## Youth Mentor Focus Group Guide

## Introduction

Thank you for coming today to share your experience with the TEAM (Teens Engaged as Mentors) program. Our group discussion today is about your motivations for participating in the program, the types of activities that you participated in, what you learned from the program and any recommendations for further training or activities you would like to have in the future. The discussion will be approximately 1 hour. We will record your responses so we can accurately note your responses. However all of the information is confidential. We will not share your name or attribute any information directly to you unless you give permission. The findings from our discussion will be shared with the Autism Program, the hospital and other organizations interested in establishing programs like TEAM.

## Questions

- 1. How long have you been involved with the TEAM program?
- 2. What activities have you participated in through the TEAM program?
- 3. Among the activities listed here (show cards), which activities would you rank as your favorites? Please rank your top 3. Why did you list these activities?
  - Fall Training
  - Fall Festival (pumpkin decorating) at Grove Hall
  - Mass Audubon trail cleanup
  - Holiday Party (heat packs & karaoke)
  - Birthday Bash
  - Bowling
  - Museum of Science
  - Spring Training
- 4. What made you want to join TEAM?
- 5. What did you learn from being a mentor? If you think about your mentee, is there anything you learned from him/her?
- 6. Is there anything you think your mentee learned from you?
- 7. What was challenging about your role as a mentor? Is there any more training you would want?
- 8. What more would you like to do as a mentor?
- 9. Did you make any new friendships through TEAM? Did you ever reach out to anyone you met through TEAM outside of scheduled events?
- 10. In what ways do you think you've changed because of TEAM?

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- 11. How would you describe TEAM to others?
- 12. What skills did you learn that will help you in the future?
- 13. Is there anything you would change about the program?
  - a. What activities would you like to do next year?
  - b. How did you feel about having assigned groups? What about when groups changed or people were absent?
  - c. Is there anything you would change about the schedule?
- 14. Do you plan on participating in TEAM next year?