

MONTHLY



UPDATE

A Note from Our Team

We hope you enjoyed Thanksgiving and were able to celebrate in a safe way this season. As we approach the December holidays and 2021, we want to share a bit about this past year. Please join us in celebration and reflection of 2020 and we look ahead with anticipation. As always, we appreciate your support and encouragement. Thank you for playing your part in helping our community continue to move forward in a safe way. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

2020: A Year in Review

The year 2020 has been a year that none of us will soon forget. From a hopeful new year to news of a pandemic, from celebrations and school days to quarantine and virtual learning, all the twists and turns of this year have challenged each and every one of us. Throughout these situations, we have continued to learn, get creative, and find new ways to communicate. Even though we have to be physically distant for a while, we don't have to stay relationally distant. We still have so much to celebrate and look forward to in the coming months with Intentional Mentoring. This month we caught up with Katie Imhoff-Bebeau, Intentional Mentoring's founder, as we wrap up this unique year.

Katie and Lead Mentor Coach Dana kicked off the year as they headed to the MENTOR Conference in Washington DC where they met with other mentoring organizations from around the world and brought back inspiration for the future of Intentional Mentoring. Soon after that, "moving into a

virtual whirlwind with the pandemic, we saw community members reaching out to become mentors, mentors jumping in full-force to help support [students] with school for the student and family," Katie explained as some of the highlights of the year.

For our organization, Katie also highlighted that we have "an awesome promo and fundraising initiative that came from the excitement about what can be. We used human-centered design thinking within our leadership team to gather input from stakeholders and make adjustments so we are best serving the students, families, and mentors within our program. We participated in empathy interviews with our stakeholders where we learned the appreciation mentees had for their mentors as they helped them with goals and shared in activities. We learned that mentors value the grass-roots nature of the program and how families and schools appreciated the 1:1 individualized programming for their students."

(continued on page 2)



Shout-out

To those who are finding ways to **RELATIONALLY CONNECT** this holiday season!



Food for Thought

Mentoring programs that **TRAIN MENTORS ON CHALLENGES** students face are more costly and complicated but have greater impact.

[Click for more info!](#)



Online

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Throughout this year, we continue to be impressed with our mentors and our Intentional Mentoring staff who have all exhibited creativity, perseverance, and positivity to continue to meet students' needs throughout this pandemic. "We encouraged lots of outdoor activities, gave activity boxes (arts, sports, reading, inventions, etc.) to support some collaboration and socially distanced fun in the summer months, and had various challenges that mentorships could participate in each week," explained Katie. Also, our "connections with schools helped students transition as seamlessly as possible into virtual learning -- and with an extra connection to the mentor, mentees were able to problem-solve with someone 1:1."

Although we have plenty to celebrate, we are still looking for more support as we go into 2021. We are looking for more funding sources so that we can continue to do what we do for students. Please consider participating in our Giving Tuesday and Year-End Giving campaigns or donating throughout the year. These funds will help to support student goals, relationship-building, activities, and administrative needs. Thank you for your financial support!

Additionally, we have enough students right

now who are interested in mentors where we are hoping to double our current number of pairings, but we can't do this without mentors. We are looking to add roughly fifteen mentors in the coming months, so if you or anyone you know is interested in volunteering as a mentor to help increase the support network for students, please contact us. This is a challenging season for us all as we continue to go through this pandemic, and we have been grateful to hear students' appreciation and success stories despite this year's challenges. Please consider joining our crew of amazing mentors who have that passion to make a difference in the lives of the young people in our community. You'll be surprised how much you'll learn from them as well.

As 2020 winds down, Katie concludes, "Intentional Mentoring is so grateful for all of the learning that came about this year. It was amazing to see people relationally connect in a socially distanced world. We believe this is key to the future of our community. If more people can see the value in relationships with our next generation and connections between school, community, and families, we will move toward a stronger Madison community." Thank you for partnering with us. Here's to continued progress in 2021!

Interested in getting involved with Intentional Mentoring but not sure you have the skill set or the available time for coaching/mentorship? We still value your contributions! Consider monthly community outreach or helping to organize one of our events. Have questions about what help Intentional Mentoring could use or other ideas for ways you think you could help? Email us at katiemae@intentionalmentoringmadison.org.

Contact Us

Our Mission Statement

With guidance from coaches, mentors interact with school staff, community members, and families in order to strengthen the support network for students facing adversity.



Upcoming Events

**Click for
Calendar**

intentionalmentoringmadison.com/events

**Click
to Send**

SHOUT-OUTS

**CLICK TO
DONATE**

**BECOME
A MENTOR**



INTENTIONAL
MENTORING

INTENTIONAL *giving* 2020

JOIN US

Impact student lives
by becoming a mentor
or participating in
Year-End Giving

**GET STARTED
TODAY!**



Get an IM Hat with \$100 Donation!

Funds will support...

STUDENT GOALS

Mentors work with mentees to reach academic and personal goals. Help us to maintain our 15 pairings and add 5 new ones in the next few months!

RELATIONSHIP- BUILDING

Sponsor activities and materials as we find creative ways to help mentors and mentees connect throughout these chilly months during the pandemic.

ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

Our administration provides the platform and resources needed to empower our mentors and students as they continue learning from one another.

Thank you!