



NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM

www.ngycp.org/mentor

FACT SHEET FOR FUTURE MENTORS

The National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program (NGYCP)...

...is a co-educational, preventative program for high school dropouts ages sixteen to nineteen years old.

...has graduated over 85,000 young adults all over the nation and its territories.

...develops young people in core component areas that include: leadership/followership, responsible citizenship, service to community, life-coping skills, physical fitness, health and hygiene, job skills, and academic excellence.

...is made up of Pre-ChalleNGe, a two week introductory period; the Residential Phase, in which the young person lives on program grounds for 5.5 months; and a year-long Post-Residential Phase, in which students return to their communities to obtain and maintain placement in continuing education or employment.

...embraces a "quasi-military" philosophy. NGYCP resembles the military in that the program environment is based on principles such as self-discipline, teamwork, self-esteem, personal responsibility, ethics, goal setting, and community service.

...is NOT a boot camp. Program graduates are NOT in any way required or expected to enlist in the military upon graduation.

...is for young people who want to attend the program voluntarily.

To be a mentor to a young person participating in ChalleNGe, you should...

...be willing to agree to undergo a screening process that includes, but is not limited to, a written application, two reference checks, a criminal record check (including a sex offender registry check), and an interview.

... be prepared to participate in mentor training—online and onsite at the program the young person is attending.

... be willing to begin building a relationship with the cadet during the Residential Phase, maintaining weekly contact via phone, email, letters, or face-to-face visits.

...be prepared to meet for a minimum of four contact hours per month during the Post-Residential Phase and submit monthly reports on your contact hours.

...be willing to share your life experiences and support a young person in a quest to change his/her life.

For more details about the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program and mentoring a participant, please visit www.ngycp.org/mentor