

# MENTORSTARK

DRIVING THE MENTORING MOVEMENT IN STARK COUNTY

MONTHLY



## A Focus on Networking & Professional Development

MentorStark executive director Laurie Moline and Opportunity Guide Isaiah Smith networked with other mentoring program leaders, learned about promising new practices and research, and advocated with federal elected officials for mentoring funding during a whirlwind trip to Washington, DC for the National Mentoring Summit. Convened by MENTOR, the national organization

focused on leading, expanding and strengthening the mentoring movement, the National Mentoring Summit is attended by more than 1,000 practitioners from across the country and the world. In addition to Laurie and Isaiah, staff from Legacy Project of Stark and Project Rebuild were in attendance. We are proud to be part of a community of local leaders who are constantly seeking professional development opportunities to bring best practices and innovative ideas back to Stark County!

## Exploring Aviation Careers

The aviation and aerospace industries are exploding with career opportunities and MentorStark Opportunity Club is helping young people understand the possibilities. Thanks to a grant from the Henry and Louise Timken Foundation and in conjunction with our partners at Project Rebuild, we are helping young people learn about educational pathways and jobs in the aviation and aerospace fields. Our trips have included an Aviation Career Exploration fair at Burke Lakefront Airport, sponsored by the International Women's Air and Space Museum, an Inside Look at AVflight, and tours of Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, with more exciting opportunities planned for spring! If you are between the ages of 15-27 and are interested in joining for the events, visit our [website](#) and click **Join the Opportunity Club!**



## Mark Your Calendars for Walk & Talk

Get ready for Walk & Talk on Sunday, April 19, from 1–4 PM for an energizing afternoon of connection and career exploration. This unique, career-focused “Flash Mentoring” event blends movement with meaningful conversation, helping young people ages 14–25 build skills, confidence, character, and connections.

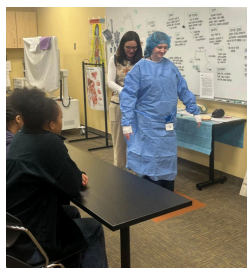


Through a series of short, guided 20-minute career discussions—all while on the move—participants gain real-world insights from business and industry professionals. These dynamic conversations are designed to open eyes to new possibilities and spark excitement about future career pathways. Interested in getting involved? Whether you'd like to register a group of young people, bring a team of mentors, or host an information table, we'd love to connect with you. Email [Laurie Moline](#) to learn more and be part of this impactful experience!

## Inside Looks with our School District Partners

MentorStark partners with Canton City Schools Career Technical Education Department as well as Jackson High School to bring our MentorStark Opportunity Club services to students in their districts. February was a full month of Inside Looks for our school district partners, including visits to Canton Joint Electrical Apprenticeship Center to explore electrical careers, Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority to explore property maintenance careers, Stark State to explore majors in health, engineering and Fire/EMT, Northside Marketplace to explore entrepreneurship, and Tri-C to explore the Ford Asset paid internship program. We are grateful for our Inside Look partners who willingly open their doors to help students see what is possible for their lives!

If your school district is interested in partnering with MentorStark to bring the Opportunity Club to your district, visit our [website](#) and select **Open to partnership opportunities!**



## A Note From Our Executive Director

As a mentor, I am always researching strategies to help me strengthen my relationships and empower the many young people in my life. I recently completed [Motivational Interviewing for Mentors](#), a free self-guided course available from MENTOR, in partnership with YESS (Youth Empowerment in Schools and Systems.) The training offers evidence-based conversation strategies that can help move young people from ambivalence to action when it comes to changing behaviors and achieving goals. Covering topics such as how to avoid “righting reflexes” in conversations, how to effectively use open-ended questions, affirmations, reflections and summaries (OARS) and how to evoke “change talk”, I gained some valuable tools that I put to use immediately. The training takes about 45 minutes. Making



**Laurie Moline**

Mentor  
Mentoring Advocate  
MENTORSTARK Founder

you aware of resources is just one way MentorStark is driving the mentoring movement in Stark County!



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