Overview
The REDEEM Mentor Program matches mentors with mentee’s in one-on-one relationship for a year. Through these relationships, as well as recreational and group activities, our matches share friendship, support, and fun. Mentors and mentees get together at least once a week. Both mentors and mentees make a commitment to spend time together throughout the year. They can participate in activities that they both enjoy. The mentors are not private tutors, although sometimes pairs decide to work on homework together. We plan social group activities on a monthly basis that are open to all participants of the REDEEM mentorship program. We are also available at all times to answer questions, offer support and help matches work through challenges that may arise.

Recruitment of Mentors and Mentees
Mentors complete a written application, including three references. They then participate in a one-on-one interview with a REDEEM STAFF and Head Mentor, at which time they learn about the program in detail, and we get to know them and their background. After completing the interview process, the mentor must attend a training session. Mentees also complete a written application, which includes a parent/guardian consent form.

Matching
The REDEEM MENTORING PROGRAM matches mentors and mentees based on shared interests, personality, and, if it is important to the mentee, cultural background. Unfortunately, we are not always able to match everyone who applies. This happens for many reasons, but the most common are that we simply do not have equal numbers of mentors and mentees. If a mentee is not matched, please understand that it is not because he is "unsuitable" for the program. They will be placed on our waiting list, and as soon as an opportunity arises for them to be involved, we will contact them. If a mentee is matched, REDEEM will host a special activity where they will be introduced to their mentor and their mentor will contact them by phone to let them know.

After Students Are Matched
After students are matched, they will meet with their mentor at least once a week for 2-3 hours (in some situations, times may vary). We must have Parents consent for all activities for the mentees to participate in. As the mentors are volunteers, it is important that the mentee and the mentor are both respectful of the other’s time.

Group Activities
We host social activities once a month. These activities give us a chance to get together and have fun! REDEEM’s activities may include field trips to the Denver museums, cook-outs and activities in the mountains, movies, bowling, possible dinner theater, and more. Along with program-wide activities, our REDEEM staff members coordinate other events for smaller groups or pairs. This is to encourage a sense of community within our program and creates a chance for our participants to get to know each other better. We really want to hear from mentees about what they would like to do.
Youth Information

Please write clearly and answer every question. Date: _____________________

Did you have a mentor before through our program? Yes___ No___
If yes, would you like the same mentor this time? Yes___ No___
Did you apply before and not receive a mentor? Yes___ No___

Child’s Name: ____________________________________________________________

Age: _____ Birthday: ________________ Ethnicity: __________________________

Grade: _________ School: _________________________________________________

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s): ____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________ Zip Code: _____________________________

Home Phone Number: ______________________________________________________

Child’s Mobile/Pager Phone Number(s):_______________________________________

Parent’s Mobile/Pager Phone Number(s):_______________________________________

Child’s Email Address: _____________________________________________________

Parent’s Email Address: ____________________________________________________

How did you hear about the Redeem Program? (Circle One)
Friend___ Teacher___ After School Program___ Other (describe)__________________
Youth Information

Why do you want a mentor? (For tutoring, advice, friendship, “big brother/big sister,” to learn about college life, or as someone to just hang out with?)

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

What kind of person would you like your mentor to be? (A good listener, active in sports, etc.)

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

What are three words that would best describe you?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Please describe three things that you are good at:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Is there anything that you would change about yourself?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

What clubs, activities, or sports are you in now? How much of your time do these activities take up?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Youth Information

What kind of activities would you like to do with the Redeem Program?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Is there anything else that you would like to describe about yourself that may help us find the best mentor for you?
________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

We will do our best to match you with a mentor who has similar interests and who we think will be a good role model for the upcoming year. You should meet with your mentor for 2-3 hours a week and try to attend the group activities each month. Your mentor will let you know the times and dates of these fun events. In order to gain the most from the program, you need to make an effort just like the mentor. Please answer the following questions:

1. Will you try your best to meet with your mentor every week? Circle: Yes or No

2. Will you try your best to attend every monthly group event? Circle: Yes or No

Signature: ____________________________________________ Date: ________________
PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT AND LIABILITY RELEASE FORM

I, ________________________________, give my consent for REDEEM Mentoring Program to match my child, ________________________________, with a volunteer mentor. I will also give consent for my child to participate in all REDEEM Mentoring Program activities; including all organized activities and transportation. In consideration of the advantages of participation in the REDEEM Mentoring Program, the undersigned agrees that REDEEM and its mentors, and its employees shall be released and exempt from any liability for damages for bodily injuries or property damages that may occur as a result of participation in the REDEEM Mentoring Program, except to the extent of insurance liability as provided by law.

