

Community support

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SMYL

senecasmyl@ncoesc.net

Dawn Lykins, Mentor Coordinator

dlykins@ncoesc.org

Barb Bruns, Case Manager

bbruns@ncoesc.org

Jennifer Gill, Case Manager

jgill@ncoesc.org



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928 W. Market St., Tiffin, OH 44883



(419) 447-2927



SMYL

Seneca
Mentoring
Youth Links

An initiative of
Seneca County
Family and Children
First Council

Our purpose

SMYL is a youth mentoring program dedicated to pairing youth ages 6-17 with mentors to provide a positive, stable influence in the youth's life. Mentors provide their matched friend with an experienced person who is there to help in various situations. The mentor, in turn, also benefits from their friendship. SMYL asks for a minimum of four hours of positive interaction per month.



Mentoring benefits

For youth

- Increased high school graduation rate
- Healthier relationships and lifestyle choices
- Better attitude about school
- Higher college enrollment and educational aspirations
- Enhanced self-esteem and self-confidence
- Improved behavior, both at home and at school
- Stronger relationships with parents, teachers and peers
- Improved interpersonal skills
- Decreased likelihood of initiating drug and alcohol use.

For mentors

- Increased self-esteem
- A sense of accomplishment
- Insight into childhood, adolescence and young adulthood
- Increased patience and improved supervisory skills

Our mission

SMYL seeks to mentor Seneca County youth to make better choices for a brighter future.

Our programs

- Traditional 1-to-1 matches
- Couples matches
- Impact youth after-school program
- University matches
- Waiting on a SMYL