

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER (LGBT) RESOURCE CENTER
LGBT PEER MENTORING PROGRAM**

**Q&A Information
About the LGBT Peer Mentoring Program**

What does the mentoring program offer?

- Guidance
- Support
- A confidant
- An understanding ear
- Empowerment
- Information about the LGBT community
- Helpful resources
- Networking opportunities
- A positive role model
- A paraprofessional relationship

What the mentoring program does not offer?

- Therapy
- Absolute confidentiality (like a therapy relationship)
- A replacement for close, personal friendships
- A dating service
- Access to the local party scene (i.e. parties, drugs, alcohol, etc.)
- Transportation to LGBT 'hot spots'

What can I expect from my mentor?

- Concern
- Advice
- Understanding
- Help through the coming out process or problematic situations
- Comparative information and stories
- Familiarity with LGBT issues
- A friendship (non-romantic/non-sexual) with someone who cares

What is a mentee expected to contribute?

- to be on time with meetings with your mentor
- to attend appointments or to cancel in a timely fashion
- to communicate your needs or concerns
- to be as open and honest with your mentor as possible
- to understand that this is a non-sexual/non-romantic relationship
- to understand that while this relationship may be close and meaningful it is not intended to be an intimate friendship