



Dear Jo-Ann,

UPDATE: SAVE THE WARWICK MENTOR PROGRAM

Unfortunately,the budget impasse continues in Warwick. The Warwick Mentor Program remains unfunded and there are no indications of a quick fix on the horizon. Our fundraising campaign has raised just over \$15,000 of the \$102,000 that was cut. Needless to say, it's been a really difficult few months financially for us. <u>We are so</u> grateful to everyone who has contributed so far!

As you know, we chose to launch the program for our existing mentors and mentees on schedule... How could we tell 160 kids they aren't a priority? We are, however, unable to provide the full compliment of services without funding. So far that has meant <u>not adding any new mentors</u> to Warwick (to date we've directed about a dozen volunteers interested in mentoring in Warwick to other programs in neighboring communities).

And now active mentoring pairs will start to feel the pinch of our budget constraints. <u>Sadly, we are unable to organize Holiday Parties</u> this year due to the enormous time it takes to coordinate them at every single Warwick elementary and middle school. Mentors and mentees are welcome to celebrate the holidays in their own special ways (a special treat, an exchange of small inexpensive gifts, etc.) during their individual mentoring sessions prior to the holiday break.

We appreciate your support and will continue to keep you up to date on the status of the budget issue in Warwick as well as <u>opportunities to advocate for the</u> <u>restoration of funding</u> to the Mayor, City Council and School Committee.

Donate Now!!!

THE 2019 FROZEN CLAM DIP & OBSTAPLUNGE!!! Just two months from today! (Ouch!)



Registration is NOW OPEN and we are accepting sponsors for our New Year's Day fundraiser, the Frozen Clam Dip & Obstaplunge. Another way to support the Warwick Mentor Program!

Join MENTOR Rhode Island and our co-host Laid-back Fitness at Goddard State Park Beach for the 8th annual Frozen Clam Dip and Obstaplunge. You can kick-off the new year and National Mentoring Month 2019 with an invigorating dip into Narragansett Bay, or take on the Obstaplunge...a half-mile "American Ninja Warrior" style obstacle course that finishes with the dip.

Check-In begins at 11AM Dip and Obstaplunge at Noon

\$30: Traditional Frozen Clam Dippers \$40: Obstaplungers

For more information, to Register, or to sign on as a sponsor.

Please visit the EVENTS page of our website!

TRAINING & WORKSHOPS

MENTOR Rhode Island has released its list of trainings and workshops available to mentors, mentoring program staff, and those looking to start a mentoring program during the 2018-2019 program year.

For more information on each opportunity, or to register....

Please visit the Training & Workshop page of our website.

With gratitude for all you do,

Jo-Ann Schofield, President & CEO and the entire MENTOR Rhode Island team

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STAY CONNECTED:

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