



# WHY MENTOR?



**“There is no such thing as other people’s children.”**

Bill Russell, MENTOR National co-founder

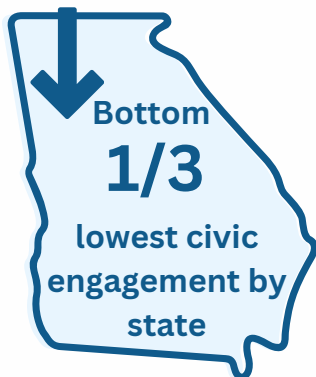
## THE NEED IN GEORGIA

**1 IN 5**

Georgia seniors do not graduate high school.

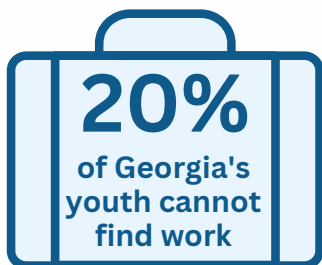
**3X**

the national average of youth unemployment



**1 IN 3**

young people will grow up without a mentor



The United Nations estimates that negative youth behaviors resulting from lost opportunities reduce a country's economic growth by about 2% annually. That means we are losing billions of dollars yearly due to risky behaviors, death, or loss of productivity.

## MENTORING IMPACT

An investment in youth mentoring is an investment in our future workforce and the vitality of our communities. By supporting youth mentoring, we can close the opportunity gap that exists for some young people as a result of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or other factors.

Youth with Mentors are...

**52%**

less likely to skip a day of school



**78%**

more likely to volunteer regularly



**55%**

more likely to enroll in college



This fact sheet was produced by MENTOR Georgia, which works to expand and deepen opportunities for Georgia youth to connect with caring, committed adults. MENTOR Georgia provides mentoring best practice training, technical assistance, and professional development resources to support youth mentoring programs and close the mentoring gap in our state.