



Questions & Answers

What is AMFY doing?

The Alberta Mentor Foundation for Youth (AMFY) has merged its youth mentoring program with Big Brothers and Big Sisters. In the fall of 2008, AMFY will no longer operate as a separate entity. The program formerly known as AMFY will continue to operate under a new name – mPower Youth Mentoring – as a program of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary and Area.

What are the benefits of this program merger?

For young people and their mentors, this program merger offers greater continuity throughout the school years and access to a wide range of mentoring opportunities that are available through BBBS including: scholarship programs, mentor/mentee special events, tickets to entertainment and sporting events, and more.

For schools, it means working with one organization instead of two, more streamlined referrals, a single source of resources and support, and a continuous and effective mentoring stream from elementary to senior high school.

For Big Brothers and Big Sisters it means having the combined strengths and resources to expand and enhance the mentoring services and support we currently provide to children, youth, volunteers, schools, and communities including:

- Provide significantly more children and youth with mentoring support;
- Be a strong voice and a resource for growing mentoring in the community;
- Enhance the mentoring services and support provided to each of our stakeholders and our community partners

Where will mPower Youth Mentoring be located?

All Calgary-based staff will be located at 5960 Centre Street SE, which is the existing office location of Big Brothers and Big Sisters in Calgary. mPower Youth Mentoring staff in Airdrie and Cochrane will continue to be based in those communities.

Will there be any changes in how the program operates?

Except for a brand new name – mPower Youth Mentoring –no changes of consequence will be made, especially from the standpoint of the participating students, volunteers and schools. This has been a key guiding principle since program merger discussions began.

What is the mPower Youth Mentoring program?

mPower Youth Mentoring is a school-based mentoring program that helps junior and senior high school students achieve their full potential through supportive in-school mentoring relationships. Adult volunteer mentors (20 years and older) spend one-to-one time with their mentee, one hour per week at the mentee's school.

How can someone volunteer?

Volunteers interested in becoming mentors in the mPower Youth Mentoring program can call Big Brothers and Big Sisters at 403-777-3535 or visit their website at www.bbbscalgary.com .

How can I enroll my child in the mPower Youth Mentoring program?

The mPower Youth Mentoring program is located in 68 junior and senior high schools throughout Calgary, Cochrane and Airdrie. Students who attend one of the schools where mPower is currently provided can speak with their guidance counselor about enrolling in the program. A list of mPower Youth Mentoring partner schools can be found at www.bbbscalgary.com under the “mPower” link.

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