

# New York State Mentoring Program



Creating Opportunities for Children  
Chair: The Honorable Matilda Raffa Cuomo

# Overview and Needs

The goal of the Mentoring program is to provide **one-to-one school based** mentoring statewide to support the **social and emotional needs** of children who can benefit from a positive role model.

These are students who have some education and personal issue and lack support. They may currently be in the foster care system. We will help them reimagine a future full of promise and hope. It will bring together public and private resources, regional coordinators, working groups and the Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs) to make the mentoring program a success. Why Mentoring?

- 26% of youth ages 18-24 have not graduated from high school.
- 25% of students who entered 9th grade in 2009 did not graduate with their peers.
- 15% of elementary school and 21% of middle school students have a high risk of chronic absence.
- 77 schools have been rated as “failing” for more than a decade.
- One-to-one mentoring is one of the best ways to reverse these negative trends.



# Goals

To provide social and emotional critical support and connection to opportunities for children. We will:

- With the regional coordinators
  - identify children and schools that can benefit
  - work closely with national partners to provide standard mentor training.
  - work closely with the REDCs to identify mentoring partnerships
- Coordinate and complement the efforts of other existing mentor programs, both government funded, and not-for-profit, in each region
- Connect mentors with children in a one-to-one mentoring relationship in a school-based setting, with the permission of the child's parent or guardian
- Commit mentors to providing a minimum of 1 hour per week for a minimum of one year, but preferably two or more years.
- Share best practices; and measure the success of those participating

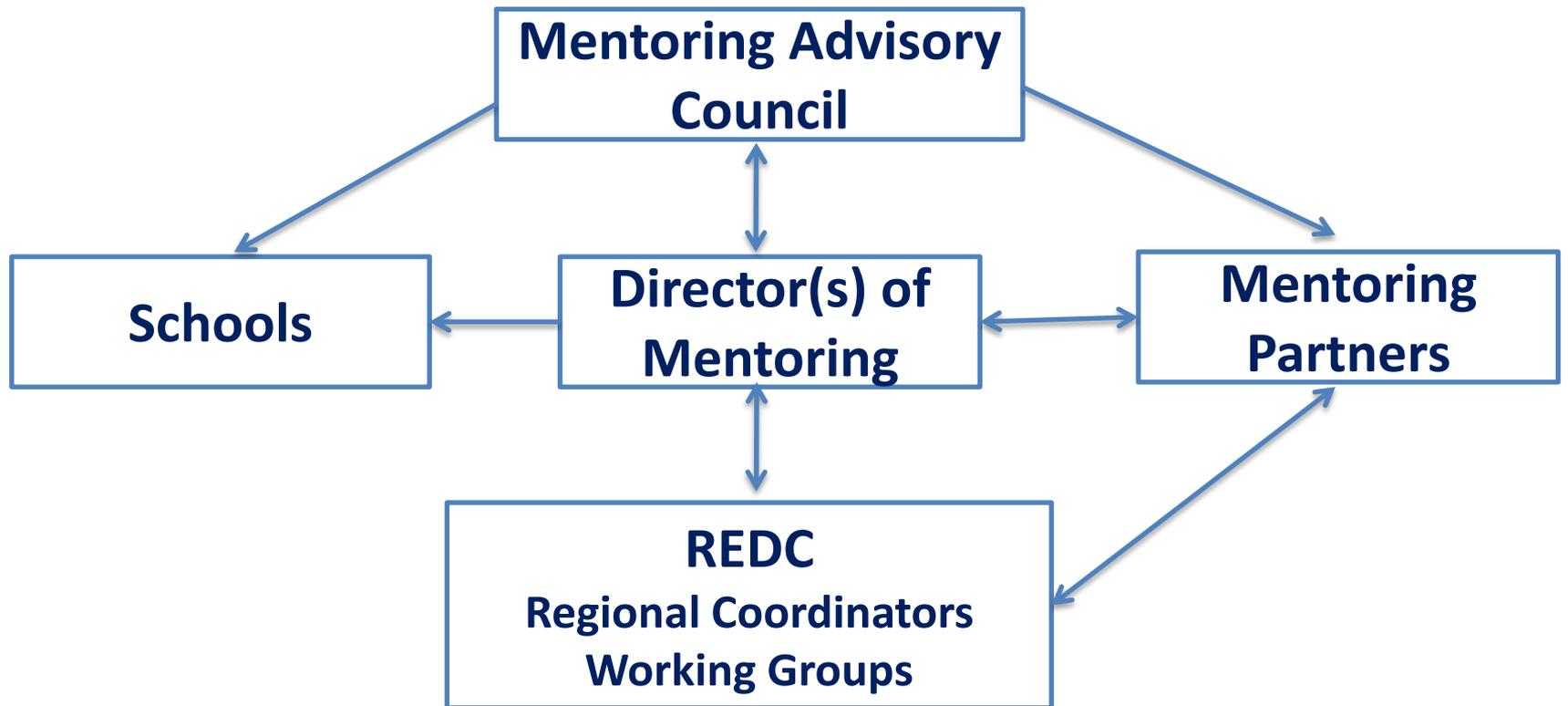


# Goals for 2015

- **Year 1** – create partnerships between a willing business or organization and a school district and school:
  - Help design program that meets goals and objectives
  - Work with partners and schools on goals and constraints
  - Provide training and assist in troubleshooting
  - Follow up to manage expectations
  - Celebrate success



