

## PRESS RELEASE

# MORE THAN 800 STUDENTS IN JORDAN, GERMANY AND SWEDEN TO BE PART OF IN-SCHOOL MENTORING PROGRAM

- Mentor International and the TUI Care Foundation launch a global partnership
- The mentoring programme focuses on increasing inclusion and employability
- A multi-national initiative to empower youth through personal development
- Approximately 100 local community volunteers in motivational workshops

**24 September 2019.** *During the Mentor Germany Youth Summit, which took place in the presence of H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden, Mentor International and TUI Care Foundation launched a global partnership. The two organizations will team up to run a mentoring program to empower young people from vulnerable communities in Jordan, Germany and Sweden. The program will be set up by Mentor's national operations and rolled out under the TUI Junior Academy umbrella.*

Workshops designed to strengthen self-esteem, social inclusion and parental involvement will support the development of young people and help reduce isolation, improve school results, decrease the risk of destructive patterns and promote a more prosperous life. The project aligns with both with the UN 2030 Youth Agenda for Sustainable Development and TUI Care Foundation's 2020 development goals.

"This collaboration gives Mentor the opportunity to make a difference for hundreds of young people. We are also pleased to be working with Mentor Arabia, Mentor Germany and Mentor Sweden as well as so many local volunteers at the same time" says **Sara Revell Ford**, Secretary General of Mentor International.

The initiative will provide training on the soft skills needed for personal development to complement the hard skills included in a school curriculum. The mentoring program will be offered in schools where students come from socially vulnerable areas, and where school performance indexes are often lower than national averages. Participants will be between the ages of 13 to 17 years and the majority from vulnerable groups in the society. Mentor and TUI Care Foundation will recruit volunteers from the local community, including employees from across TUI Group. The mentoring initiative will run from Autumn 2019 to Summer 2020.

"Improving the life chances of young people and empowering them to reach their full potential is core to TUI Care Foundation's work in the educational field. Bringing together the school community, families and adult professionals to exchange experiences and solve challenges, is a powerful and inspirational tool to strengthen school-to-work transition. Our initiative builds a support network for youths and brings them into contact with professional and personal experiences they can relate to," says **Thomas Ellerbeck**, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the TUI Care Foundation.

## ABOUT MENTOR INTERNATIONAL



Mentor International is an international non-profit development organization working to help young people find a path towards a promising future. Mentor runs programs for young people that help increase life skills, personal development, school motivation and provide protective factors against falling into high-risk behavior such as drugs and alcohol and isolation. Mentor involves volunteers from partners and local communities to provide youth strong adult role-models. Mentor International was founded in 1994 by HM Queen Silvia of Sweden in collaboration with members of the World Health Organization, originally working in the field of drug use and substance abuse prevention. Mentor is represented across Europe, USA and the Arab Region. Website: [mentorinternational.org](http://mentorinternational.org)

## **ABOUT TUI CARE FOUNDATION**

TUI Care Foundation builds on the potential of tourism as a force for good by supporting and initiating partnerships and projects that create new opportunities for the young generation and contribute to thriving destinations all over the world. By connecting holidaymakers to good causes, TUI fosters education and the wellbeing of children and youth, the protection of nature and the environment, and the positive impacts of tourism on people and places in destinations worldwide. TUI Care Foundation 'works global and acts local'. Through strong partnerships with local and international organizations and by making it easy for holidaymakers to make a difference by contributing to good causes in their holiday destinations, TUI Care Foundation aims to create meaningful and long-lasting impact. TUI Care Foundation was founded by TUI, the world's leading tourism business, and is based in the heart of Europe, the Netherlands.

## **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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