

A Message from the Executive Director & Founder:

SHIELD Supporters,

First of all, Happy New Year! I hope that your holidays were filled with warmth, joy and love celebrated with family & friends and that 2016 is off to a great start! The entire SHIELD organization has been extremely busy kicking off our 2015-2016 program year and with the help from some new volunteers, have updated the look of our newsletter! The new layout was designed with you in mind – to keep you up-to-date on all the initiatives that we are working on to Strengthen, Help, Inspire & Encourage Leadership Development of our youth, to keep you informed of our progress towards our 2020 Vision campaign and to invite you to participate in upcoming events and fundraising initiatives. So sit back, relax and enjoy the newsletter!

“Like eagles, SHIELD leaders will be given the proper guidance to reach high altitudes in life.”

Precious McCoy



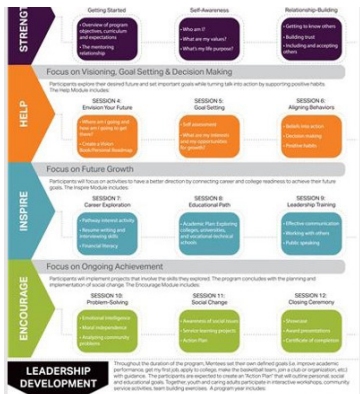
SHIELD Mentoring Model



The SHIELD Mentor Program (SHIELD) Mentoring Model is a facilitated curriculum-based, year-long leadership building intensive program focused on four-stage sessions: Strengthen, Help, Inspire and Encourage Leadership Development.

To learn more, visit www.shieldyouth.com.

SHIELD Curriculum Overview



The implementation of the curriculum is fully aligned with SHIELDs desired outcomes in core impact areas allowing participants to practice new behaviors, such as better communication, assertiveness, cooperation and problem solving.

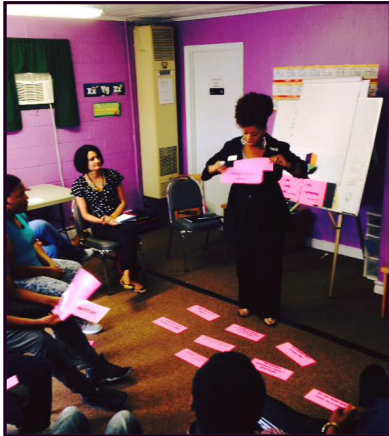
To learn more, visit www.shieldyouth.com.

Self-Awareness & Relationship-Building Sessions

The 2015-2016 program year kicked off with an orientation session on August 29th. Mentees, mentors & volunteers were presented with an overview of program objectives, curriculum and expectations. Precious McKoy, Executive Director & Founder, also explained the mentoring relationship and begin to set expectations for mentee success.

The early fall sessions focused on self-awareness with guest speaker Ms. Taunya Monroe. Mentees learned about personal hygiene, grooming techniques and the importance of their outward appearance. They also walked away with some great sample products! Looking good, smelling good and feeling good are all important characteristics of leaders.

To view more session photos, please visit our Facebook page.



By late fall, the mentees were ready to dive into the relationship-building section of the curriculum. Kiera Hereford, Program Director, has been volunteering her time since 2014 and establishes strong bonds with all mentees. One that she has an especially strong bond with is Denisea. Denisea is the kind of person who brings life and energy to a room and almost never stops smiling. But that wasn't always the case. Denisea will be the first to tell you that a few years ago, she was a loner. She was quiet. She didn't talk to people. Didn't even want their company. But now? "Now? I'm nothing like that. I talk to everybody!" she says.

Denisea credits her incredible transformation to two years in the SHIELD Mentor Program. She has learned how to speak in public, how to set and achieve goals, and even how to manage her money.

At just 14, Denisea has a plan for her future. She wants to become an interior designer or a photographer. At SHIELD, she's learning just how to make her dream job a reality.

Future & Goal-Setting Sessions

January is National Mentoring month so we want to take time to remind you of the importance of the mentor/mentee relationship:

- ☐ 14% of Guilford County's high school students do not graduate on time
- ☐ 32% of NC high school students have drunk alcohol in the past 30 days
- ☐ For every 1000 girls in Guilford County between ages 15-19, 30 are getting pregnant.

