

# Committed Partners for Youth

1840 WILLAMETTE STREET, SUITE 100  
EUGENE, OR 97401

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# Committed Partners for Youth

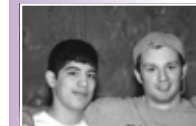
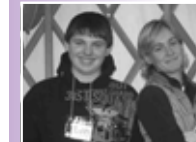
Enhancing Youth Development Through Mentoring

Winter 2006

1840 WILLAMETTE ST., SUITE 100, EUGENE, OR 97401 • (541)344-0833 • fax (541)344-3209 • WWW.COMMITTEDPARTNERS.ORG

## January is

National  
Mentoring  
Month!



## Mentoring Gets National Recognition

January is "National Mentoring Month." It's an annual celebration dedicated to increasing awareness about mentoring, recruiting more mentors, and requesting that businesses, faith-based organizations, schools and community groups encourage their constituents to become mentors. Too many young people often do not get enough external support.

National Mentoring Month was launched in January 2002 with a Proclamation from President George W. Bush to reaffirm our nation's commitment to mentoring. Bush stated that "One mentor can change a life forever. I encourage all of our citizens to dedicate their time and talents to mentoring a young person."

We encourage you to think about individuals in your own lives who offered you guidance, showed you the ropes and helped you become who you are today. They may have been informal mentors such as relatives, neighbors, colleagues, older friends, coaches, clergy or teachers. Thanks to everyone who has taken time to mentor a CPY youth!

### We're Hosting A

### "Thank You Mentor Luncheon"

on January 23rd to recognize the commitment you've each made to a CPY youth (see announcement to the right) We hope to see you there! Special thanks goes out to Cordy Jensen from the Oregon Electric Station for sponsoring this special event.

## CPY announcements

### SAVE THIS DATE!

All Past & Present  
CPY Mentors...

YOU ARE INVITED!  
to a "Thank You  
Mentor Luncheon"  
on Monday, Jan. 23, 2006  
at the Oregon Electric Station.

**This Event Is All About You!**  
We'd like to celebrate your  
thoughtfulness and commitment  
to CPY's mission.  
Call our office for more details:  
344-0833 x105

### CHECK THIS OUT!

You can now make secure  
Donations  
to CPY online!  
Visit our Web site and click on  
the "DONATE NOW" button.  
Thank you all for your continued  
support of our mentoring  
programs!  
[www.committedpartners.org](http://www.committedpartners.org)

### CPY WISH LIST!

Office chairs  
LCD Projector  
Large Hanging Picture Frames  
Vacuum Cleaner

Welcome  
To The CPY Family!

**New Staff Member**  
**Caroline Cummings**  
Resource Development  
Director

This is a brand new position and  
we are all very excited to have  
Caroline join our team.  
Caroline brings eight years of  
strategic growth planning,  
business development and change  
management to CPY.

**New Board Member**  
**Bobby Lee**

Corporate Comm. Officer  
Hynix Semiconductor, Inc.  
A former UO graduate and also  
a Eugene city councilor, Bobby's  
enthusiasm and passion for youth  
and families is a true gift to CPY.

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Graphic Design, Anne Borland

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[www.committedpartners.org](http://www.committedpartners.org)

# 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Truffle Shuffle EUGENE OREGON 2006

4 MILE RUN ~ 2 MILE WALK/RUN ~ JERRY'S KIDS FUN RUN

Sunday, Feb. 12th at Alton Baker Park, Eugene

Register at:

[www.goodrace.com](http://www.goodrace.com)  
Eugene Running Company, 116 Oakway Center  
The Nike Store - 296 E.5th Ave.  
Fenton & Lee Chocolatiers - 35 East 8th Ave.  
CPY Office

Committed Partners For Youth is a non-profit organization. Our mission is to connect youth to their community through volunteer mentors who inspire the development of personal identity, healthy relationships, and meaningful opportunities.

# Truffle Shuffle EUGENE OREGON 2006

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

Sunday, February 12th  
Alton Baker Park

Unbelievably, on Sunday afternoon, February 12th we will be hosting our TENTH annual Truffle Shuffle Run/Walk at Alton Baker Park. Time has sure flown by! Back in early 1997, after learning that the popular Truffle Trot was being discontinued, a small group of running enthusiasts and supporters of our Bolder Options mentoring program took on the challenge of organizing the Truffle Shuffle Run/Walk fundraiser. We pulled off the first year's event for 500 runners with only 6 weeks preparation - thanks to the hard work of Liz Wilson, Mike and Connie Manley, Patricia Scarci, Wayne Nay, and Laura Lamena-Coll. Many of these same dedicated volunteers are still on the race committee, some are CPY board/advisory board members and all are CPY donors.