# Overall Governance Structure



# Role of the REDC

- Awareness and represent the program in the community and the public at large
- Help identify potential businesses and other community mentoring partners in the region that can provide dedicated mentors ( once a week one hour)
- Provide a representative for the working group
- Promote the program in the community

Note: Program updates will be included on the future REDC agenda

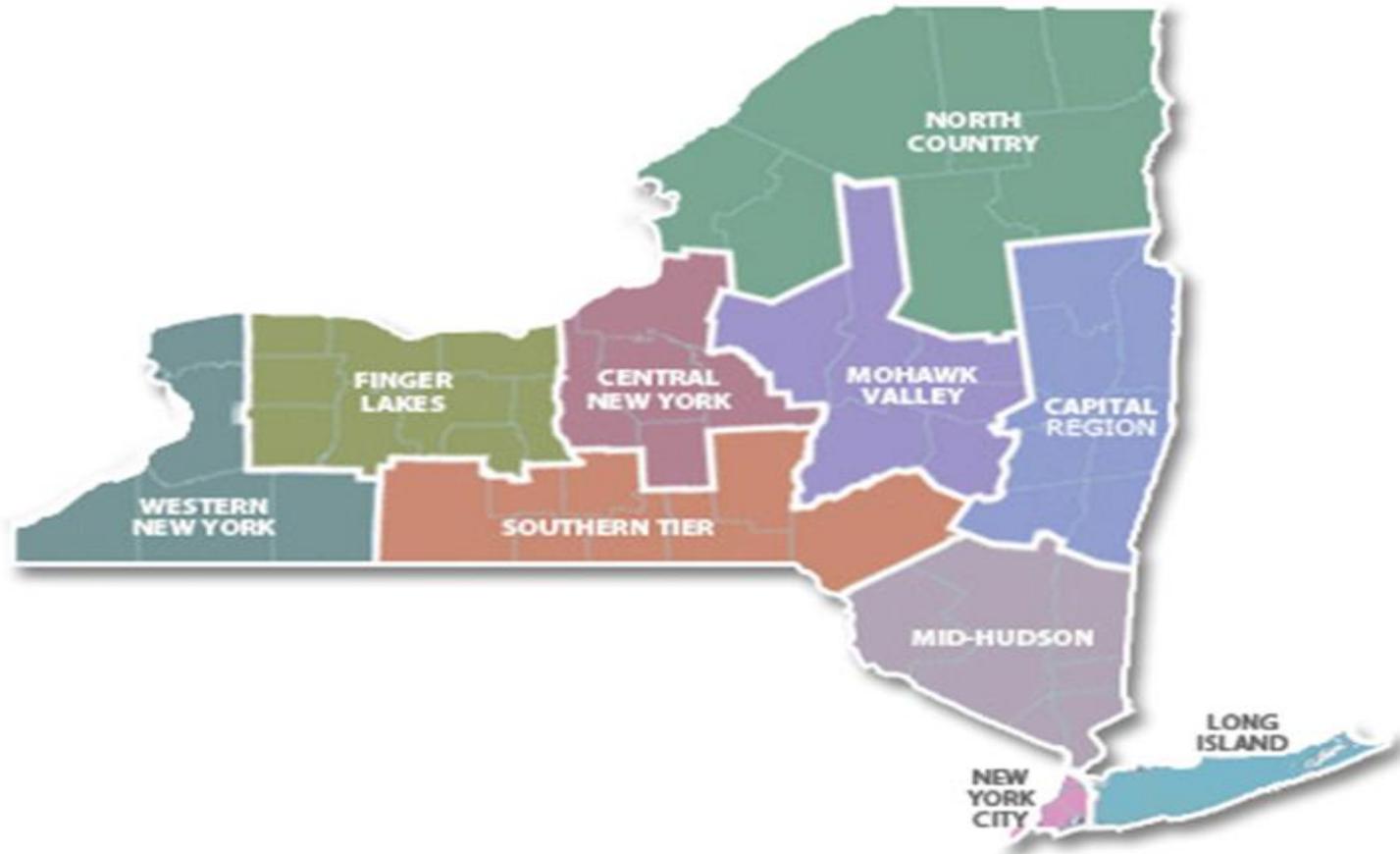


# Moving Forward

- **Years 2-5** – use Year 1 success to expand:
- Enlist successful partner to recruit new partners
- Enlist successful school to recruit new schools – especially within district
- Create new partnerships
- Celebrate new successes
- Honor mentoring ambassadors



# 10 Regions of New York State



Western New York  
Regional Economic  
Development Council



PROGRAMS

# New York State Youth Mentoring Program

SHARE OVERVIEW

## NEW YORK STATE YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM

### Mentoring helps New York's students succeed and graduate.

From 1987 to 1995, Mrs. Matilda Raffa Cuomo chaired a committee that established the nation's first school-based, one-to-one mentoring program, which successfully screened and trained volunteers and matched them with children in local communities to prevent high school drop-out. In 2015, Governor Cuomo reestablished the State's commitment to mentoring by creating the New York State Youth Mentoring Program, chaired pro bono by Mrs. Cuomo. The program will work with private sector and nonprofit partners to identify mentors and businesses to work with foster children and children in high need communities.

# Questions?

“Whether out of compassion or social responsibility, we must care for all our children. They are our future.”

– Mrs. Matilda Raffa Cuomo



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