

TOPIC: Service Through Mentoring

Participants will be able to answer the following questions by the end of the session:

- Explain the purpose mentoring
- Explain the role of a Crew Guide
- Describe how being a Crew Guide can serve as a tool for personal growth
- Describe the difference between mentoring and teaching

Presentation Method

In planning the presentation, you should review the latest materials posted at <http://www.venturing.org/>. The most recent program updates and resources are posted there and ready for your use.

Use the discussion outline below to help you prepare your remarks. PowerPoint presentation slides were not prepared for use during this session. If you wish to use one, the content below will be helpful in constructing your presentation.

OVERVIEW The Venturing program is built to facilitate the transition from teaching to mentoring. This session will focus on mentoring and the service aspect tied to it.

INTRODUCTION As your Venturers get older and have been in the Crew longer, they tend to be better skilled and more capable than new members just because of the amount of practice and interaction with particular skills. Often, these youth begin to get bored and start to seek new, higher level things to do, or become less active because they've done it all. The Crew Guide position was developed specifically for older, more experienced youth. In this new role, they act as a mentor to new or younger members, helping them to learn new skills and develop as Venturers.

Although any youth that has been in the Crew can serve in this position, typically Crew Guides are more skilled crew members who are able to help energize your younger members, they spend time with the crew while acting as a mentor and teacher, when necessary. Their role is typically to help integrate new members into the crew environment, and to facilitate advancement or skill development.

Crew Guides are performing a service to the crew and to the members that they interact with.

OUTCOMES The purpose of the Crew Guide is to perform a service to the crew and to the members that they interact with by acting as a mentor. Their presence is also helpful in maintaining retention in the crew for the younger members who are looking for a positive role model.

DISCUSSION Use the discussion questions to provide advisors an opportunity to process and

QUESTIONS

analyze the information presented during this session. As a general suggestion, keep the discussion positive and constructive, in keeping with the values of Scouting and of Venturing as a youth development program.

To keep the discussion moving in a positive direction, ask, “how does [comment] promote a youth-designed and youth-led program?”

- What role can advisors play in encouraging Crew Guides to take on this position?
- How can youth benefit from holding this position?
- What are the possible impacts of this position on other members of the crew?
- What skills do your older youth have that your younger Venturers are looking to develop?

CLOSURE

Wrap up conversation. Close by asking participants how they will use what they learned during this evening’s roundtable to support their crew’s program.