professional, parent or carer will then be sought.

Referral forms and application forms can be obtained by contacting Jewish Care's Youth Mentoring Coordinator on 8517 5999, by email at yap@jewishcare.org.au or via our website www.jewishcare.org.au

What happens next?

Completed referral and application forms should be emailed to the Youth Mentoring Coordinator at yap@jewishcare.org.au

The Youth Mentoring Coordinator will review the referral/application form and contact the young person for a brief meeting to discuss the program.

The Coordinator will match the young person with an appropriate mentor based on the young person's interests and support needs. Applicants will be notified once a match has been determined.


Accreditation for Safeguarding Children

Jewish Care was accredited by the Australian Childhood Foundation under the Safeguarding Children Program in June 2016, and became the first provider of its kind to have undertaken and gained this accreditation in Australia. This accreditation reaffirms Jewish Care's strong commitment to the Safeguarding Children Program.



The Safeguarding Children Program is a unique voluntary accreditation scheme for organisations who have a duty of care to children and young people whilst delivering a service or activity to them and/or their families. The Program systematically builds the capacity of organisations to keep children and young people safe from abuse and exploitation by staff, volunteers or other relevant related individuals.



 If you'd like more information or wish to discuss your needs, please contact us:

Jewish Care (Victoria) Inc
619 St Kilda Road
Melbourne Victoria 3004

Telephone (03) 8517 5999
Email info@jewishcare.org.au
www.jewishcare.org.au



YOUTH ASPIRE MENTORING PROGRAM



Our Values

תודת **chessed** kindness
משפחה **mishpacha** family
דרך ארץ **derech erez** respect
צדקה **tzedakah** charity

 **JewishCare**
My Community. My Choice.

Take Charge of Your Life

Jewish Care's Youth Aspire Mentoring program is a new initiative that provides support and guidance to young people who are experiencing, or at risk of experiencing personal or familial complexities or challenges.

The year-long program is aimed at young Jewish people between the ages of 14-18 with special consideration given to those under 14 years of age.

The Youth Aspire Mentoring program matches the young person with an adult mentor who can provide support and guidance to help the young person manage some of their challenges, stay connected and plan for the future.

The Program Aims to:

- Develop positive self-esteem
- Provide a supportive connection with the Jewish community
- Improve general life skills
- Assist financially
- Provide career guidance



Get Matched With a Mentor

What is a Mentor?

A mentor is a community member over the age of 25 years who can provide guidance and encouragement to the young person. They are volunteers who have an interest in learning about, being-with and encouraging young people to explore new ideas, develop confidence and build capacity to problem-solving.

Mentors receive intensive initial training followed by ongoing support and development from the Youth Mentoring Coordinator throughout the year. All mentors obtain a Police and Working with Children Check.

How a Mentor Can Help

- Listen to the young person
- Spend time with the young person
- Help the young person access appropriate resources for personal or vocational development
- Provide support, ideas and strategies to manage and/or respond to challenges
- Provide links and contacts within the community and other opportunities to extend the young person's networks
- Treat the young person with respect
- Help set goals.

Mentoring Highlights

- Improves social and emotional well-being of young people
- Guides young people on how to work with others and build relationships
- Increases social connectedness with the community
- Provides opportunities to see life from different perspectives
- Promotes creative and alternative ways of thinking
- Improves resilience to deal with challenging life events.

The Youth Aspire Mentoring Program Includes:

Academic Scholarship

An academic scholarship of up to \$500 per year is offered to participants who fulfil the requirements of the program including meeting with their mentor at least once a month. Participants can spend their scholarship funds on books, fees, tutoring, personal development or other appropriate resources as agreed with the Youth Mentoring Coordinator.

Individual Development

Participants may be given the opportunity to engage in individual or group activities that may range from vocational to social in support of their identified goals. The type of activities will be determined in collaboration with their mentor and the Youth Mentoring Coordinator.

One-to-One Sessions

Young people are expected to meet with their mentors at least once a month. More frequent sessions can be negotiated if some young people prefer to meet with their mentors more often. The matching of the mentor with the young person will be determined based on the young person's needs and the mentors skills.

What is the Young Person Required to Do?

The Youth Aspire Mentoring Program is a rewarding opportunity that requires dedication, commitment and interest. The young person's commitments are:

- To respond to phone/email/text contact with their mentor
- To meet up with their mentor at least monthly
- To treat their mentor with respect
- To be flexible and patient
- To maintain regular contact with the Youth Mentoring Coordinator
- To attend any established workshops/activities
- To take responsibility.