

## KIDS HOPE USA

is distinctive, as it . . .

### **Engages a church in the community.**

KIDS HOPE USA builds church-school partnerships that result in life-changing relationships. KIDS HOPE USA training and ongoing support equips a church to provide the most valuable resource all schools need—love for the most vulnerable children.

### **Focuses on the youngest children.**

KIDS HOPE USA churches mentor at-risk elementary-age children, because these are the critical formative years when values are formed, self-esteem is developed, and academic skills must be acquired. Children who learn to read by third grade are eight times more likely to stay in school.

### **Forms exclusive one-to-one relationships.**

KIDS HOPE USA mentors use a weekly one hour visit at the school to build a relationship focused on the emotional and social needs that can seriously limit the ability of at-risk children to learn. These relationships are supported by a behind-the-scenes prayer partner.

### **Respects the church-state separation.**

Mentors are trained to respect the separation of church and state. Schools trust the integrity of the KIDS HOPE USA program.

## What is KIDS HOPE USA?



KIDS HOPE USA is an award-winning mentoring program that works exclusively through local churches, teaching them to engage their members in one-to-one relationships with at-risk public elementary school children.

*you can change a life...  
and that's no small change*

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## KIDS HOPE USA

makes a difference . . .

## Commitments

We will . . .

### Children improve.

According to the Frost Research Center, teachers report that 99.3 percent of the children with KIDS HOPE USA mentors demonstrate academic improvement and the motivation to learn, two key building blocks for future success in school and in life.

### Mentors grow.

Four out of five mentors report that their faith is strengthened by their relationship with a child.

### Relationships last.

80 percent of matches last two years or longer (compared to 5 months for most school-based mentoring organizations).

- Respect the separation of church and state
- Begin with serving one school
- Recruit at least ten mentors and two substitutes in the first semester—these mentors will undergo a criminal history check and be fully trained
- Identify a behind-the-scenes prayer partner for each adult-child relationship
- Evaluate our program annually and share this information with the KHUSA national office
- Name a director for the program
- Our director will be trained by the KIDS HOPE USA national office

## Next Steps . . .

- One.** KIDS HOPE USA and church contact work to present materials to church leadership.
- Two.** Church leaders meet with local elementary school to learn about need and share about commitment.
- Three.** Church leadership signs the KIDS HOPE USA Affiliate Agreement and begins payments of the one time affiliate fee.
- Four.** The KIDS HOPE USA national office trains your director to develop the program within the church and the neighborhood school, and begins providing on-going support for your program.
- Five.** Your director recruits, screens, and trains all volunteers according to the KIDS HOPE USA national office training and begins your church's program.



One child. One hour. One church. One school.