The most effective intervention for at-risk youth is to provide them with a caring, adult mentor. Young people who are mentored are more likely to:

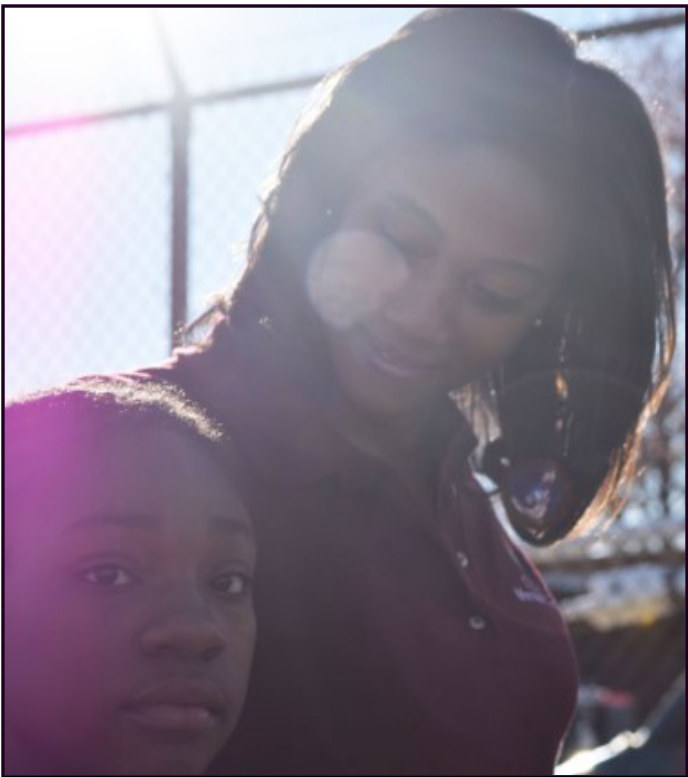
- ☐ Stay in school and graduate
- ☐ Avoid substance abuse
- ☐ Enroll in college
- ☐ Become community leaders

Thank you for your continued support of SHIELD!



Early December, we begin addressing visions for the future & goal-setting with the mentees. We used this time to discuss the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday and Dr. King's impact on social justice and racial equality. We also touched on current, controversial events that the youth were aware of.

Kiera Hereford, Program Director, spends one-on-one time with Harmony, a current mentee. Although SHIELD's curriculum is based on group sessions, mentees know that they always have the option of having private discussions when needed.



2020 Campaign

SHIELD's Vision 2020 CAMPAIGN

SHIELD's Vision 2020 Campaign is working to achieve the following goals by the year 2020:

- ☐ To develop successful community partnerships with five (5) youth serving programs and organizations in order to provide larger groups of participating youth (mentees) with access to mentoring support.
- ☐ To recruit one hundred (100) young people from many different personal backgrounds from a wide cross-section of ethnic, cultural and economic backgrounds.
- ☐ To train twenty-five (25) community role models to focus on positive reinforcement, trust-building, and the achievement of goals, by engaging youth in mentoring in the community.
- ☐ To secure an annual budget of \$36,000 and thus operate at a level that allows efficient delivery of mentoring services.

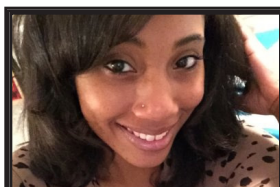
When you make a gift to SHIELD, you join the mission to see all Guilford County's children reach their full potential! Your gift will provide Guilford County youth with committed mentors and life-changing leadership skills.

Your tax deductible donation will have the following impact:

- ☐ \$25 will train a caring adult to be a successful mentor
- ☐ \$50 will supply a child with life-changing leadership materials
- ☐ \$100 will provide a young person with a year-long leadership development program

You can donate online by visiting www.shieldyouth.com or mail your check made out to the SHIELD Mentor Program to: 3125 Kathleen Ave #218 Greensboro, NC 27408.

Meet our Volunteers:



Kiera Hereford is currently Program Director of SHIELD and has been volunteering since January 2014. She is a Believer in engaging commUNITY. NONprofit leader. EDUcation advocate. Youth (wo)mentor.



With over 10 years experience working in non-profit organizations, **Madhavi Shankarling** is passionate about agencies that empower people and improve their lives. She is excited to be working with SHIELD where she hopes to build relationships with donors, to assist SHIELD reach its financial goals. Most recently, she worked as the ESL Adult Literacy Program Coordinator at Reading Connections in downtown Greensboro.



Tina Reels is a marketing volunteer with over 15 years of marketing experience with a major truck manufacturer. While marketing is her passion, she is equally passionate about racial equality within the justice system, particularly as it relates to juveniles.