



EMPOWER. ASSIST. CARE.

Chance To Advance

If you or someone you know would like to know more about the **CHANCE TO ADVANCE PROGRAM** or would like to become a Mentor, Contact:

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EAC Network is a not-for-profit human service agency that empowers, assists, and cares for over 82,000 children, families, seniors, and individuals in crisis across Long Island and New York City.

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Empowering, assisting and caring for people in crisis



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Chance To Advance

Improving the lives of youth in foster care through mentoring

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What is Chance To Advance?

Chance to Advance is a foster care and adoption advocacy program in which trained Mentors assist youth in connecting with enrichment programs and extracurricular activities. In addition, Chance To Advance provides college and vocational coaching, promotes independent living skills and encourages self-esteem necessary for future success. Youth who reside or once resided in foster care, ages 8-21, are encouraged to apply to participate in planned activities and be connected with a Mentor to receive one-on-one guidance and support.

Who are the Mentors?

Mentors are interested men and women from the community who volunteer with EAC Network program staff to link youth in care to local resources. Each adolescent is paired with a mentor who builds on a friendship while being a resource within the community. The mentor meets with the mentee regularly to promote their interests, as well as:

- Assist youth in identifying and setting goals
- Encourage higher education, development of vocational skills, and positive recreational activities
- Promote positive, healthy relationships
- Establish a lifetime bond with a positive role model

What training do Mentors receive?

Chance to Advance Mentors are trained in issues related to the foster care and adoption system, mentoring, youth development, child abuse, community resources, and EAC Network's policies and procedures. Additional training and support is ongoing.

Your Time Commitment/Donations

If you can't make the time commitment but would like to help the youth in Chance to Advance, please consider donating goods, admission tickets, holiday gifts, or supplies to the program. Monetary donations may be applied towards **Little Wishes**; an EAC Network program that grants the wishes of children residing in foster care.

Annual Summer Camp

Chance To Advance Summer Camp is N.Y.S. licensed and provides participants the opportunities to develop socialization and life skills through the use of educational and recreational activities. Some activities offered include:

- Cooking classes
- Teambuilding and self esteem exercises
- Trips to Splish Splash and sporting events
- Trips to museums and live theater productions

Mentoring Relationship

The mentoring relationship is a commitment to building a mutual friendship to share each other's lives and respect each other's differences.

Mentors have used the following activities to build upon their relationships with mentees:

- Eating out while communicating about the week
- Playing video or board games
- Attending museums and cultural events
- Playing sports
- Enjoying creativity through arts and crafts
- Providing assistance with college and employment applications
- Attending Job Fairs

Chance To Advance hosts group activities where all mentors and mentees are invited to participate.

Activities include but are not limited to:

- Trips to NYC
- Life skill workshops
- College Tours

