

LISTEN
ACCEPT
ENCOURAGE

...that is our responsibility.



who we are

We are more than just a mentoring program.

Boys to Men Mentoring Network is a non-profit 501(c3) corporation created to guide boys 13-17 through their passage to manhood.

Our mission is to help every boy in the world become a better man.

We bring good men, Mentors and role models into boy's lives.

We teach and model integrity, accountability, character, compassion and respect.

We create community.



OUR VISION IS...

COMMUNITIES OF
MEN WHO

TEACH

SUPPORT

MENTOR

ENCOURAGE

AND...

HELP BOYS BECOME BETTER MEN.

"Boys to Men has given me more confidence in myself. I can now more easily express myself. I have tons of new friends and that makes me feel good about life."

-Claude
{ BTM Journeyman }

why there's a need

Adolescence is a critical time when young men are faced with choices that affect them for the rest of their lives.

Boys naturally look towards men to challenge, guide, and help them become good men. The sad fact is too many young men do not have good men to look up to.

They are left to figure out manhood alone. Fatherless families, overcrowded prisons, increasing gang violence, and drug and alcohol abuse are often the result.

THE FACTS

- Divorce rates are over 50%.
- Over 40% of all families are single parent.
- 85% of youths in prison grew up in a fatherless home.
- FBI statistics show gang membership has increased from 50,000 in 1975 to 1,150,000 in 2008, and may be responsible for up to 80% of crime in the U.S. today.
- With more than 2.3 million people behind bars, the U. S. now leads the world in both the number and percentage of men it incarcerates.

When boys grow up without fathers, male mentors and positive role models it has a devastating impact on them, their families and our society.



Since 1960 the rate of American children without fathers in their lives has quadrupled.

helping boys become better men

Every boy wants to be a good man.

And everyday he is faced with choices he may have to live with for the rest of his life.

Do I try drugs?
Should I tell the truth?
Does anyone care?
Why not steal this?
Will a gang protect me?
Should I have sex?
Why go to school?
Will I be like my father?

{ Remember your
teenage years }

How might your life have been different if you had...

- Someone you could confide in.
- An adult who cared about you.
- A Mentor who could help you make the right choices.

Our program gives each boy a chance to decide what kind of man he wants to be.

We give boys hope, support and guidance. We help them become good men.

“Boys to Men works because it is simple. Men who care enough to make time for the young men of tomorrow. When a boy is listened to, he learns to hear his own voice and speak his own truth.”

-Doug
{ BTM Mentor }



our program

Imagine Boy Scouts, Big Brothers, and Outward Bound combined. We provide a complete program with community (Boy Scouts), mentoring (Big Brothers), and a Rite of Passage adventure (Outward Bound) that serves both boys and men.

Our program has 3 components:

1. Reclaim Your Teenage Fire Mentor Training –

This experiential training gives men a new perspective on mentoring boys.

2. Rites of Passage Adventure (ROPA) Weekend –

This is a powerful weekend for both boys and men. It is a bonding experience that creates trust, respect and builds close connections between boys and their Mentors.

3. Ongoing Group Mentoring –

Journeymen (ROPA graduates) and their Mentors meet every two weeks to continue strengthening the bonds they formed during the ROPA weekend.

“I am extremely grateful for the Boys to Men organization. What a huge benefit! I am so happy to have found this group of men.”

-Juanita
{ BTM Mom }

TEACH SUPPORT MENTOR ENCOURAGE



mentor training

Reclaim Your Teenage Fire Mentor Training

The most important issue for all mentoring programs is to attract and retain good men. We found many men hesitant to interact with teenage boys. They told us their teenage years were a difficult time in their life.

We developed a powerful training that takes men back to their teen years by sharing teenage stories, revealing teenage secrets, and remembering the glory, discovery and difficulty of those years. This process of “reclaiming their teenager” gives men a new perspective about teenage boys. They learn that being of service to boys helps them to be better men.

- All Mentors must pass a nationwide background check.
- The Mentor’s guide, support and reinforce healthy behaviors.
- Each Mentor commits to attend community meetings for one full year.
- Mentors are taught how to listen, accept, and admire the young men they will mentor.

This training not only helps solve the problem of recruiting and keeping men volunteers, it also helps men grow and become better men.

POWERFUL LIFE-CHANGING INSPIRING

“I really appreciated your mentor training. In fact, I can’t imagine getting involved in Boys to Men without doing it. The experience really put me back into my adolescent years. With this re-awakened perspective of my insecure teenager, I now understand the world these boys live in.”

-Bill
{ New BTM Mentor }



boys weekend

Our Rites of Passage Adventure (ROPA) weekend

Our boys and Mentors spend more time together on this weekend than a typical mentor program provides in six months.

Each day has a specific intention:

FRIDAY: WHO I AM NOW?

