



We are eager to share successes and to thank you! Touch Point Connection is coaching enthusiastic students and successfully testing the coaching model in the school environment.

We started this important work painfully aware of the challenges facing today's students.

Many capable students face challenges outside of school that compromise their ability to be in school and to focus on their studies.

Only recently have these issues started to capture national attention.

## Touch Point Connection's Mission

*To bring the power of coaching to teens and young adults to support high school graduation, higher education and readiness for success in life and work.*

Touch Point Connection has a unique remedy that can be put into action immediately. With coaching support, students grab hold of their lives and their educations. With support from a coach, they dream, set goals and learn to advocate for what they need to be successful.

We wish to thank each of you for your contributions – financial, time and expertise. Our success is because you believed in this

mission and stepped forward to help make it possible.

I hope that you will enjoy what we present here and will welcome periodic updates about our students, volunteers and progress.

With Gratitude,  
Joan Martin, Founder





## Coaching Supports Graduation: A Peek Inside a Coaching Experience

*Meet one of our Volunteer Coaches and read how her coaching provided one of our teens the support she needed to believe in herself and move forward successfully, despite substantial challenges.*

**Jenny** is a bright, engaging young woman who made poor choices during her first two years of high school. Although she matured and improved her attendance and performance by her junior year, she was overwhelmed to see what it would take to graduate. She lost hope and found it hard to stay motivated.

**Jane** is a married Tucson resident with a full-time professional career. Looking to volunteer since her youngest child left for college, Jane applied to become a TPC Volunteer Coach and attended TPC's trainings.

Jenny came into the Touch Point program because an astute counselor noticed that Jenny was struggling and suggested Jenny try coaching. Jenny and Jane began their Success Coaching relationship mid-way through Jenny's junior year. Jane's consistency and

respectful, non-judgmental presence each week offered Jenny a sanctuary in which to see and make positive choices, commit to graduation in spite of the challenges, and advocate for what she needed to be successful.

Jenny decided to do everything possible to graduate with her class. She took summer school and extra courses each semester. She got frustrated and tired and wondered often if she could keep up the pace ... and if it would be worth it.

Through it all, Jane was there for her, listening, reflecting and guiding Jenny toward self-determined solutions that she could put into action.

This past May, Jenny graduated with the Amphitheater High School Class of 2010. Jane was there to celebrate with "her teen" and shed tears of pride at Jenny's success.

"Jane was my guardian angel," says Jenny. "She seemed to be the only person who really believed in me and, without her, I might not have made it to graduation."

Jenny is now enrolled in Pima Community College's Emergency Medical Technician program.

***Congratulations, Jenny!***



*Jenny's story vividly demonstrates what many students encounter. Many, like Jenny, have missed so many days of school, they feel they cannot catch up so they simply give up. Many are academically capable yet fail to graduate because of outside circumstances, including chaotic home lives or even the need to earn money to help support the family. With coaching support, they can find their way, renew their determination, and maintain their momentum. A coach is there to support them along the way and to help celebrate each achievement.*

"I have improved so much! Not only in school but at home also. Thanks to Touch Point, I am on my way to Success!"

## Touch Point Connection Successes to Date

- ❖ TPC has coached **more than 80 distinct students in 1-to-1 coaching relationships**, some students are entering their third school year with a TPC coach.
- ❖ **555 coaching sessions** held through May 2010
- ❖ **More than 50 highly trained Coach Volunteers**; more are on a **waiting list to become volunteers**.
- ❖ The Success Coaching program is **integrated** into a large, traditional urban high school.
- ❖ Data show the **model and methods successful**.
- ❖ This school year we will test an on-site **Just-in-Time Coaching Office**.

We already knew that coaching was effective for corporate leaders, athletes and performers.  
**Now we know coaching is effective for students!**



"Before coaching I was getting C's and D's. Now I am getting A's and B's."

### What We Discovered

- ❖ Coaching supports student learning!
- ❖ Coaching moves students from the back seat into the driver's seat.
- ❖ Students become motivated learners with aspirations and goals.
- ❖ Students see a path forward and are able to advocate for what they need to be successful.
- ❖ When students are motivated and eager to learn, teachers can teach.
- ❖ Coaching provides the added support and accountability that many students need.
- ❖ Through coaching, students develop competencies and life skills that serve them now and will serve them into the future.
- ❖ With enough training and support, community volunteers are eager to do this work.

"I know now that when I have a problem there are different ways to solve it other than violence."

### TPC Volunteer Coaches

Through May 2010

Ed Acuna  
Howie Adams  
Sarah Amos  
Mary Baglien  
Bonnie Barazani  
Fred Barazani  
Pam Becker  
Jenny Bergdoll  
Danielle Berrien  
Lynn Blankinship  
Karen Bunke  
Jodi Bunting  
Angela Burton  
Michael Chaisson  
Suzanne Dennis  
Maggie Dunbar  
Suzanne Ellenbogen  
Molly Eglin  
Liz Ganin  
Sharon Geiger  
Arthur Goldberg  
Susan Grunebaum  
Marilyn Gustin  
Kevin Hall  
Janie Herr  
Eleanor Jeck  
Don Jeck  
Lorri Jordan  
Jamie Lakin-Kelley  
Jan Miller-Kleiner  
Ronald Kolker  
Laura Lentner  
Vicki Lucia  
Hadassa Filler-Morris  
Harvey Morris  
Nancy Nagle  
Ken Padgham  
Bobbi Paley  
Ellie Patterson  
Sandy Rausch  
Nancy Reed  
Ed Rogoff  
Lynda Rogoff  
Maurice Saroni  
Teresa Schmitz  
Michael Sicurello  
Terri Sinclair  
Jane Stash  
Carol Steinberg  
Cindy Sumner  
Francisco Valencia  
Wes Ward  
Marcy Ziska



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Touch Point Connection is grateful to the following for their financial support\* of Success Coaching and to those who have donated time, goods and services.

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"It felt good to have an adult in my life that I could trust and didn't judge me."



"I had someone help me to set up steps to reach my goals. It wasn't complicated - it was simple to understand."

\* cumulative gifts from TPC inception through 9/21/10

### Touch Point Staff

Joan Martin, Executive Director  
 Suzanne Ellenbogen, Coach Manager  
 Karen Bunke, Program Coordinator  
 Tishura Stockdale, Program Assistant

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