



Factors that Partners considers when accepting a Junior Partner:

- Motivation to be a JP
- Ability to form relationships
- Mobility/telephone access
- Emotional stability/maturity
- Realistic expectations of the SP
- Negative peer pressure
- Ability to communicate
- Availability
- Willingness to try new experiences
- Parental support or/cooperation w/ the program
- Sense of responsibility
- Other support systems available
- Stress level
- Ability/willingness to give
- School attendance problems
- Substance abuse
- Ethnicity/cultural acceptance
- Overall self-image
- Overall resiliency

A few reasons why JPs sometimes don't complete their one-year commitment. (These are considered at the time of referral):

JP has excessive needs: His/her emotional and/or physical problems are beyond our resources or our capabilities to intervene.

Parental support is minimal or hostile: Parent who are jealous of the SP, apathetic about the partnership, or defensive about their parenting ability ay sabotage the partnership.

Coercion: Some JPs are coerced into the program by their parents, referrals agencies, etc. If the youth does not have a personal desire to be a JP but feels forced, his/her resistance will frequently result in missed appointments, phone calls that do not get returned, silence when the Partners are together, etc.

Peer pressure: A JP may fear the loss of his/her social group b/c of the Partnership.

Poor communication: Some JPs have no telephone, will not talk or respond, are unwilling to communicate what they need or want or are reluctant to try.

Mobility: Out of home placement, family moves to new locations(s), eviction, living w/ friends or relatives, etc can make it impossible for a JP and Sp to get together.

Refusal to change: Feelings of powerlessness, helplessness, hopelessness, poor self-image or lack of awareness of their problems can frustrate progress.

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