

Grand Area Mentoring • Moab, UT

2019/2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Mentoring in the Time of Coronavirus

Grand Area Mentoring suspended in-person mentoring in March when Governor Herbert dismissed schools across the state of Utah. This unexpected interruption didn't stop the majority of mentors and mentees who continue to connect virtually and by other means. Over 75% of matches have maintained robust, meaningful contacts through video chat, telephone, text, email, and the postal service. In May, community-based matches resumed meeting with safety measures in place. Virtual mentoring will also continue through the summer. We look forward to the resumption of in-person mentoring as soon as possible.

Mentee Demographics

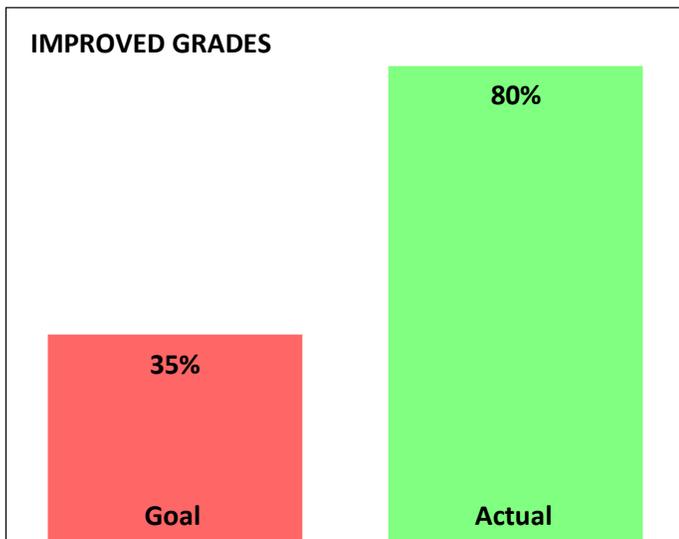
AGE: Average – 11 years (oldest: 21; youngest: 7) **TOTAL MENTEES SERVED IN 2019/2020:** 83
GENDER: 64% male, 36% female **AVG WAIT LIST:** 14 students
SES: 90% free or reduced lunch **ETHNICITY:** 21% minority

Student Outcomes

Mentoring in Moab is primarily school-based. This helps explain why mentee performance improves. Unfortunately, school was dismissed for the last third of the academic season, which means data on GPA, behavior, and attendance were incomplete. To adjust for this, Grand Area Mentoring used an average of trimester one and two to calculate mentee performance for the final trimester, an imperfect but necessary strategy. Like everyone during this unsettling time, we're doing our best with the tools and information available to us.

Academic Performance

80% of mentored youth improved their grades this year.



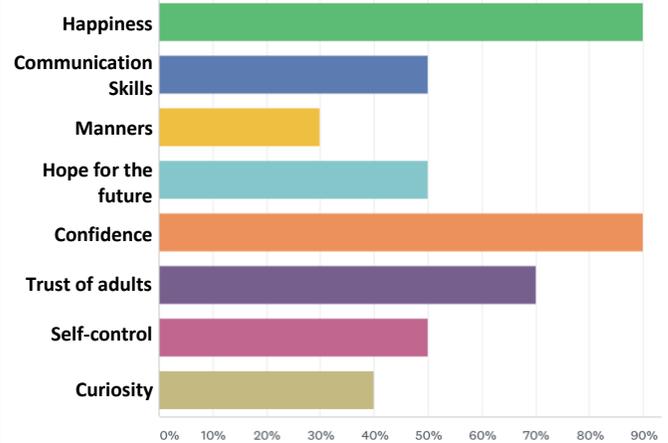
Attendance

43% improved their attendance*, versus an objective of 35%. Heightened affinity for school and improved social skills help explain mentoring's positive effect on attendance.

*Outcomes marked with an asterisk are based on averages from trimester one and two and carried forward into trimester three.

SURVEYS; feedback from teachers and mentors

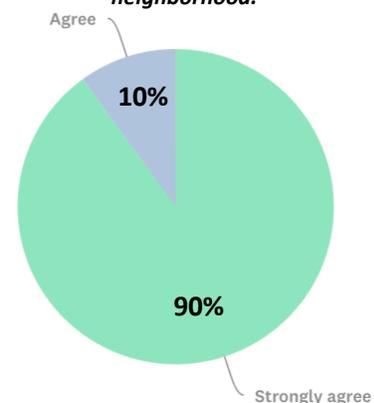
Teachers – *The social-emotional areas where I've seen mentees benefit are...*



Mentored students have a better foundation for their life with someone who really cares about them and keeps their word. My mentored students totally look forward to their mentoring day; they get very excited and want to look, do, and be their best.” –Teacher

