MENTORSHIP IN THE FIRE SERVICE

By Captain Chris Hickman

THE OCALA-MARION MENTORSHIP

OCALA-MARION



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WHAT IS MENTORSHIP?

• LEADING • COACHING • TEACHING • LISTENING • INFLUENCING • RECRUITING



WHO ARE WE MENTORING?

- POTENTIAL CANDIDATES
 COMMUNITY YOUTH
 NEWLY HIRED FIREFIGHTERS
 PROMISING LEADERS
 RETURNING VETERANS
- ✤ Those Seeking Development





POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

- INDIVIDUALS 18 OR OLDER
- No Felonies
- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR GED
- LEVEL 2 BACKGROUND CHECK
- NO MAJOR DRIVING ISSUES
- CAN PASS DRUG TEST

COMMUNITY YOUTHS

- Under 18 years of age
- COMMUNITY SERVICE NEEDED

CALC: N

- HAS A GUARDIAN/PARENT
- EXPLORING EMS/FIRE CAREER
- EAGERNESS TO HELP

NEWLY HIRED FIREFIGHTERS

- ANY FIRE DEPARTMENT
- TELL ONE TELL ALL
- UNION REMINDERS
- Shift Supervisors





PROMISING LEADERS

- HIGH SCHOOL
- COLLEGE
- CLUBS
- RELIGIOUS GROUPS
- SOCIAL MEDIA

VETERANS

RECRUITING OFFICES
EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
SOCIAL MEDIA
VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS



THOSE SEEKING SOMETHING BETTER

WHERE ARE THEY ??

ALL AROUND OUR COMMUNITY

- COMMUNITY EVENTS
- CONCERTS
- PARADES
- RISK REDUCTIONS EVENTS (RISK REDUCTION CLASSES: SMOKE DETECTORS, STOP THE BLEED, HANDS ONLY CPR, STORM PREP CLASSES







WHAT IS THE MOST UNDERRATED RESOURCE WE EACH HAVE?

FIREFIGHTERS

- BUSINESS CARDS
- Personal Invitations
- FLYERS PROVIDED AT EVENTS
- Focused Promotion



HOW DO WE BENEFIT THOSE WHO ARE PART OF THE PROCESS?



OPTIONS OBSERVATIONS/FE EDBACK OPPORTUNITIES





BENEFITS OF MENTORSHIP

- 55% More likely to enroll in college
- 78% MORE LIKELY TO VOLUNTEER
- **130%** More likely to take on leadership roles in the future





WHO BENEFITS FROM MENTORSHIP

- PARTICIPANTS
- Mentors
- DEPARTMENTS
- Families
- COMMUNITY



HOW HAS MENTORSHIP SHAPED OUR COMMUNITY?

2023 DATA

209 Participants

35 Employed

2 Military Enlisted

34 Scholarships Awarded

Aprox \$255k in Scholarships

HOW HAS THE PROCESS HELPED THE MENTORS?

- 1. **I**NESTMENT
- 2. VALUED THE FUTURE GENERATIONS
- 3. IMPROVED COMMUNICATION
- 4. IMPROVED MORALE
- 5. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
- 6. OWNERSHIP



DEPARTMENT BENEFITS



FAMILY BENEFITS OF MENTORING

- JOB SECURITY
- INCREASED WAGES
- INSURANCE BENEFITS
- STRONGER SUPPORT SYSTEM
- PENSION



COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- INCREASED LOCAL HIRING
- MORE FIRST RESPONDERS
- INCREASED RATE OF SUCCESS OF
 THOSE ATTENDING FIRE COLLEGE
- MORE ACTIVE RESIDENTS INVOLVED WITHIN PROGRAM AS WELL AS OUTREACH PROJECTS
- COMMUNITY THAT IMPROVES THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO SERVE IN THE PAST, PRESENT, AND IN TO THE FUTURE









MENTORSHIP BENEFITS **ALL**













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