SATURDAY: WHO DO I *WANT* TO BE?

SUNDAY: CHOOSING THE MAN I WILL *BECOME*

This 3-day training is led by experienced facilitators and trained staff, and provides a 2:1 ratio of men to boys. During the weekend, boys are challenged and supported through a series of carefully facilitated activities designed to bring out their feelings in a safe way. This creates a powerful experience that helps boys cope with the ordeals they will face during adolescence.

They learn about integrity. They bond with a tribe. They learn about mission and service. This weekend is a life-changing experience boys never forget.

After the weekend...

Boys know what kind of man they want to be.

They have higher self-esteem.

They have support from a group of men and young men.

{ A complete list of weekend activities is available upon request. }



“Because of the BTM weekend I have been able to step back and look at life more clearly. I know what I want to do and I know what will make me happy.”

-Josh
{ BTM Journeyman }

community mentoring groups

Building Community

Upon graduation, the boys become “Journeymen” – they have officially begun their journey to manhood. But the journey has just begun.

Our Community Mentoring Groups help integrate the ROPA experience into boy’s lives. The groups begin with games or other physical activities. Then each boy and Mentor is ask to “check in” with the group. This gives the Journeymen a place they feel free to share the truths, hopes and challenges in their lives, and a community of boys and men who respect and support them.

This ongoing community strengthens relationships among boys, their Mentors and their peers, making BTM a powerful program that gives boys what they need for their journey from adolescence to manhood.

It is a simple concept...

Boys and men spending time together, having fun, listening to, learning from, and counting on each other.

“The BTM weekend was incredible and very inspiring for me. It was very moving for me to watch my son go through this process, to see him start his path to manhood.”

-Dave
{ BTM Father }



it works

Program Evaluation

From the beginning we saw incredible, positive changes in the boys as they went through the BTM program. We knew we made a major impact on these boys and wanted to identify and measure these changes.

In 2003 we adopted the BarOn Emotional Quotient Inventory (EQi): Youth Version as our standard instrument for measuring our program's effectiveness.

Research strongly indicates that people with high emotional intelligence tend to be more successful in life.

The boys were given the EQi survey before and after the weekend. The results were amazing. The boys' scores on all scales increased, in some cases dramatically. To date we have tested over 300 boys and continue to see proof that Boys to Men increases emotional intelligence, raises self esteem and empowers young men to make healthy choices.

Another measure of our effectiveness is the commitment level of our volunteers. Last year alone, our volunteers' donated over 56,000 hours to support the BTM program.

It Works!

**Boys to Men
volunteers' donated
over 56,000 hours
of support last year.**

BTM has given me an opportunity to reflect upon my teenage years and to see what a wonderful gift I can give these boys. It may appear that men are giving the gift to these young men by giving their time, the reality is I walked away from my the BTM weekend in awe and far richer. I am IN!"

- Aaron
{ BTM Mentor }

we are growing

In eleven years we have grown from a local San Diego program to a worldwide network of 27 BTM communities in the U.S., Canada, and South Africa. Over 3,500 boys and men have participated in our program.

We attribute our remarkable growth and success to...

- Our unique approach – start with, and support the mentor – has built a network of inspired, passionate men.
- Our inspiring web site moves men to action. Every week we receive calls and emails from men eager to form a BTM center.
- The need is great.
- Our program works!

We've met with representatives from The Peoples Republic of China, The U.S. Army, Foster Care providers, Pastors, Boys homes and Probation departments. They all want to bring the Boys to Men experience to their boys.

Can you imagine a world where we give all boys the support they need to become good men?

We can!

I am a vice-principal at an inner city school in Nanaimo, BC, Canada. We have a close relationship with Big Brothers, who provide us with mentors each year. However, we are looking to better meet the needs of angry, hurt boys who spend a lot of time in our office in trouble. When we look at these boys; we see that they are being raised by their moms and have a deep-rooted anger against their missing fathers. Our youth care worker came across your website. So now our next question is:

How can we get started?

Boys to Men has communities in 27 cities and 4 countries

1996

San Diego CA

2000

Minneapolis MN
Portland OR

2002

Washington DC
Milwaukee WI
St Louis MO
Sioux City IA
Phoenix AZ
Ashland, OR

2003

Chicago IL
Denver CO

2005

Houston TX
San Francisco CA

2006

Rochester NY
Montreal CANADA
New York City NY
Santa Barbara CA
Montpelier VT

2007

Cape town South Africa
New England
Asheville NC
Sedona AZ

2008

Prescott AZ
Santa Fe NM
Canada West

2009

Johannesburg South Africa
Hamburg Germany

Our website is the top result for "boys mentoring" for all major search engines.

growth strategy

Strengths and Challenges

Where We are Today.

