



DAT MENTORING PROGRAM

Drawing And Truth (DAT) Youth Mentoring Program

NOW RECRUITING MENTORS!
for 2019-2020 cycle

Deadline: August 25, 2019

Drawing And Truth (DAT) is a Mentoring Program for Middle School and High School aged youth (13-18 year-olds) who have experienced or witnessed trauma. It runs throughout the school year from Mid-October to the end of May on Saturdays, typically from 12pm – 4pm.

DAT is unlike typical Mentoring programs where Mentor & Mentee are assigned as pairs. Instead, DAT works as a social group where participants do fun and educational activities together including drawing/painting, crafts, ice skating, bike riding, etc. Mentors select and plan the activities based on the interests of the youth and the resources that are available in New York City!

- ✪ Be the difference in a teenager's life!
- ✪ Opportunities to explore all of NYC's resources (*for free*)
- ✪ Do activities you've always wanted to!
- ✪ Develop lasting connections with youth and fellow volunteers!
- ✪ Give back to the community!



Being a DAT Mentor is one of the most fun and rewarding volunteer positions at Womankind because it is structured as a full year position with the chance to return cycle after cycle. Volunteers who are selected to be a DAT Mentor develop lasting connections with the youth and with fellow Mentors!

Please read below for a full description of the group and expectations & requirements for the Mentor Role!

For more information, please contact DAT@iamwk.org

CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM



STRENGTH, TRUST, AND RECONNECTION

PROGRAM OVERVIEW & DESCRIPTION

DAT Mentoring Group is a social group facilitated through the WOMAKIND STAR (Strength, Trust, And Reconnection) Children & Youth program. The DAT Mentor Group has been running since 2008.

Supervisor: STAR Children and Youth Advocate

Mentors: Mentors are the backbone of the program. Most workshops are facilitated and prepared by DAT staff. However, Mentors are welcome to take the lead selecting, planning, and facilitating the activities of the DAT meetings. (See more about the expectations of the Mentor Role on pages 4 & 5.) The program works to provide youth with a sense of different walks of life and ways of being through a diverse pool of Mentors.

Mentees: DAT is open to any youth who:

- are, or are between, 13-18 years of age
- have witnessed, experienced, or had a family member experience gender-based violence including domestic violence, sexual abuse, and/or human trafficking.

The goal of DAT is to create a community where all members:

- achieve 5C (Connection, Compassion, Confidence, Competence, Character)
- are safe to exist, explore, and express themselves freely in a group setting,
- learn and practice a variety of skills,
- have opportunities for self-reflection and self-growth,
- gain awareness about community and social issues, and
- learn, experience, and practice healthy relationships with others.

DAT 2019 – 2020 Expected Timeline

DATE	DESCRIPTION	NOTE
Sunday, August 25	Application Deadline	Complete the online application form , and email the DAT Mentor application (word doc) and resume to DAT@iamwk.org
Saturday, September 28	Volunteer Orientation	1pm – 4pm Main Office, 32 Broadway 10 th fl, NY
Saturday, October 12	Mandatory Training & Initial Coordination	12pm – 4 pm, lunch provided
Saturday, October 19	First DAT meeting	11:45 am – 4:30 pm, lunch provided
October 19 – December 14	Fall semester (8 DAT Meetings)	November 30 – NO DAT for Thanksgiving
January 25 – May 16	Spring semester (13 DAT Meetings)	February 15-22 – NO DAT for Midwinter Recess March 21 – Mentors Off for Annual Mentor Appreciation Day April 11-8 – NO DAT for Spring Break
Saturday, May 16	DAT Graduation Ceremony	9 Mott Street, Suite 200
July – September	Summer Period (3 DAT Meetings)	Dates Last Saturday of the Month - Optional

DAT meetings take place at WOMAKIND's Chinatown Community Office located at:
9 Mott Street, Suite 200, New York, NY 10013

(Dates listed are tentative and subject to change due to group decisions)

POSITION REQUIREMENTS & QUALIFICATIONS

POLICIES, ROLES & EXPECTATIONS

Mentors' Tasks:

DAT Mentors are the backbone of the Drawing And Truth (DAT) program.

Mentors are collectively responsible for:

- Engaging youth as a positive role model through DAT activities
- Attending DAT Meetings (See *Attendance and Timeliness Policy*)
- Welcome to plan activities for DAT; including, but is not limited to:
 - Checking prices of supplies/tickets/transportation
 - Booking venues/supplies
 - Setting up for activities
- Contacting participants before an event if reminders of time/location are needed.
- Tracking hours volunteered via online timesheet (Volgistics).

