



Dear Jo-Ann,

There has been no resolution or restitution of funding for the Warwick Mentor Program. With the ongoing budget issues in the City of Warwick, the Warwick School Committee voted last Thursday to request additional funding from the City.

Our stance is "No money, no mentoring."

We need YOUR help to have our beloved Warwick Mentor Program restored to wholeness.

1) Please attend the next Warwick School Committee Meeting. Tuesday, August 14, at 6:00 pm location is to be announced. The last several meetings have been held in the auditorium at Warwick Veterans Middle School, 2401 West Shore Road.

2) Please attend the next Warwick City Council Meeting. Monday, August 20, 2018 at 7:00 pm at Warwick City Hall Council Chambers. 3275 Post Road.

For us, it's a showing of strength in numbers, so your presence is of the utmost importance if you can possibly be there. Bring your friends and family! **There will be opportunities to speak at both meetings, but no obligation to do so.**

In the interim, together with our board of directors, we are doing everything we can to preserve jobs in anticipation of the Mentor Program being restored. **The \$102,000 hit represents 100% of our Warwick Mentor Program and 15% of our organization's annual budget decimating our cash flow.**

We have gone through our agency's entire budget line by line and taken a hard look at everything we can cut. I am actively reaching out to our other funders to have payments expedited when possible to get us through this difficult time. **Staff members will forego raises and increase the amount paid toward health insurance. We have suspended our janitorial service, mileage reimbursements and professional development, to name a few.**

I know from my conversations with Mayor Solomon, school committee and city council members that our supporters **(YOU!) have been emailing and calling.**

THANK YOU! It is making a difference!

With your help and belief in mentoring, we will weather this storm and be stronger for it. We know that mentoring works! **We cannot let our 160 young people return to school without the support of their mentors.**

Words cannot adequately express our thanks for all your efforts on behalf of the kids we currently serve and hope to grow to serve in the future.

Donate Now!!!

With gratitude for all you do,

Jo-Ann Schofield, President & CEO

The MENTOR Rhode Island Board of Directors

and the entire MENTOR Rhode Island team
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