Men Engaged in Nonviolence (MEN)

In-Service Learning

The Men Engaged in Nonviolence have been mentoring troubled boys for seven years. Our mission is to “train, empower and inspire men and boys to lead lives of nonviolence.” Recently, there has been an expressed need in our community to expand our mentorship program to girls, gang members and at risk high school students. The ages of served students range from kindergarten through college.

To meet this need we have developed a close working relationship with the professors and students at the University of New Mexico – Taos campus. We have successfully sponsored a number of UNM interns and many in-service learning students.

In-service learning provides the University student with field experience, exposes the student to many community resources and contacts. Additionally it serves to provide the student a concrete experience with an at risk child, augmenting UNM coursework.

All in-service learning students are supported by a trained UNM intern and are supervised by the MEN licensed master of social work, (LMSW).

In-service learning involves 13 – 15 hours of work per semester, or one hour per week. It is hoped that undergraduates taking Eng. 101 will register for Eng. 102 and therefore be inclined to mentor through the spring semester.

The process involves:
1) A class presentation by MEN staff reflecting the history, need, etc.
2) For interested students completion of an interview and application process, outside of class. Hours credited to in-service learning commitment: 2.
3) A formal training outside of class. Hours credited to in-service learning commitment: 2.
4) Background and character reference checks to be completed by MEN staff.
5) Match UNM undergraduate with at risk student by week 6. Mentorship sessions occur in the school. For the most part matches are gender specific.
6) UNM mentor meets with mentee one hour per week through the week before finals, (9 weeks).
7) Total expected hours to receive full in-service learning credit: 13.
8) For undergrads volunteering for the spring semester, mentoring sessions begin with the school district's spring semester, (Jan.3rd).

The focus of the mentorship sessions is generally:
   Kindergarten through 8th grade: Friendship, play in most cases.
   High School: task as determined by referring HS teacher, with rapport evolving.

For inquiries, please call: Fritz Hahn, LMSW @ 758-4297 ext.2. Thank you.