Mentee/Special Friend Journal

*Prayer Partners are special friends and this project allows them to communicate with their mentee in a special way that still adheres to the separation of church and state. Just follow these easy steps…*

1. Prayer partners should write an introductory letter to their Kids Hope student in the journal. The letter should have an introductory sentence and a couple of questions for the child to answer. Here is a sample of what you might write:

   *My name is Mrs. Y and I am a special friend of your KidsHope mentor, Mr./Miss X. I’ve heard lots of great stories about the fun things you do together and I’d really like to know you better. I’m wondering what do you like to do when you are not in school? I’m also wondering if you have any brothers or sisters? If you do, how old are they?*

   Printing your letters will provide students with a greater opportunity to be able read them without much help from their mentor. Providing a picture of you, alone or with your family and/or a pet would be nice.

2. The next step is to give the notebook to the mentor with whom you are paired. The mentor will bring it to his/her next mentoring session and share it with your KH student. The mentor will also use a portion of the session to help the student write or draw answers.

3. The mentor returns the notebook to the prayer partner, who responds to whatever the child has written and asks some more “get-acquainted” questions. Examples: What do you want to be when you grow up? What do you like to do with your brothers/sisters? Who is your favorite grownup?

4. The prayer partner returns the notebook to the mentor and the exchange of letters or drawings continues as often as is possible.

**Important Reminder**

**Prayer Partners:** When writing to your KH student, DO NOT ever refer to yourself as a prayer partner.

**Mentors:** When talking about your Prayer Partner to your KH student, please refer to him/her as a special or close friend, NEVER as your Prayer Partner.