We have created a model program that is being replicated on a community level to help young men throughout the world. We have built a worldwide network of men helping boys with just one full-time employee and hundreds of passionate volunteers. While we have achieved great success, our vision is greater. We are beginning a capital campaign to fund the organizational infrastructure we need to achieve our mission... to help every boy in the world become a better man.

Our Plans for Tomorrow.

With the help of several non-profit consulting groups, we have developed a plan that allows us to continue delivering safe, effective programs and create a foundation for our ambitious expansion plans.

The major action items of our plan are:

- Complete comprehensive business plan. done!
- Raise \$250,000 to establish our National HQ.
- Begin a campaign to raise \$9,750,000 over ten years.
- Update our new community start-up materials (operations manuals, fund-raising strategies and leadership training programs).

Our goal is to attract and inspire good men; and give them the tools they need to create a successful Boys to Men program in their community.



We are changing the world. At our current growth rate it will only take us 130 years to bring Boys to Men to every teenage boy in the U.S. The rest of the world will take a bit longer.

our boys: willie

Willie was eleven years old when he came to the Boys to Men weekend. He had never met his father.

His Own Words

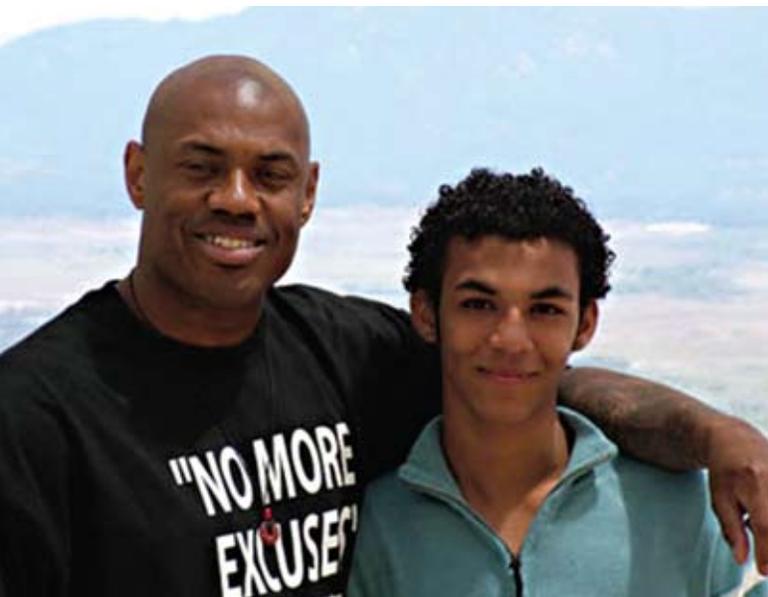
Boys to Men has greatly affected my life in more ways than I could put on paper. Starting off at eleven years old, feeling like I had no purpose, spending everyday filled with self hatred and misguided anger was hard because I was a lonely kid.

At twelve years old I began digging my own grave literally in the canyon behind my house because I felt no one loved me. I ran away from all the help and guidance offered to me.

Boys To Men was the catalyst for a change in my life so dramatic that my whole being was altered. Under the cold shell that I showed the world, they saw my true potential that I didn't even know existed. I began seeing other kids in their process of emotional growth and I was amazed.

I feel now, after all of the trainings, I can look a kid in eyes who is hurting and in need of some love and I can offer him my love, experience, and wisdom.

I would say to that child, "I know you are hurting and that is okay but you don't have to be strong anymore because I am here for you." The exact message that Boys to Men gave to me.



SUCCESS STORIES

We have many great stories about courageous young men who have changed their lives through Boys to Men. One of our success stories is a young man named Willie.

a mothers story

Raising a son as a single mother has always been a challenge.

When my son was ten years old, I started looking around for an organization I could trust to help me with the boy becoming a man issues that I would not know how to deal with. Two friends separately suggested BoysTo Men.

When my son returned home and seemed to be walking a foot off the ground. He was inspired. His 'Male Door' was now open and Marty was a part of a group of men who genuinely cared about him. He had a support system with tools and options to deal with his feelings and emotions. He had his own mentor to talk with and relate to. Marty seemed more alive and complete then he had ever been before.

I was very pleased, excited and happy to see this unfolding in front of me. I felt extremely grateful to the BoysTo Men Mentoring organization. What a huge benefit! My son and I are very fortunate to have found this group.

Kids need role models, direction, and validation. With Boys to Men they receive all three. With out a doubt, BoysTo Men has made a life long lasting impression on both my son and me.

Sincerely,

Patti



"Boys to Men has been such a wonderful support to me and our family. My son told me that instead of having one father in Maryland, he actually felt like he had 15 fathers. That literally shook my foundation."