Special thanks to the rest of the 2006 race committee: Monica Labarge, Rita Radostitz, and Valerie McCutcheon, as well as the hundreds of other volunteers and generous sponsors whose efforts over the years have made this event the 2nd largest road race in Eugene, raising over \$170,000 for our mentors and youth in the Bolder Options program.

Come celebrate our 10th Annual event, by running and walking with the other 1200+ chocolate lovers at Alton Baker Park. Through rain, sleet, and snow we go...to support Committed Partners for Youth.... and to indulge in the traditional, giant Fenton and Lee chocolate truffle at the finish line. See you out there February 12th!

## So What's Mentoring All About Anyway?

Listen in on our interview with a current mentor-youth pair to find out.

Meet Pat (mentor) and Jared (youth, age 14). They are members of the first wave of mentor youth pairs to be matched in our new Project Impact Program and were introduced in May of 2005. This is a unique multi-systemic mentoring intervention that targets children in grades 4 through 8 who are struggling in school and in need of a caring adult mentor. This program allows us to define school success for them in a more holistic way – where the focus is not only in academics, but also peer interactions, classroom behavior, extracurricular activities and even parental support – so parents can learn how to better connect with their child's school experience.

Jared was initially referred to CPY by his school counselor who noticed that his grades were dropping and his social interactions with others were becoming challenging. He was in need of an adult mentor who could help keep him focused on his academics and still have fun after school and on the weekends. There is no question in our minds that Pat was the perfect match for him. Read below and see how their relationship is helping both Jared and Pat enrich their lives.

**Q: Pat, why did you choose to become a mentor?**

**PAT:** I have never been a formal mentor before. I was a substitute teacher for many years and really enjoyed working with kids. I'm fairly new to this community and wanted to do something positive – mentoring seemed like a perfect choice for me.

**Q: Is there anything about being a mentor that is different from what you originally thought about mentoring?**

**PAT:** Yes, I didn't realize how comfortable we'd feel. I thought it would be hard to talk, but it's not – Jared is just like a friend.

**Q: Jared, What do you think you have in common with Pat?**

**JARED:** Sports! Pat likes baseball, bowling, rock climbing and shooting pool. She takes me to the EM's games and the Crux Rock Gym.

**Q: Has Pat ever taken you to a place you've never been to before? If so, what was it like?**

**JARED:** Yes, she took me to the Roadhouse Grill restaurant. I had never had a baked potato with cheese and bacon bits – it was really good!

**Q: Pat, what is the biggest change you've seen in Jared since you were first matched?**

**PAT:** He opens the door for me now – and I'm not sure if this is a change or not, but Jared has excellent table manners.



**Q: Jared, is there anything you've learned from Pat over the last several months?**

**JARED:** Yes – I've learned to bowl better (smiles at Pat).

**Q: What's special about hanging out with Pat?**

**JARED:** I get to go out of the house and do fun stuff. And she's really cool to hang out with. We always have fun!

**Q: How is your life different now that Pat is in your life?**

**JARED:** Well I tell more jokes (smiles) and I'm not getting as many incident reports at school.

**Q: That's great – has Pat helped you with your school work?**

**JARED:** Well she checks in with me about my grades and talks to my teachers.

**Q: You've been hanging out with Pat for about eight months now, what do you think you've learned about Pat?**

**JARED:** She's really good at bowling, she likes baseball games a lot and she likes to play air hockey.

**Q: Pat, how is your life different now that Jared is in your life?**

**PAT:** I'm going back to school to pursue my Master's Degree in teaching. Jared has helped me realize how much I really like being around his age group.

**Q: What one word would you say describes your relationship with Pat?**

**JARED:** Excellent!

## Who Mentored You?

Have you ever thought about who made a positive impact on your life? We asked some of the leaders in our community this question. Here are their mentoring stories...

"My second grade teacher comes to mind. I was a shy little girl and she took the time to encourage me on a daily basis to write and illustrate stories. She made me feel I had worthwhile contributions to make and valuable talent and skills. That encouragement made all the difference to me in how I saw myself and in my self confidence."

