



# 2015 Coaches' Challenge Team Kansas

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## **Coach Snyder and Kansas Mentors Recognize 2015 Outstanding Mentoring Matches**

*This year's outstanding mentoring matches were recognized in an on-the-field recognition ceremony at the Kansas State Wildcats football game against the Texas Christian University Hornet Frogs on Saturday, October 10, 2015.*

TOPEKA, KS – Coach Bill Snyder, Chair of Kansas Mentors, recognized this year's Outstanding Mentoring Match award winners on the field at the October 10<sup>th</sup> Kansas State University football game. Along with Kansas Mentors, Coach Snyder is excited to acknowledge these individuals as key players in the state's mentoring efforts.

Recipients of the 2015 Outstanding Mentoring Match award include:

Nikita Mehlhorn & Taylor Willard with Match Mentoring Program;  
Tanna Thompson & John Kyle with Schools of Hope; and  
Jasmine Smith & Tara Coleman with Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Riley County.

Kansas Mentors' Outstanding Match award gives recognition to mentoring relationships that demonstrate a significant impact in the lives of both the mentor and mentee. Recipients were selected based on their active involvement, spirit of creativity and tenacity in the development of their relationship, as well as being part of a mentoring program that is committed to achieving and upholding best practices.

This award is in collaboration with an annual campaign, the *Coaches' Mentoring Challenge*. For the past seven years, college coaches and an increasing number of institutions have demonstrated their commitment to closing the mentoring gap by participating in the *Coaches' Mentoring Challenge*. This campaign began in 2008 as a friendly competition between Coach Tom Osborne at the University of Nebraska and Coach Bill Snyder at Kansas State University, with the goal of rallying new volunteers for mentoring programs in their communities and states. Since its kickoff, teams in seven states have joined and during the 2014 *Coaches' Mentoring Challenge*, over 10,000 new mentors stepped up.

The 2015 *Coaches' Mentoring Challenge* kicked off on August 1 and runs through November 30, with results being released during the first week in December.

For more information about the 2015 *Coaches' Mentoring Challenge* or to learn how you can sign up to mentor, please visit [www.KansasMentors.org](http://www.KansasMentors.org).

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*The mission of the Kansas Volunteer Commission (KVC) is to empower all Kansans to meet community needs through service. The KVC provides grant funding, training, and support to Kansas non-profit organizations. It manages the state's mentoring partnership, Kansas Mentors, and administers federal funding to AmeriCorps and Volunteer Generation Fund programs throughout the state. For more information on the Volunteer Generation Fund, Kansas Mentors, Kansas AmeriCorps or other KVC programs, please visit [www.kanserve.org](http://www.kanserve.org).*

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