-Belinda
{ BTM Mom }

hope

We have experienced remarkable growth over the last 11 years. We've had the privilege of mentoring thousands of remarkable young men on their journey to manhood.

We have heard young men share their moving stories of courage and hope.

We have seen the devastating impact that divorce and absent fathers have on boys' spirits.

We have witnessed many boys overcome incredible odds, to become loving fathers, husbands and good men.

We have grieved the tragedy of good boys lost to gang violence, suicide and drug abuse.

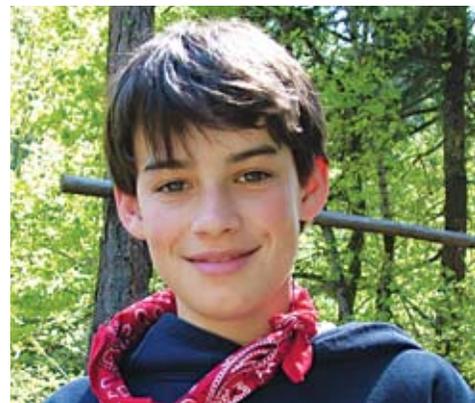
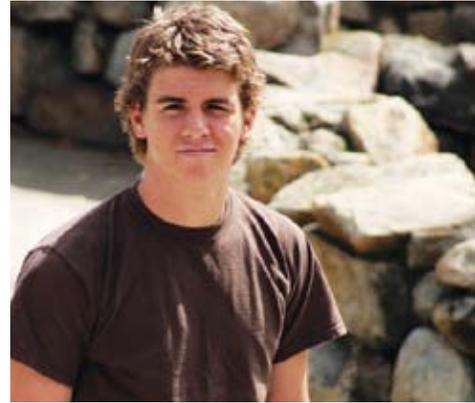
We know we make a difference in boys' lives by giving them the support they need--and are crying out for--during this crucial period in their development.

We are committed to help boys become the best men they can be.

Join us on our journey of Hope.

"When I have kids, I will make sure that I'll be the father to them that I never had."

-Ben
BTM Journeyman



action in the world

Empowered Girls Alliance

EGA is a program for teenage girls that follows the BTM model. The weekends are organized and facilitated by women. The EGA mission is to inspire every adolescent girl to identify herself as beautiful, powerful, and valuable young women.

Our daughters need adult women in their lives, other than their mothers. Women who will show them the truth about themselves when they cannot see it; women who will teach them to take time for themselves, women who will affirm, support, and listen to them, gently encouraging them to identify and express their feelings.



Father/Son Training

Teenage years can put a strain on even good father-son relationships. This training creates a safe, supportive environment where young men and their dads spend time communicating on a deeper level. They get to the core of how they truly feel about each other. This gives them a new prospective to better cope with the normal issues that confront teenagers and fathers.

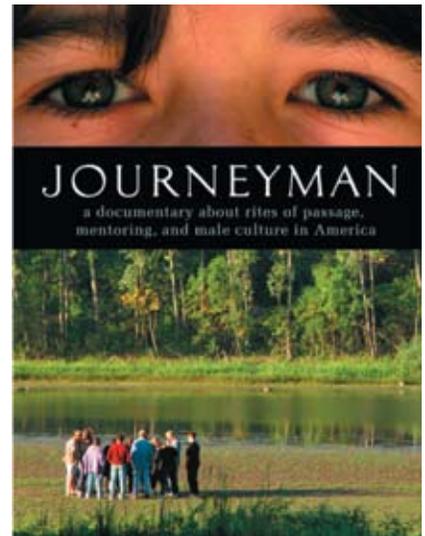


Journeyman

Journeyman is a documentary that follows two boys as they go through the BTM program. This film will be broadcast on 20 PBS stations across the country. Michael Gurian (The Wonder of Boys), Dr. Michael Obsatz (Raising Nonviolent Children in a Violent World) and Dr. Barbara Coloroso (Kids are Worth it) lend insight as the film examines the negative stereotypes of boys and their isolation from the larger male culture.

“The film follows two troubled, fatherless teens who move from desperation to transformation with the help of caring male mentors. The takeaway from ‘Journeyman’ isn’t despondency, but hope...”

– Gail Rosenblum, Minneapolis Star Tribune



Boys to Men Trainings are offered in the following areas:

Ashland, OR
Asheville, NC
Canada West
Cape town, South Africa
Central California Coast
Chicago, IL
Denver, CO
Hamburg, Germany
Houston, TX
Johannesburg, South Africa
Minneapolis, MN
Montreal CAN
New England
Northern California
NY and NJ Metro Area
Phoenix, AZ
Prescott, AZ
Portland, OR
Rochester, NY
San Diego, CA
Santa Fe, NM
Sedona, AZ
Sioux City, IA
St. Louis, MO
Washington, DC

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men"

Fredrick Douglass



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