



## 20 Questions As Discussion Starters

Try to get the young person to respond to open-ended questions and then follow the trail wherever it leads. The questions are in no particular order as the young person dictates direction. It is sensitive to avoid questions about abuse or mental health issues, unless they bring it up. Then keep it short and move on.

1. How is your relationship with your family?
2. Do you take drugs? What is your drug of choice?
3. Where would you like to be in 6 months time? In 5 years time?
4. Have you ever had a mentor / coach / someone to talk ideas through with?
5. What do you need to settle in the area and do well?
6. What can the authorities give you that will help you succeed?
7. What is the first name of the person who helped you most and how did they help?
8. If you move home will you get the support you will need to be successful?
9. What type of friends do you hang out with?
10. What is your idea of what a mentor does (explain what a mentor does)?
11. What would you like a mentor to do for you?
12. What education goals do you have?
13. What are you likely do when you are bored?

If the young person is in custody;

14. Tell me about your average day.
15. What orders were used to keep you from being put here?
16. Why did they not work?
17. What would have worked?

At the end ask;

18. Is there anything you would like me to know?
19. Is there anything I can do today to help you?
20. If you think of anything that would be of help to you please contact me.

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