



# Touch Point Connection

Coaching Teens... Building Futures

## WHAT IS TOUCH POINT CONNECTION?

Touch Point Connection's mission is to advance the use of coaching with students and young adults to support academic success and to develop 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills so they will be competent, contributing members in the workplace and their communities.

Touch Point Connection (TPC), is a 501c3 non-profit organization. TPC received its IRS tax-exempt designation in November 2007 and is headquartered in Tucson, AZ.

## HOW DID TOUCH POINT CONNECTION BEGIN?

TPC's founder, a certified professional coach, first ran an informal school-based coaching program in Seattle, WA. **School administrators, using coaching conversations with students, lowered discipline referrals by more than 60% in just one month.** Then, for two years, community women coached 40 female high school students, showing positive impact on school performance.

TPC was created to test coaching applications and delivery methods for use with young adults. It has now concluded a successful 3-year research and development project at Amphitheater High School in Tucson.

## STUDENTS WHO HAVE COACHING DO BETTER!

*They see more options and make better choices.*

*They stretch themselves in intellect and imagination.*

*They develop life and workplace skills.*

*They have the support they need to keep moving forward.*

*They become better-educated citizens and professionals.*

## WHAT WE'VE SEEN COACHING ACCOMPLISH

- Students that embraced coaching have a consistently higher GPA than both those that did not stay in coaching and those in a control group.
- Students set goals and are better prepared to rise above the ever-present distractions, chaos, and drama bombarding adolescent lives.
- Students develop essential life, school, and work-readiness skills.
- Students feel supported to attend school, remain focused, and ready to learn.
- Students develop critical-thinking, decision-making and advocacy skills essential for achieving the goals they set for themselves.
- Students develop an understanding of who they are and how to relate effectively with others.



Go to: [www.youtube.com/TPCCoaching](http://www.youtube.com/TPCCoaching)

View TPC's 3- minute video on YouTube to see what TPC teens and school representatives say.



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## THE ROLE OF A COACH

- Establish trust and understanding.
- Help students see they may have broader choices and opportunities.
- Help students understand their strengths.
- Help students rekindle hope and set goals.
- Help students take control of their lives and their futures.
- Help students develop perseverance by successfully facing challenges that may have once seemed impossible.
- Hold students accountable to their goals and their dreams.
- Help students develop a network of support.
- Be that trusted person in their life to recognize and celebrate their successes!
- Help students practice and master 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills, developing the competencies that will serve them well in academics, life and the workplace.

**Coaching focuses on goal setting, outcome creation, and personal change management.**



## Why Coaching: The Many Challenges Today's Students Face

- Students want to be successful. However, if they cannot find healthy ways to be successful, many choose or stumble into dangerous behaviors.
- Often issues interfering with a student's focus, motivation and ability to learn are things they perceive as out of their control.
- When adults dictate a career path in conflict with a student's choice, the impasse may be demotivating and seem insurmountable.
- Many students feel adults in their lives see them for who they are now, not what they believe they can become.
- Many students lose hope when they face challenges with no support.
- Many adults have no hope and pass that message on to their children.
- Many students are not being prepared to accept adult responsibilities.
- Many students find classroom instruction less than engaging or even irrelevant.
- Many students do not see a way to rise above these dangerous traps and simply give up in resentment and anger.
- Schools do not have adequate staffing to fully support student needs.
- Many students feel powerless over the everyday occurrences that interfere with school, causing them to fall behind. Many simply give up, believing there is no way to catch up.



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## TOUCH POINT'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In just under three school years, at Amphitheater High School, Touch Point Connection:

- Provided Success Coaches to 112 distinct students, many for multiple school years.
- Opened an on-site Coaching Office and within one semester coached 30 students in 52 sessions.
- Recruited, trained, qualified, and provided case management for more than 50 community volunteers who served as Volunteer Coaches.
- Provided specialized coach training to volunteers who served as staff coaches in the Coaching Office.
- Designed and tested various student recruitment, intake, program delivery, and record keeping methodologies and operational processes.
- Collected both quantitative and qualitative data on program outcomes and program delivery methods.
- Worked well in tandem with the high school and the school district.
- Secured program funding through grant applications and individual appeals.



**Using coaching conversations,  
one school lowered behavior  
referrals more than 60%**



## WHAT ARE TOUCH POINT'S NEXT GOALS

Coaching is a productive way for communities to pull together to support academic and work-readiness agendas.

Touch Point Connection is exploring how to take what we have learned about coaching young adults to other communities and organizations, such as schools, universities and youth-serving non-profits.

TPC is seeking collaborators who have a commonality of interest, with whom we can partner to offer our skills and expertise in a manner that will help prepare young adults to be fully successful against the challenges of higher education, life, and the workplace.

## TPC ALSO WISHES TO BE A PARTNER OR CATALYST...

- To develop age-appropriate coaching curriculums that are mapped to 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills, for use in one-to-one coaching, small group coaching, facilitated coaching discussion groups, and for student peer coaching.
- To develop coach training curriculums for educational professionals and adults who work with young adults.
- To develop coach training curriculums for community members who wish to serve as volunteer coaches.

**To contact Touch Point Connection**  
**Info@TouchPointConnection.org / 520-616-2960**