Mentors may choose to take on a Tutoring role.

- Tutoring takes place from 4:00pm-5:00pm* after DAT's main activities.
*subject to change depending on activity for the day
- A Mentor who agrees to take on the Tutoring role may be asked to maintain that role throughout the DAT Year or on a needs basis.

WOMAKIND Agency Policy:

DAT is run through Womankind and by participating in its program as a volunteer Mentors are subject to the Agency's volunteer policies in addition to DAT Program-specific policies.

DAT Mentors must:

- attend WOMAKIND Volunteer training/orientation.
- complete a fingerprinting and FBI background check process.
- track number of hours volunteered via online tracking site.
- communicate with staff any concerns or questions regarding the program(s).
- adhere to all other WOMAKIND Volunteering policies not otherwise specified here and all future changes to WOMAKIND Volunteering policies as long as Mentor is still volunteering during the time the policy takes effect.

(Supervising staff will inform Mentors of any changes to agency volunteer policy.)

Coordination & Cooperation Policy:

DAT Mentors' coordination and flexibility are imperative in creating a safe and smooth-running program.

- Commitment to the program also includes a commitment to responsiveness via calls/e-mails and scheduled supervision/evaluation meetings, planning meetings, and trainings.
- While most meetings for planning events are scheduled in advance, it is the Mentors' responsibility to coordinate with each other and Supervising Staff, including scheduling outside meetings as necessary, to ensure preparedness for activities.

Attendance & Timeliness Policy:

Consistent attendance and timeliness are imperative in providing a sense of stability, building relationships with the Mentees, and establishing cohesion within the group. *This is especially important for mentees who may have experienced uncertainty and inconsistency in their homes as a result of trauma. WOMAKIND emphasizes consistency for DAT Mentors as maintaining a reliable structure is an important factor in the healing process of DAT participants.*

- Mentors are asked to commit to attending as many DAT meetings as possible. Mentors are asked to not miss more than 3 meetings in the Fall semester and 4 meetings in the Spring semester to ensure consistency and quality of the program.
- We ask that mentors work to plan travel outside of family or work related matters around breaks as indicated in the Expected Timeline for the cycle. *Please note that the DAT cycle schedule already includes at least one week off for mentors per month, usually around school breaks and national holidays.*
- Mentors must communicate all planned absences in advance to supervising staff via written communication (i.e.: e-mail).
- As much as possible, Mentors should announce any planned absence to the group at least one week prior to the absence. If Mentor will be absent the week after a break, an announcement should be made at least a week before the break. This helps to maintain consistency and expectations for the youth and fellow Mentors.
- If a Mentor will be absent due to illness, funeral, or other unexpected circumstance:
 - Please inform supervising staff and fellow mentors of any emergency absences as soon as possible. If a Mentor is out for an emergency absence where they are coordinating the activity, it is that Mentor's responsibility to coordinate coverage for the tasks that need to be done to ensure the activity takes place.
- If frequency of absences is a concern, the topic may be addressed by supervising staff.

Timeliness

Typical Weekly Schedule: 11:45am – 4:30pm every Saturday

- Although the group itself starts at 12pm, we ask that Mentors arrive early to learn the agenda, help set up, order lunch, etc.
- The schedule is subject to change on special occasions or daytrips – altered start/ending times will be provided to participants in advance.
 - It is the responsibility of whoever is coordinating the week's activity to inform participants of altered schedules in a timely manner.
- Frequent lateness may be addressed by supervising staff.

Continuing Community:

In order to continue providing support and keep the community spirit alive, DAT members may continue to be part of DAT's community even upon leaving the program. We recognize the connections that people make at DAT may be meaningful and continue to be lasting over time.

- When a mentee graduates high school or otherwise ages out – they are also graduated out of the DAT Mentor Program and are referred to as "DAT Alumni."
- DAT Alumni and past mentors are invited to continue attending DAT special events including the annual Holiday Party, DAT Graduation, and Summer Period Activities, capacity permitting.
 - If a participant is asked not to return to due serious breaches of Agency Policy or incidents of participant endangerment, that person may be informed that they cannot attend continuing community activities. This decision will be based on seriousness of the incident and will be at Supervising Staff member's discretion.
- If a DAT mentee or mentor know they will no longer be able to participate in DAT events and are terminating their relationship with the agency, individuals may choose to continue having outside communication with other DAT members, however this relationship is only to begin at the individual's (mentee's or volunteer's) termination with WOMAKIND activities and with both parties explicit consent, including consent of the mentee's legal guardian. Communication after either party is no longer participating in DAT will not be associated with DAT or WOMAKIND operations.