

**ANAMCARA MENTORSHIP
2018-2020 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

WHAT: Graduates from previous Anamcara Apprenticeships may volunteer to be mentors for apprentices in the 2018-20 Anamcara VII Apprenticeship program

WHEN: The opening retreat will be held Sept. 7-9, 2018; the program concludes June of 2020.

WHY: The apprenticeship journey is a commitment to a two-year intensive process of personal, spiritual and professional development. It can be a special gift of prayerful and emotional support to be accompanied by an apprentice-graduate mentor who has and continues to experience the Anamcara Journey

EXPECTED LEVEL OF SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT

The role of Anamcara Mentor is a unique part of the apprenticeship support system and is consistent with the Anamcara Tradition. Mentors are expected to make a two year commitment to their assigned apprentice. If life circumstances interrupt this commitment for either apprentice or mentor, it will be important to be in communication with the Anamcara Program staff.

An Anamcara Mentor is NOT:

- ✓ A program supervisor for an apprentice
- ✓ A replacement for a Celi De group, animator, Track Mentors or Anamcara Project staff
- ✓ A counselor/spiritual director/decision-maker for the apprenticeship process
- ✓ A reporter to Anamcara staff on the progress of assignments and tasks

An Anamcara Mentor IS:

- ✓ A soul friend who offers virtual, spiritual/prayerful support for the apprentice
- ✓ A companion during times of question or challenge
- ✓ A 'mentor' who shares appropriate insights/perspectives from their experience of the apprenticeship journey
- ✓ A liaison with Anamcara Project staff if an emergency should arise

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE ANAMCARA MENTOR

SPIRITUAL COMPANION

The most important role for the Anamcara Mentor is virtual spiritual support. Ideally, the mentor will include their assigned apprentice in their morning and evening meditation/devotional/prayerful practices. Ideally, the mentor could journey through appropriate aspects of the apprenticeship process again such as the Celtic morning devotional

practice, dream journaling, etc. The mentor role could also be a special opportunity to re-live and deepen in the seasons, festivals and deeper meanings of the Celtic Year.

PERSONAL SUPPORT

Having experienced the apprenticeship process, a mentor can be a helpful ear of support for a new apprentice. Because the mentor is not a counselor or spiritual director, their role in objective support can be especially valuable. The mentor's role as a caring soul friend and companion-along-the-way can be a special blessing. If/when mentors are in doubt about their role, they are expected to contact the Anamcara support team at Sacred Art of Living Center. In the rare case where a concern or complaint may arise between mentor and/or apprentice, the Anamcara team should be contacted as soon as possible. It will be up to mentors and apprentices to establish the most useful way to stay in contact. Typically, a monthly email and occasional [at least every couple of months] phone/Skype call would be appropriate. If a mentor and apprentice live in close proximity to each other, they can negotiate whether face to face 'get-togethers' may be useful.

PROGRAM MENTOR

The specific role of mentorship should be limited to the Anamcara Apprenticeship process. It would be appropriate for a mentor to share their struggles and joys in living more deeply into Anamcara as well as challenges encountered in the program. The Anamcara Tradition does not focus so much on hierarchy of relationships as it does on co-companionship on the journey. Because the mentor has already lived through the apprenticeship process, their encouragement and mentorship around being faithful to the Anamcara Covenant and its practices can be invaluable. Mentors can create a special password for the Anamcara website in order to access readings, videos, etc. This can be a double blessing by way of support to apprentices and a means of accessing materials anew as mentors. While the mentor will not be required to complete assignments, attend Celi De meetings, etc., their new role can be an opportunity to deepen in the wisdom and practices of the Tradition.

WEBSITE ACCESS

To access the website, click on the Apprenticeship tab on the Sacred Art of Living website. Sign in and create a password. Gwen at SALC will receive your request when you press submit and will give you approval. We do not keep a record of passwords, so be sure to save it for yourself. You can also change it if you need to do so.