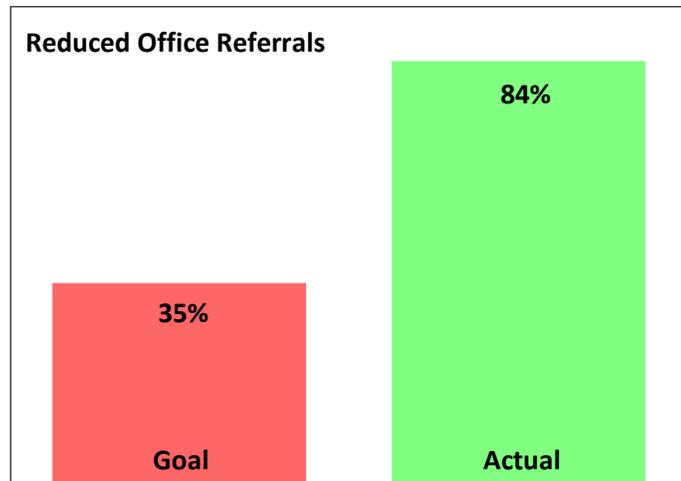
“Mentoring provides a positive adult role model in their lives and gives them an opportunity to see what's possible in the big world. –Teacher

Teachers – Mentoring is an important strategy to support vulnerable students who exhibit antisocial behavior, have few friendships, demonstrate poor commitment to school, earn poor grades, and/or live in a troubled home or neighborhood.



Behavior

84% of mentored youth improved their behavior.



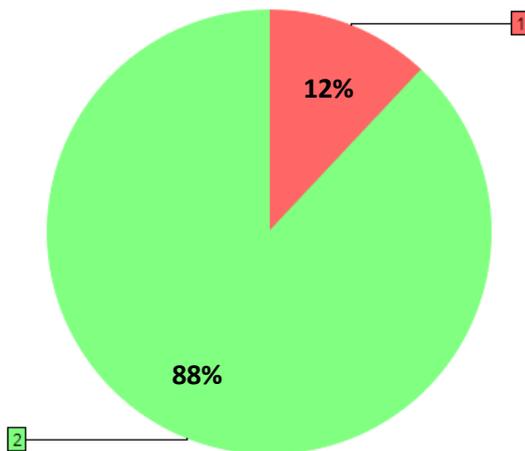
“My mentee has started saying thank you without being prompted, he is less fearful of other kids and more willing to play with them during mentoring sessions. He reached out to me via telephone during the school closure, and he’s starting to initiate contact as well.” – Mentor



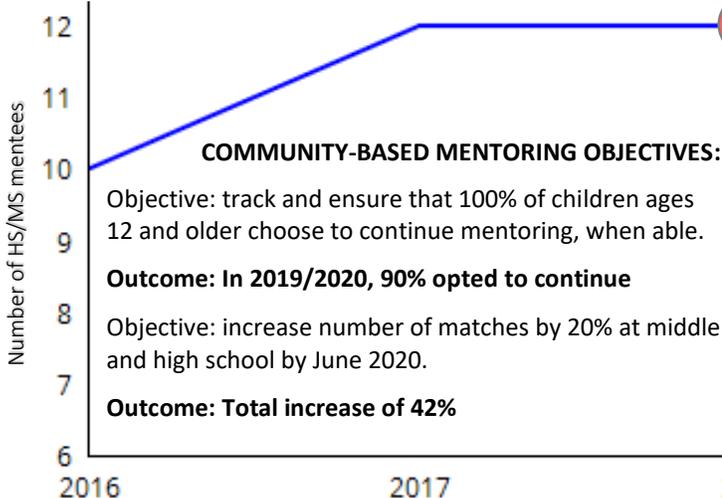
Sustained Relationships

At their close, 88% of relationship lasted more than one year, and the average duration was three years, far better than the six-month national mean documented in a Dept of Education study. This is a particularly important measure, because longer relationships produce more promising results for youth. Furthermore, mentoring relationship longevity is a potent indicator of program quality.

Relationships lasting more than one year



■ 1. Less than one year
■ 2. More than one year
 GOAL: 55% one year+



August 2018: **Community-based mentoring** implemented for students at the middle school and high school levels, with the aim of sustaining relationships through the difficult teen years

VERBATIM

I used to call myself stupid every single day. Now I’ve learned that I’m a really smart kid. (mentee, 7)

Mentoring helps me in many ways. The one that is most striking is my social skills. (mentee, 12)

Mentoring made me realize how creative I am. It made me realize that I can aspire to be what I want to be – like an artist or an author. (mentee, 11)

Mentoring makes me intrigued to go to school, and it makes me want to work harder. Mentoring has made me more positive about myself. It has also helped me look at other people differently; it has made me look at them more open-minded. (mentee, 12)

When I’m in mentoring it helps me control my anger. Mentoring makes me feel happier. (mentee, 8)

I get motivated about the week whenever I’m with my mentor. (mentee, 11)