

Mentor Monitor

Cole-to-Teen mentoring program continues to thrive

Through the generosity of many, the Cole-to-Teen Mentor Program, established by the Cole Mental Health Consumer Resource Center in an effort to provide positive adult interaction with with the teens and adolescents of McLean Hospital's Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Program, is thriving after its first 16 months.

"The past 16 months has been an amazing and enlightening experience," says Carol Brown, who coordinates the Cole-to-Teen program." The generosity of people, whether it is through giving their time, or donating tangible items, has been wonderful. This program would certainly not be as successful as it is without volunteers and donors."

In addition to weekly lunches and journal club meetings, held weekly, each month, the mentors host a "special event night," for the teens. In the last 16 months, Brown estimates that between all of these events the mentors have spent close to 300 volunteer hours with the teens.

Among the special events recently enjoyed by the mentors and teens were an arts and crafts night, where volunteer mentor Anne O'Connell taught everyone to make sun catchers, a Christmas party, which included a door decorating contest, a rock concert, two Northeastern University Women's basketball games, and Easter egg coloring contest and a visit from Bonaparte the Magician.



A sun catcher designed during a Cole-to-Teen craft night hangs in a window.

Special events planned

Each month, the mentors and teens plan special programs for all to enjoy. Below is a list of some of the events scheduled for the spring and summer months. For more details on any of these events or to suggest an outing, call Carol Brown at 617-855-2118.

- Airplane flying demonstration
- Wiffleball game/Cookout
- Volleyball game/Cookout
- Field trip to Kimball's Farm
- Apple Picking and Hay Ride
- Movies and Pizza



Mentor program 'thank you's'

Without the generous support, many of the activities of the mentor program would not be possible. The mentors would like to thank:

- ★ The Hunt Foundation
- ★ Abbott Laboratories
- ★ Cephalon
- ★ Pfizer
- ★ UCB Pharmaceuticals
- ★ Cyberonics
- ★ McLean Hospital

