**Mentor Application**

The FRPA Young Professionals Workgroup has identified mentorship as something they would like to prioritize for the next few years. Creating and cultivating relationships with those further along in their careers help young professionals grow. FRPA PODS are intended to be a way to connect these two groups for the outcome of connection, mentorship, fellowship, and guidance. Each POD will be a small group, no more than six people, and will consist of one or two ‘leaders’ and the rest of the group will be made up of young professionals.

* Applications will be taken from all interested.
* Efforts will be made to make each POD diverse in age, race, and geographic location.
* The PODS will run November 2023 – August 2024 to conclude at conference. If someone is not happy with their assigned group, they may request to be placed in another group via the FRPA Executive Office.

POD Leaders are:

Recreation and Park professionals who have been in the field of parks and recreation for more than ten years. They are considered ‘management’ in their organization; holding the titles of Director, Assistant/Deputy Director, Superintendent, Manager, or the like. POD Leaders will be expected to commit to the following:

* ‘Lead’ your POD, possibly along with one other leader by facilitating conversation and connection among members;
* Be active in the PODS’ dedicated eConnect group;
* Share wisdom, stories, learning experiences in a warm and inviting way;
* Host phone calls or online meetings with the POD on a regular basis (FRPA can help with these);
* Encourage POD members through emails or letters;
* Possibly meet up at Conference with your POD, if allowable, and encourage attending some classes together.
* Create a safe atmosphere where what is discussed stays within the group. Encourage all participants to use discretion when discussing their POD with others outside the group.

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Please fill out the following information below. If there is a section you would prefer not to fill out, simply leave it blank. This will not disqualify you from participating.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Agency** |  |
| **Title** |  |
| **Email**  |  |
| **Preferred Phone #** |  |
| **# of years employed full time in the field of parks and recreation** |  |
| **Race** |  |
| **Gender** |  |
| **Professional Area(s) of Interest** (Aquatics, Parks, Programming, etc.) |  |
| **Why do you want to be an FRPA POD Mentor?** |  |
| **Can you commit to the expectations outlined in the description?** |  |
| **What are a few resources that you can share with others to encourage growth in leadership and the profession?** |  |
| **What kind of time commitment can you realistically give to a POD?** (circle one) | Meet once per month for an hour | Meet twice per month for an hour |
| **What is your preferred means of communication?** |  |