__________________________   _______________________     __________________________
Signature        Date

Print Name       Relationship to child

__________________________   _______________________     __________________________
Address      City    Zip

Home Phone Number                     Mobile Phone Number   Work Phone Number

Email Address      Language Spoken by Parent/Guardian

Emergency Contact and Phone(s)

Will you be able to help with transportation of your child to meet with the mentor?       Yes___   No___

On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 being the least and 5 being the most) how involved will you be in this program?  UNINVOLVED  1  2  3  4  5 VERY INVOLVED
Parent/Guardian Information

Please write here why you think your child would benefit from the program and list anything of interest, i.e. special needs or concerns: _______________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR BECOMING A MENTEE

What is the purpose of the program?
The REDEEM Mentoring Program is designed to give your child an opportunity to have a one-on-one relationship with a male mentor. Through these relationships, as well as recreational and group activities, mentors provide friendship, support, and guidance to your child. The mentors are there to act as a positive role model and confidant.

Can my child be tutored by his or her mentor?
The REDEEM Mentoring Program is not a tutoring program. While sometimes pairs decide together to work on school work, this is not a requirement for the mentors. There are many other programs that focus on tutoring if you feel that your child needs academic support. The Redeem Program focuses on fostering lasting and meaningful relationships between the mentor and mentee rather than concentrating just on academics.

What about transportation?
It is the responsibility of each mentor-mentee pair to decide on a transportation plan that will work for them. Please be aware that most mentors in the Redeem Program do not have cars. When the mentor is willing to drive your child places, you will need to fill out a waiver form. If you cannot provide transportation for your child, contact the Project Director and we will see what we can do.

Who are the mentors and why do they want to be a part of the program?
Mentors are from a variety of different backgrounds and professions. They have been interviewed, trained, had their references checked. Mentors have a variety of motivations for getting involved with the program. However, all mentors want to be a positive role model in a child’s life.
Parent/Guardian Information

When will my child meet with their mentor? What kinds of activities will they do together?
There is a scheduled location and time. Meetings will be one day during the week day after school and one day out of the month for group outings. Activities range from going to the museum, spending time in the mountains, to seeing movies, or going on hikes together. All activities are agreed upon by you, your child, and the mentor.

The monthly outings will usually take place on Saturday mornings/afternoons. You will be informed of these events by your child’s mentor, as well as by emails that we will send out at least a week prior to the event.

What should I do if my child cannot attend a meeting or event with their mentor?
Have your child call his mentor. Be sure to keep the phone numbers of the mentor and Redeem handy so that you or your child can call them when needed. If you cannot reach the mentor, please call REDEEM at (720) 573-8176 and leave a message with the Youth Coordinator.

What if family plans conflict with a meeting?
Time with the mentor is not intended to displace time with the family. You should continue your normal family plans. The mentor and your child should plan their time together around your family’s normal schedule as much as possible. It may help to let your child and their mentor know about planned family events in advance to help avoid conflicts.

Can other family members or I go with my child and the mentor?
A mentoring relationship is special in part because it is a one-on-one relationship. Even teens that feel very close to their parents sometimes need to talk with friends outside of the family. The mentor is an adult friend with whom your child can talk about things that concern him or her. Please respect their private time together. Moreover, mentors are not baby-sitters and cannot be responsible for anyone except their mentee.

The mentor and your child will inform you about their plans each week. If at any time you are uncomfortable with their plans, please let us know. Mentors will be sensitive to your parental concerns and will try to find an arrangement that is acceptable to you.

How can I be sure that the mentor will support my rules and regulations?
In the beginning, talk to the mentor about any rules or regulations that you expect to arise in his relationship with your child. If you have strict rules about curfew, activities in which your child may not participate, etc. then please discuss these with the mentor. By making this information known at the beginning, you can help avoid misunderstandings later.
Parent/Guardian Information

What if the mentor says things with which I do not agree?
No matter how carefully we match mentors and mentees, you may find that some areas of your beliefs and ideas differ with those of the mentor’s. If there are important issues to you, please let the mentor know. You can request that the mentor NOT question your most important beliefs or values when with your child.

Who will pay for activities of the mentor and my child?
Redeem will pay for mentors and mentees activity expenses. Monthly events with Redeem are at no cost to you as well.

How often should I be in contact with the mentor and how much should I say about family problems/ concerns?
Get to know the mentor well enough to feel comfortable with him being with your child. Before each meeting, discuss the plans and times for returning home. Try talking directly to the mentor about your concerns, but please avoid talking to the mentor about your child in front of your child. If there is something the mentor should really know, then call them when your child is not around.

What if there are concerns or questions I don’t want to discuss with the mentor?
Please feel free to contact Project Director, Derek Burkhalter by phone at (720)573-8176 or email him at derek@redeemcolorado.org. He is here to make the Redeem Mentor Program work for students, mentors, and parents. A Redeem staff member will call you several times during the year to see how things are going. But don’t wait for them to call. We would like to know about anything that concerns you as soon as possible.

________________________________________  ________________________
Signature                                      Date

________________________________________  ________________________
Print Name                                  Relationship to child