**MENTOR**

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MENTOR Rhode Island:
The RI Mentoring Partnership

Is a 501(c)(3) Corporation

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**MENTOR Rhode Island** Joins Forces with **Starbucks** for
10,000 Connections Event on Friday, October 4, 2019

All Rhode Island Starbucks locations will host staff from MENTOR Rhode Island and local mentoring programs to spread the word about the importance of youth mentoring. Starbucks is participating to engage and inspire community members to learn more about how easy it is to become a mentor. With over 900 Rhode Island youth on program wait lists, we are seeking to recruit 100 mentors as part of the national 10,000 Connections mentor recruitment campaign (www.mentoring.org/10kConnections).

With 1 in 3 young people unable to identify a mentor in their lives, the need for mentors is great. National surveys show at-risk youth with a mentor are 55% more likely to enroll in college than at-risk youth who don’t have one and are 78% more likely to volunteer in their communities.

A local school-based mentor program’s annual survey also confirms the positive outcomes of mentoring for students including 66% of teachers reporting mentees having improved attendance, 91% showing improvement in one or more core subjects, and 95% reporting that mentees appear more self-confident.

Nationally, Starbucks joined forces with LinkedIn, MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership (MENTOR), and organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, the YMCA of USA, City Year, and Year Up, to launch a nationwide campaign designed to connect more than 10,000 mentors and mentees across the US.

**WHAT:** 10,000 Connections Mentoring Event Hosted by MENTOR RI and all
 RI Starbucks locations

**WHEN:** Friday, October 4, 2019

**WHERE:** All RI Starbucks locations – times vary by location

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Press interested in covering the event may contact Christopher Margadonna, Director of Training and Engagement, at cmargadonna@mentorri.org or 401.793.6260

About MENTOR Rhode Island: The RI Mentoring Partnership, Inc.

*Is an affiliate of MENTOR: the National Mentoring Partnership. Mentor RI’s mission is to ensure youth have access to the motivational and supportive relationships they need to grow into confident, successful adults. We envision a Rhode Island where all youth are connected to relationships with adults who inspire and support them. All youth will have role models who provide a road map for lifelong success and achievement. We serve as an umbrella organization for dozens of mentoring programs around Rhode Island offering help with recruitment, training, and technical assistance. We are also directly responsible for the coordination of the school-based mentoring programs in Warwick, Woonsocket, Newport, Middletown, Pawtucket, Providence, Warren, & Cranston. For more information visit* [www.MentorRI.org](http://www.MentorRI.org)