

BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MEDIA RELEASE

**JERRY W. SMITH
SHERIFF-CORONER**



DATE : **January 7, 2013**
RELEASED BY : **Paula M. Felipe, Crime Prevention Coordinator**
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ACADEMY FOR MENTORS PLANNED

Community Volunteers being recruited to mentor offenders

Volunteers are needed to attend the 2nd Academy for Mentors, which will take place on Saturday, February 23, 2013 at the Butte County Sheriff's Office. After graduating from this one-day Academy, the Mentors will be matched with a "Mentee" that is currently in custody or under "house arrest." The mentors and mentees are asked to volunteer to meet at least once a week for a one year commitment. The goal of the program is to help those in custody successfully transition back into society and to cut the recidivism rate at the Butte County Jail.

The volunteer mentors must first pass a background check and must be 25 years or older. The Mentors also need to have at least three years of clean time (free of alcohol and drugs) and have an active affiliation with a recovery fellowship (if in recovery). Prospective mentors who have had prior convictions, must not have been incarcerated within the last five years. Additionally, prospective mentors may not be on active parole or probation. Their references should support a desirability profile, which includes stability in lifestyle and strength of character. Mentors also need to have proof of a Driver's license, car registration, and insurance and be accessible by phone at home, work, and/or cell phone.

The mentoring program is called "Community Impact Mentoring" and its executive committee includes representatives from the Butte County Sheriff's Office, the Skyway House, the Jesus Center, the Salvation Army, the Church of the Nazarene, Sentinel Services, the Sheriff's volunteers (STARS), and the Jail Ministries.

To obtain an application to become a mentor and attend the next Academy, call the Mentoring Coordinator Paula Felipe at 530-538-7822 or email: pfelipe@buttecounty.net