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June 23, 1992

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Shirley Sagawa
Chief Counsel for Youth Policy
National Women's Law Center
1616 "P" Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Ms. Sagawa:

I am pleased to send you the enclosed report, Understanding How Youth and Elders Form Relationships: A Study of Four Linking Lifetimes Programs, which provides a close look at what actually goes on between adults and youth who are matched by a mentoring program. The report is the first product of P/PV's four-year research initiative to examine a variety of adult/youth relationships programs.

We found that about two-thirds of the 26 matches we analyzed for this report "took"--the first, essential, step toward achieving desired outcomes--and that they had some interesting common denominators, mainly relating to the process of establishing trust. The matches that did not jell also showed common patterns.

We hope the documentation and analysis the report provides will be helpful to program designers and operators, and thus increase the effectiveness of mentoring programs currently operating and being designed.

As always, we welcome your comments.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Bailin
President
MAB/mas
Enclosure

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Understanding How Youth and Elders Form Relationships:

A Study of Four Linking
Lifetimes Programs

Melanie B. Styles
Kristine V. Morrow

June 1992