

# Rocky Mount TELEGRAM

## Career coaches needed for local students

By Tom Murphy, Rocky Mount Telegram

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Futures for Kids needs career coaches from the Twin Counties, said Executive Director Susan Milliken.

Futures for Kids is an online tool that allows middle and high school students to take a quick job assessment, discover fields that appeal to them and explore a variety of different career opportunities, Milliken said. It uses technology to create a community of support around children, encouraging them to explore careers by connecting with career coaches and companies across North Carolina, Milliken said.

"We know that if we can connect our kids with real people and companies across the state, it will keep them in school and on a path toward a fulfilling career," she said. "The real benchmark of the program is that students can connect to real professionals in the careers that they are interested in.

"It drives home the importance of education, but it also shows them that they can have a career that they love."

Milliken said Futures for Kids staff members are working hard to ensure every student using the new F4K program, starting Thursday, will have someone to "talk" to.

"F4K is looking for people in any of the following careers to become career coaches to answer kids' questions online as they explore their career interests," she said. "The time commitment is minimal — 10 to 15 minutes a week — and it is done all online."

Milliken said the discussions are held via secured discussion boards, not e-mail.

"Counselors will only receive an e-mail reminder from F4K with a link to the discussion boards, if any kids have asked questions about your career," she said. "We're looking for volunteers who would be able to answer questions on a discussion board about career areas and who would like to help kids stay in school and figure out what they want to be when they grow up."

To register to become a career coach, sign up at [www.f4k.org/winter/career.html](http://www.f4k.org/winter/career.html).

"Once an application has been processed, volunteers will receive activation information that will include your login and password," Milliken said.