Position: Mentor in LINK Leaders program (Volunteer)

Hours: 8-12 hours per month; divided between two Tuesday evenings each month (6-7:30pm) on site at Village Learning Place, and one field trip taken on a Saturday each month (hours will vary). Outside of these program hours the Mentor/Mentee and Mentor/Program Coordinator will communicate with each other.

Description: LINK (Let’s Invest In Neighborhood Kids) Leaders is a school-year program for 7th-12th graders began in January 2019. Students from Leaders who are interested and meet the criteria for inclusion in the mentoring pilot program will be matched with an adult mentor. Mentorship will take place in addition to their other program activities and coursework.

Guided relationship building and other activities will take place on-site at Village Learning Place following our after school programming on two Tuesdays each month beginning in October 2021. Mentors and mentees will also attend one weekend field trip each month. All mentor/mentee pairs will be expected to attend these events. Mentees will expect communication from their mentor outside of these limited program hours.

Interested volunteers will meet virtually with the Teen Program Coordinator once an application is submitted and then will be placed on a wait list. Students will be recruited in August 2021. At that time, potential mentors will receive notification if they will be matched with a mentee for the school year. Matched mentors will be asked to attend a training session in September 2021 in advance of official program start in October.

Location: Village Learning Place, 2521 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, MD 21218

Responsibilities: Under the direction and guidance of the Teen Programs Coordinator, the LINK Leaders’ Mentor will:

- Be a reliable and consistent presence in their Mentee’s life
- Show interest in the student, their family, their academics, and their interests outside of school
- Attend three scheduled events a month with their mentee
- Communicate with their mentee at least once a week
- Be persistent in maintaining communication with their mentee
- Demonstrate patience, creativity, and flexibility in their relationship with their mentee
- Maintain reasonable and necessary communication with mentee’s family
- Regularly communicate needs, concerns, and updates to the Teen Programming Coordinator
- Work to achieve the VLP’s Mission and to integrate the VLP’s Core Principles in all
efforts
- Use restorative practices to build relationships with mentee and others in the larger VLP community

**Minimum Qualifications:**
- Passion for working with urban youth
- Some experience working with teenagers a plus
- Willingness to learn, attention to detail, ability to keep commitments, and the capacity to help others
- Patience, flexibility, initiative, creativity
- All staff and volunteers in a direct service role with students are required to be fully vaccinated

Please complete an online application at [http://weblink.donorperfect.com/VolunteerVLP](http://weblink.donorperfect.com/VolunteerVLP) (select “LINK Leaders Mentor” role). A background check will be required before mentoring begins. Email kim.jolley@villagelearningplace.org with questions.