

## Guidelines for Marketplace Mentors

Some of our previous mentors have passed on the following guidelines:

- Help the student take seriously his or her evaluation.
  - Affirm the student for his or her participation.
  - Help the student learn the importance and reason for developing good social habits (like eye contact, punctuality, clear communication, firm handshakes, etc.)
  - Discuss with your student his or her academic interests, but share own interests as well.
  - Stress importance of reading and education to achievement.
  - It's fine to treat a student to lunch or a snack.
  - Please expose the students to both the routine and more exciting tasks involved in your career.
  - All students should be picked up and dropped off at PTM's Hal and Martha Wilson Center—4014 Indiana Avenue. Call Chan (596-4386) with any schedule changes.
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Preston Taylor Ministries

Preston  
Taylor  
Ministries



*Springbreak in  
the Marketplace*



March 16-20,  
2009

## ***Making Friends . . . Making a Difference . . . Being Made Different***

Preston Taylor Ministries is an after-school and mentoring program serving children in grades pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade living in the Preston Taylor community. Preston Taylor Ministries is offering a marketplace mentoring opportunity for 6th-10th grade students at PTM over their Spring Break (March 16-20, 2009). There are currently 40 6th-10th graders enrolled in PTM and our goal is to provide each student with 5 "marketplace" experiences. Each experience would be one-on-one with a volunteer who is willing to spend 2-4 hours showing a student his/her workplace and teaching a little about that career. In the past, we have had professors, attorneys, college students, healthcare professionals, marketing directors, chemists, bankers, construction workers, financial advisers, and interior designers volunteer as marketplace mentors. Providing a student with 5 different experiences gives an idea of what a career could look like, and the sacrifices needed to get to that career. On top of the introduction to a career, our hope is that each student also has positive interaction with a caring adult.

To be a "marketplace mentor", an adult commits to one 2-4 hour time period the week of March 16-20. We have had mentors to sponsor a child at 7:00 in the morning--and some from 6:00-9:00 at night. The most common time block would be 9:00-12:00 or 1:00-4:00. One of the PTM staff would then match a mentor up with a child.



Ideally, the mentor would pick the child up from our site (the Hal and Martha Wilson Center—4014 Indiana Avenue) and return him or her at the end of the experience. If this is not possible, we can provide transportation to and from a workplace.

Though this is not a requirement, nor expected, taking a student to lunch provides an additional opportunity for a child to interact with a mentor. If you are interested, please contact Chan Sheppard at 596-4386 or [cgsheppard@earthlink.net](mailto:cgsheppard@earthlink.net).

### **A Student's Experience**

Students involved in PTM go through an application process, as well as a series of seminars on developing job skills. Leading up to the Spring Break week, each student will learn about appropriate work attire, greetings, some interview skills, and certain expectations. Parents will be informed about this week, and will give permission for their children to participate fully by granting permission for their children to be driven in personal vehicles by volunteers and PTM staff.

During the Spring Break week, each student will have around 5 marketplace mentors. During an experience, it is expected that each student will complete a survey on the workplace, commenting on educational level of the mentor, general salary for that type of career, positives and negatives about that particular career, and will have a better understanding of what that particular career



—or setting—is all about. This opportunity provides each student with a few more positive experiences with adults, an awareness of career options, and an appreciation for the sacrifice and work required to succeed in certain career fields. Additionally, each student will have a sense of accomplishment and a purpose-filled Spring Break.



For more information, please contact  
Chan Sheppard at 596-4386

