



A2Z Mentoring Program

“Enriching children’s education to pave the way for a bright future”



“Aim for A2Z” is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, operating in Mercer County, New Jersey since 2004. Our mission is to raise literacy levels and subject matter skills in students from at risk, low to moderate income families. By providing continuous one-on-one learning opportunity with the students, a positive relationship is developed that promotes self-esteem. This leads to building confidence and success in the classroom and beyond.

A Message from Mira Desai-2012

Looking back on the journey of A2Z’s development, I must say, it has been quite a long, sweet, and sometimes rough to bumpy. From our humble beginning as a local community based organization, we have now managed to reach many children and young adults heart. The children we have mentored have graduated from all school levels. Volunteers are investing in themselves - our High School students have been accepted in prestigious colleges and even achieved national and international recognition giving the much needed visibility to our Mentoring Program. Year 2011/2012 A2Z’s 120 plus trained volunteers mentored 90 plus children. A2Z welcomes families to be a part of A2Z’s soul. Together we have build trust, faith and hope for each other.

In today’s uncertain economic times, many professional and socially progressive members of our diverse community have turned to A2Z Mentoring Program as a source for creative and artistic outlet. A2Z’s volunteering activities empower our youth with a unique set of skills thereby developing an enthusiastic pool of New Young Leaders. We strongly believe in **Unity in Diversity**, and through our platform, we can make a real and lasting positive difference in the lives of our diverse students and their families.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all TEEN and ADULT volunteers, parents, supervisors, school teachers, counselors and School Board administrators for their enthusiastic support and guidance that have enabled A2Z in attaining its objective. **Namaste.**

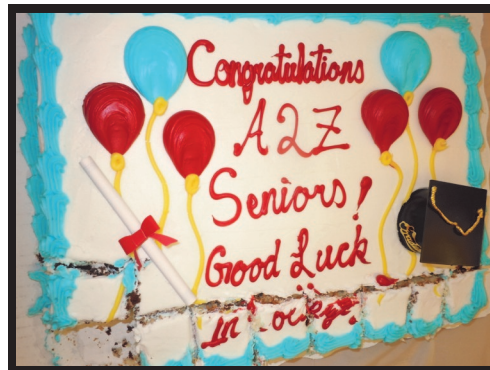
NJ State Triathlon

On Saturday, July 21st, and Sunday, July 22nd, 5 adult and 27 Teen volunteers from the A2Z Mentoring program met at the Mercer County Park to help out in the New Jersey State Triathlon. This triathlon occurs annually and is famous all over the nation for hosting approximately 3,500 athletes of almost all ages who compete in the sports of swimming, biking, and running each year. This July, A2Z's volunteers stood at one of many water stations throughout the park to hand ice water and energy drinks to runners as they finished the last course of the Triathlon. The volunteers saw many fantastic athletes from different places, who had come to New Jersey just for the race, and cheered them on towards the finish line. After about six hours of hydrating the athletes, volunteers had the opportunity to view the Awards Ceremony and have a quick lunch before heading home. In the end, each volunteer went home after enjoying a fun and rewarding morning in the sun with the satisfaction of helping out others in their community.



End-of-the-Year Celebration

Our Annual Celebration had a very positive outcome. Many volunteers and parents showed up at Kreps Middle School. More than 100 people were present at the event. All volunteers were awarded their certificates for their dedication and time spent toward A2Z. Along with these awards, additional certificates were presented to mentors that displayed extra dedication through exceptional attendance. Our seniors had a great farewell and we wish them luck in college. We would also like to thank our guest speakers for coming and helping to inspire our mentors!



Papa Johns Coupon Selling



On June 23rd from 9am to 2 pm A2Z Mentoring sold Papa Johns coupons and collected donations while educating the customers at ShopRite in East Windsor. The collaboration between A2Z Mentoring and Papa Johns was started by Rohit Palayekar. The fundraiser was a huge success. Five mentors and four adults that were present worked with enthusiasm and tirelessly on a hot summer day. All the volunteers received valuable life lessons throughout their day's work and provided a great service to A2Z Mentoring.

