



## Steps to Becoming a Mentor

*Mentors are crucial to the success of RJP. Here are the steps to getting started. Please keep in mind that sometimes things work out differently than expected! We will do our best to inform you of any deviations from the steps described below.*

### Step One

Attend **mentor training**: 5 sessions, 2.5 hours each.

During training, you will learn about the two kinds of mentors at RJP: a Conferencing Mentor and a Reentry Mentor. You can choose either option or indicate no preference.



### Step Two

Fill out a **volunteer application** and submit it before the end of the training or as soon as possible thereafter. We will contact your references within six weeks, and background checks will be run shortly before you are matched with a mentee. A copy of our screening policy is available upon request. We will let you know if concerns arise, but we will not contact you solely to say that we have no concerns.

### Step Three

Once your application has been approved, we will begin looking for a potential match. We consider many factors to arrive at a successful mentoring relationship, including interests, personality, and geographic location. **Finding the right match may take time.** In the meantime, you will be added to the mentor email list for your county and will receive news of monthly mentor meetings (see below) and upcoming events.

#### Timeline for Notification

*If you want to be a Reentry Mentor:*

You will be contacted within **four months** after training to arrange a meeting to discuss your interests, skills, and preferences and to talk about possible matches.

*If you want to be a Conferencing Mentor:*

You will be contacted within **one year** after training to discuss a potential match. We never know when and where referrals may come, so we can't predict when we will have someone who is a good match for your unique skill set.

If you are interested in both programs, we will contact you based on need. If the right mentor-mentee fit has not arisen within six weeks, please consider **other ways to help (giving rides, helping with outreach, etc.)** while awaiting your match.

#### Mentor Support Meetings

**These are a great way to stay connected** after training, even if you are not actively mentoring. You'll also hear about other opportunities to assist RJP. Meetings happen monthly in Belfast, Rockland, Damariscotta, and Bath.