~ **Kitty Piercy**, Mayor of Eugene

"My percussion teacher at Baylor University had a deep impact in my life; Dr. Larry Vanlandigham not only taught me how to become a fine musician, but through his example, inspired me to become a better person and have the highest work ethic. Ever since his passing, I think of him often and will forever be grateful for his guidance and trust."

~ **Giancarlo Guerrero**, Music Director & Conductor, Eugene Symphony

"Herb Schwartz, a community member agreed to tutor me in Algebra when I was in high school. I needed to get a 100 on my Algebra test and Herb spent time with me after school to tutor me in Algebra. Thanks to Herb I got that 100! I also have to mention Curtis Huey. He was the director of Springfield Public Schools and I was his assistant. I was 28 years old and it was my first administrative job. He taught me that any question is a fair question. Thank you Herb and Curtis for being my mentors!"

~ **Nancy Golden**, Superintendent, Springfield Public Schools

"The earliest mentor I had was my father who supported all of my endeavors, athletic, academic or arts-related, and helped me to believe that a positive attitude and an unflagging work ethic would lead to good things in life. I also consider Julia Child a mentor – she transformed the potential for women to be respected members of the professional kitchen. She gave me the confidence that you don't have to be a man in a tall white hat to succeed as a chef. You need to have the skills, to be sure, but also vision, humor and a hospitable spirit."

~ **Stephanie Kimmel**, Owner, Marché Restaurant

"My baseball coach and my father are two very important individuals that had tremendous impact on my life. Both had high work ethics and a manner of encouragement that made me feel that I could succeed at whatever task I chose if I applied myself. My father would always respond to "I can't" with "Can't means don't want to." My baseball coach, like my father would always encourage me to push myself a little harder to excel. Both were instrumental in developing confidence in my abilities and a willingness to challenge myself to reach beyond what I thought my limitations would otherwise be."

~ **Jerry D. Smith**, Chief of Police, Springfield Police Department

"The person who comes to mind as my mentor is Dewitt Martin. He was one of my teachers who taught me in 7th and 8th grades. He was from Memphis, Tennessee and I was from Rockford, Illinois – very different cultures! He was the person who introduced me to the game of basketball and got me hooked on the sport at a very young age. He was such a wonderful role model; he took our team on road trips, taught us how to be mentally tough, and taught us how to behave and be respectful of others. He instilled in me the importance of drive and determination and how to use athletics as a tool to be successful in life."

~ **Ernie Kent**, Head Basketball Coach, University of Oregon



Kitty Piercy



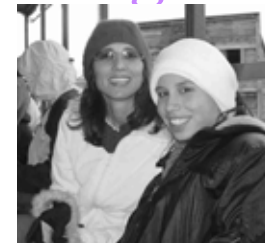
Giancarlo Guerrero

Mentors  
Do Make A  
Difference!



Jerry D. Smith

## Being Part of CPY



A CPY youth shares what having a mentor is all about.

My name is Brittany. I'm 14-years old and I have been a youth in the Committed Partners for Youth mentoring program for about nine months now. My mentor's name is Caroline, she is an awesome person. We do a lot of things together that one or both of us have never had the chance to do before – like trying new foods or going to new places and meeting new people – like the time we met Heidi, a Forensic Scientist at the Springfield Crime Lab. Caroline encourages me to do things that I thought I couldn't do well, or was afraid to do – like climb to the top at the rock gym! Everyone really does their part at CPY to make it fun and safe for you or you child.

When CPY matches you with a mentor they try to pair you with someone who has the same interests as you, which makes it a comfortable experience. We then do really cool things like going rafting or helping out at the caramel apple booth at the Lane County Fair. I really like hanging out with everyone at CPY. I wish that my year was only beginning – that way I'd have the chance to do all of the fun activities with everyone again. If you were to ask me to rate CPY on a scale of 1-10 I would most definitely give them a 10. I'm sure that if you were to ask other youth in the program what they think about CPY that they'd tell you almost the same thing, but in their own words.

CPY even has times when the parents can come to meet the other parents, I have been to one of them with my mom and I personally think that it was a great experience for my mom to be around other parents in similar situations.

The absolute coolest part of CPY is that the mentors are volunteers! I'm amazed that people do what they do for free! Now that I have filled you in a little maybe you yourself or a friend would like to be a mentor and become a part of CPY too – or you might just like to support this cool program. I Hope that your day is going great and I hope that you liked my article.

- **Brittany Rodriguez**



## A Very Special Thanks!

Cheers to These Sponsors that Helped Make the 2005 Wine Tasting & Auction a Success!

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