

# WONDER MENTORING PROGRAM

Helping to improve the emotional and social well-being of children impacted by foster care.



## Our Program:

Wonder is a one-on-one mentoring program serving youth impacted by foster care, by connecting them with consistent, caring adults. Our mentors are there to listen, support, and guide each child through fun, age-appropriate experiences. Children who participate in the program are called “Explorers” and the adults who volunteer and serve as mentors are called “Guides.” Together, they participate in a journey of fun and exploration filled with Wonder moments. A Wonder Guide may be the most consistent adult a child in care has in their lives and there is a minimum twelve-month commitment to become a mentor.

- The first four visits must be completed within the home before starting community outings.
- Outing costs are covered by the Guides unless it's a Wonder-sponsored event.
- Transportation is provided by Guides.

## Our Guides:

All Wonder Guides are adults, 21 years and older who have undergone a thorough application and screening process. These individuals value mentorship, collaboration, and are committed to making a positive impact on a young person's life. Before being matched with an Explorer, each Guide:

- Attends an orientation that provides an overview of the program alongside expectations.
- Will undergo an interview with program staff after the application has been reviewed.
- Once an interview is completed, selected guides are invited to attend the required training.
- Must successfully complete a background check (DOJ, CACI, FBI).
- Must provide copies of DMV driving records and proof of active auto insurance are also required.

## A little Wonder goes a long way...

Our program emphasizes the impact of one-on-one mentorship and the value of empowerment through connection. Our Coaches support Guides through the utilization of the four domains:

- **Sense of Belonging:** Support the youth in feeling connected to a group/community.
- **Self-Confidence:** Support the youth in feeling self-assurance about their own abilities or qualities.
- **Self-Worth:** Support youth in having a sense of value as a human being who is deserving of good things.
- **Future-Oriented:** Support youth in feeling optimistic about their future dreams and goals.