**Conversation Starters**

**Mentee: Questions to ask your Mentor:**

* Why did you pursue becoming a mentor?
* What do you like best about being a career professional/mentor/leader?
* What are the challenges you face in your practice/agency/organization/school?
* Why is it important to you to be a PACDA member?
* What do you think are the greatest challenges facing our profession today?
* What do you think are the greatest successes in our field?
* What are important considerations when working with people from diverse backgrounds?
* How do you stay motivated?
* Who or what are some of your most important resources that you use to guide you in your role?
* What PACDA activities/resources/webpages do you most recommend and why?
* Who are the personal and professional individuals that have inspired you and connected with you?
* What leadership books or theories have most influenced your ideas and thoughts?
* How do you strike a healthy balance between your professional and personal life?
* How do you think career professionals can advocate for the profession?
* What are your professional goals and dreams (short term and long term)?
* What is the one action you have taken that has accounted for most of your success?
* How do you handle professional obstacles and roadblocks?
* What advice do you have for me as I continue forward in our profession

**Mentor: Questions to ask your Mentee**

* How did your role as a career professional develop? How is it going now?
* What questions do you have about your future? About the future of the profession?
* How can I support you in your work environment?
* What career development books or theories have influenced your ideas and thoughts? How can I support you as a member of PACDA?
* What aspirations or previous leadership experience do you have? What did you like or dislike?
* How would you describe your strengths and struggles?
* What obstacles have you faced?
* Talk about your time-management skills as a working professional
* How do you stay motivated?
* How are you doing in terms of working toward your professional goals?
* Have any of your experiences thus far inspired new goals or initiatives?
* What PACDA activities/resources/webpages are you already familiar with?
* What are your growth areas that have been most rewarding? Most challenging?
* How can you connect your strengths and skills with your areas most in need?
* Who else can help you with your development as a career profession
* How can I support you in reaching those goals?