

# Mentoring Full Circle

We would like to introduce you to Sheana. Sheana is one of our amazing kids! Sheana entered our program about 5 years ago. She was living with a single parent and her siblings. When Sheana first came into our program she was a very quiet young lady who had experienced some challenges as a young child. She was struggling with her school work and had experienced some bullying. She was her mother's helper around the house, helping out where needed. Her mother has had chronic health issues and is also raising her and her two younger brothers. Sheana was matched with her mentor Samantha "Sam" in our Community program. Sam knew that she had to let Sheana get to know her slowly and not to expect instant trust from Sheana. They would get together several times each month. Sheana began to learn that Sam was someone that she could count on to do things with but also to listen to her. As their relationship developed Sheana began to blossom. She began to believe in herself and her school work improved. She looked forward to her time with Sam and just hanging out and doing things they both enjoyed. As the years went on Sam learned that Sheana wanted to someday attend college. During Sheana's junior year they began to visit colleges, including a day trip to explore Kent State University. Sheana wasn't sure but thought about studying education in college. She attended a college night at CMC and talked with an admissions counselor from BGSU. Her case manager talked with her during her Senior year about getting involved as a High School Mentor with CMC's Jacob's after school mentoring program. Sheana took on the role of being a mentor to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. Through this experience her self-confidence grew as well as her desire to become a teacher. Sheana graduated from Findlay High School and is attending BGSU majoring in education. She was awarded the Foundation for the Continuation of Children's Mentoring Connection scholarship award. Her formal mentor match has closed with CMC but the friendship that Sam and Sheana have formed will continue into the future.

"Thank you for everything! I am so glad that I was part of this program and was able to make a wonderful relationship with such a lovely lady."  
-Sheana

