

# THE MENTORING RELATIONSHIP

## TRANSITIONS AND ROADBLOCKS

---

Transitions are normal in relationships.

At many junctures, you hit what may appear to be a roadblock.

- Internal Roadblocks
  - Energy – respect your limits
    - Biggest solution is communication
    - Know your limits and work within them
  - You discover something you cannot handle; feels too heavy
    - Call in a case manager with you: counselor, Social Services, BCYMP Program Director
    - Need maybe to set some boundaries
  - Boredom
  - Personality issues; just can't hit it off; find mentee annoying
    - Figure out what is healthy, what is not, communication, get advice
    - Really peculiar? Talk to BCYMP Program Director or school counselor
  - Boundaries
    - Be strong in identifying and communicating your role to the parents and child
    - We want to say yes in order to help people, but this can lead to burnout – which is a huge roadblock.
- External Roadblocks
  - Parents
    - Parents won't let child do stuff with you
      - May be jealous of you and your relationship with mentee
      - May wish they had a mentor
    - Parent tries to establish a relationship with you that exceeds your boundaries
    - Time
      - Parent's expectations are too high
  - Child tests the trust foundation; tests you
    - Child is most comfortable when you set clear expectations and meet them closely
  - Child pushes against a boundary
  - Child gets stuck in a "script" that drives them to failure or undermines the relationship they have with you.

*If you hit a roadblock and want help troubleshooting it, please contact the BCYMP Program Director or school counselor without delay. We are ready to help you at any juncture.*