



Mentoring Conference has 300 Attendees, BBF Announces Grant Opportunities

The Holiday Inn Central was the site of a “National Thank Your Mentor Day: A Mentoring Conference” attended by 300 metro area mentors, practitioners and advocates of youth. Morning and afternoon sessions were available to help organizations and individual mentors improve the quality of mentoring (Click on the links to power points of the sessions below). The event was hosted by the Midland Mentoring Partnership, facilitated by the TeamMates Mentoring Program, and funded by Building Bright Futures.

The luncheon was emceed by Carol Wang, news anchor for KMTV. Dr. Renee Spencer, assistant professor at Boston University was the keynote speaker. She received her doctoral degree in human development and psychology from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She spoke of her research in youth mentoring and adolescent development. Her keynote address was entitled “Promoting high-quality mentoring relations: Current research and best practices in the United States”.

The Outstanding Mentor of the Year Award was presented to Don Bend of Big Brother’s Big Sister’s of the Midlands.

Following the afternoon sessions Building Bright Futures announced that capacity building and expansion grants would be available to mentoring organizations in Douglas and Sarpy Counties. An information session was conducted to help organizations complete a request for proposals.