Holiday Food Drive and Cookie Distribution



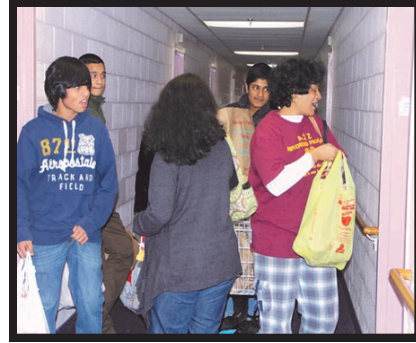
Last Year A2Z served bags of food to **110** families. This year, with A2Z's joint effort and your generous support, A2Z has made a commitment to adopt 220 needy families. A2Z hopes to continue this project next year during winter months since hunger is spreading across the nation. A2Z donated food bags to families with children in the East Windsor and Hightstown areas.

We also wanted to treat our students during this Holiday season. The rotary club of South Brunswick provided a box of cookies for each and every student in A2Z and even some mentors. We are very thankful for the Rotary Club's generosity and for thinking of our students, especially during this season.

We were also provided PB&J bags by the Red Cross Club of West-Windsor Plainsboro High School South. We were amazed to see the dedication the young people in our community had to enhancing the community's welfare. The bags that the club provided will definitely help a lot of families during this tough holiday season.

Food Delivery

On December 23rd, 2011, A2Z brought 25 of its members to a low-income apartment building in East Windsor, NJ. The goal of that day's event was to give food to as many people as possible. And A2Z delivered on its goal when it personally donated over 120 bags of food to people who were struggling to make ends meet. The volunteers went door-to-door and gave a bag of canned goods to all the people who lived in the building. We received many "thank-you-s" from the people, but we were thankful that over 100 more families will be happier this holiday season.



School Supply Fundraiser

In the summer and fall of 2011 in support of the 9/11 anniversary, A2Z conducted a school supply drive for underprivileged and military children. On September 10th Prachi Mahableshwarkar started A2Z's collaboration with Marathi Vishwa. MV Teens is a group within Marathi Vishwa. Prachi acted as a link between the organizations that benefited both groups. A school supply drive was held at the Ganesh Utsav event. An announcement was placed in the Marathi Vishwa e-newsletter requesting members to bring school supplies to the event. Each MV Teen volunteer contributed to run the concession stand. When members inquired about prices, volunteers were able to explain the A2Z program and request a donation. A few volunteers roamed the school with A2Z posters and a jar for donations. As people came to the stand volunteers also handed out flyers to those interested in the A2Z program. All in all, the entire event raised an extraordinary 400 dollars and collected 4 boxes of school supplies! In addition to a successful fundraiser new mentors were recruited to join the A2Z team.

In this economy, many families are struggling to provide their children with the education they deserve. A2Z mentoring hopes that such contributions and those of the mentors will help make a difference in a child's life.





DONATIONS

Aim for A2Z's funding comes solely from donations, fundraisers, and grants.

YOU CAN HELP!

To make a donation, please make a check payable to "Aim for A2Z, Inc."

And mail to:

P.O. Box 32, Pennington, NJ, 08534

Aim For A2Z is always seeking corporate sponsorship

For information call: 609- 213- 8674

* Aim for A2Z Mentoring Program is a non-profit 501©(3) Or-

Upcoming Events

1. Summer Mentoring Sessions
July/August -Tuesdays
2. Fall Session will start will start
from September 27, 2012
3. Volunteers Open House –
September 9, 2012 at 1pm and
2:30pm
(Orientation and mandatory Volun-
teers training)
4. Students Open House –Orientation
and parent's training-
September 16, 2012 at 1pm and
2:30pm

To find the location, time and date of the program please visit:
www.a2zmentoring.org

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for A2Z Mentoring,
please contact Mira Desai at:

Telephone: 609-213-8674

Fax: 609-333-0730

E-mail: a2z@a2zmentoring.org OR a2z.program@gmail.com