



October 2026 Newsletter



October Impact Story: Mount Si HS Mentor Alister

Mentor

Being a mentor has been one of the best decisions I've made. My buddy has been like a little brother to me and has taught me how to be a better person in many ways, like through patience and understanding. He's also taught me many new slang words and memes.

My favorite memory is playing basketball with my buddy's whole family at the park for the whole 2 hours I was there. I'm excited to continue mentoring my buddy for the rest of the school year and summer and to keep in contact with him for the rest of my life.

Mentee Parent

After spending a year with Alister's older brother as his mentor, my son was paired with Alister last year. The transition took a little time—especially learning to get Alister's name right—but the two of them quickly formed a wonderful bond.

Whether they are outside playing football, soccer, basketball, or pickleball, or spending a rainy day indoors playing board games and video games, they are always laughing and having fun. My son looks forward to their time together every week. No matter the season or what else may be changing in his life, he knows he can count on Alister to be there.

As a parent, I am incredibly grateful that we found such a positive and dependable role model through Athletes for Kids. I hope Alister and all the program's young mentors recognize how meaningful their commitment truly is. By simply showing up, sharing their time, and building a genuine friendship, they can make a lasting difference in someone's life. I hope this program continues inspiring mentors and families for many years to come.

Upcoming Events

AFK Youth Mentoring 

Boots & Bling

for Buddies 



Boots & Bling for Buddies 2 is less than a month away! We cordially invite you to join us for an evening of western fun in support of our impactful peer mentorships on **Thursday, October 29th**, at the Pickering Barn in Issaquah.

Early bird pricing ends soon; register now to secure your tickets and make an impact for children with special needs and their high school athlete mentors.

[Click Here to Register!](#)

We are also in need of support in several **essential volunteer roles**. The execution of this event relies largely on our dedicated volunteer team! Please consider signing up to volunteer through the button below.

[Sign Up to Volunteer →](#)

Fall Festival

Saturday, October 17th
1:30 - 3:00 PM

Beaver Lake Pavilion
25103 SE 24th St
Sammamish, WA 98075

JOIN THE FUN!
Games, activities, and AFK friends. Costumes encouraged!
Mentors, buddies, and siblings are all welcome!

Hosted by the National Charity League of Young Women, Lake Sammamish Chapter

Fall Festival

Join us for our annual Fall Festival on **Saturday, October 17th**, for a fun and festive afternoon of games, activities, and AFK friends at Beaver Lake Pavilion in Sammamish. Costumes are encouraged! Mentors, buddies, and siblings are welcome to attend!

Hosted by the National Charity League of Young Women, Lake Sammamish Chapter.

[Register Now](#)

With Gratitude



Thank you to the **SHS football team** and **Coach Gardner** for putting on an amazing Football Minicamp and Activity Day. You even dialed up the beautiful weather! Mentors, buddies, siblings, board members, and parents had a great time. We are most grateful and can't wait for next year.

AFK Moments



As we reflect on a month of memories, we look forward to more mentorship moments and embracing acceptance, friendship, and kindness every day.

[Donate Now](#)

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