

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**The City of Bowie Youth & Family Services Teen Mentoring Program is now accepting applications for the upcoming 2017 – 2018 school year.**

When you volunteer to mentor a Bowie High School student, you agree to spend one hour a week building a positive relationship with a student, and supporting his/her success in school and in the greater Bowie community. Here is what participants are saying about the program:

*\* **Male student, age 16,** “I really thought the program would suck. So I was glad to find it was nothing like I expected. My mentor and I were paired well. I did have to get up early, but the program helped with my attendance, my grades, my goals and my relationships. I plan to re-enroll next year.”*

*\* **Mentor:** “At our last lunch at the annex, I arrived a little early. [My mentee] came bounding into the office to greet me with direct eye contact and a hug. It meant the world to me to see her more confident in herself. The mentoring program is a special opportunity for growth and sharing for both mentee and mentor. It was an honor and a pleasure to meet and grow with my mentee.”*

**Now is the time to Volunteer.** If you are at least 21 years of age, you have the ability to influence the life of a teen who needs you. Mentors help students in many ways: by stepping up, having fun, and becoming a friend, a listener, a guide, a supporter and a confidante. The City of Bowie’s Teen Mentoring Program can help you do just that. To apply, call Bowie Youth & Family Services at (301) 809-3033 or e-mail Rhonda Simon, Volunteer Coordinator, at [mentor@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mentor@cityofbowie.org).