

Volunteer Mentor FAQs

What sort of a commitment is required?

- Participation in training over two days on Friday 20th and 27th May 2016.
- Commitment of approximately four hours per week for face-to face mentoring and admin.
- Attendance at regular group supervision meetings (held on Tuesday afternoons every three weeks).

What exactly do mentors do?

Mentors are not case managers. The relationship is voluntary, egalitarian, and what mentors do varies according to the needs of program participants. Women are supported by mentors to address the factors that might underlie their contact with the justice system, and strengthen pathways to decrease the likelihood of future contact.

As a mentor you might:

- Support a woman to keep her appointments at court.
- Help someone work towards their goals.
- Go and see a financial counsellor together.
- Facilitate links with local activities and resources.
- Liaise with Centrelink or Office of housing.
- Support someone who is experiencing family violence to find their voice.
- Break down social isolation by spending time together.

What if I have a criminal record myself?

All volunteers do need to undergo a criminal record check. If something comes up on your check, we work through it on a case-by case basis.

Do I need experience?

We value any knowledge or experience that you might bring to mentoring - whether that be through your work, studies, family responsibilities, or things you've just picked up along the way.

To ensure a high standard of accountability, all applicants will undergo a screening, training, and interview process before becoming WAM Mentors.