



The National Mentoring Consortium Disability Undergraduate Scheme



A FORMER MENTEE'S SUCCESS STORY

Sabrina with her
Mentor Award

Enterprising Sabrina sets up innovative single parents' network for East London

An enterprising student at the University of East London (UEL) has founded a new voluntary initiative to help single parents in Tower Hamlets and Newham.

Earlier this year, Sabrina Paul launched the Mobile Single Mothers Project, which offers a range of co-operative services to single parents including, classes and skills workshops, IT access and training, one-to-one mentoring sessions, and an online conversation forum.

It has now expanded to become a network of mutual support and self-help across East London. More than 50 people are involved and it is growing every day.

Sabrina Paul, 26, was inspired to set up the project after winning the National Mentoring Consortium's 2005 Disability Mentee of the Year Award for her work with IT staff at HSBC in Canary Wharf, part of a pioneering mentoring project at UEL.

She said, "I am delighted at how the project has taken off. Being a single parent is tough and can be a lonely experience. People don't realise how much harder single parents have to work in order to get by, especially balancing childcare with work and study."

"Our goal is to raise the level of success, respect, direction and motivation within single parent families by sharing our skills and experiences and providing mentoring and support."