The Need

In 2021, 76% of Moab’s high school students failed to meet state standards in math, and 60% failed in language arts.

In 2021, Moab had the second worse graduation rate in UT.

A Solution

“...adolescents and young adults who are able to identify at least one supportive nonparent mentor in their lives tend to engage in less risk-taking behavior; have improved psychological and social functioning; achieve higher educational attainment, higher salaries, and more intrinsically rewarding jobs; and have better career outcomes.” – Dr. Jean Rhodes, social scientist

“The quality of the relationships in a child’s life influence almost every aspect of his or her development.”

Research shows powerful relationships connect youth with people and places that enrich their worlds.

Grand Area Mentoring matches promising youth with kind adult mentors. They meet weekly with the goal of building trust, developing skills, and broadening horizons. These high impact relationships last for years, pointing children toward healthier futures.

“Building a mentoring relationship over years – there’s nothing like it! It’s amazing to see my mentee grow and problem solve.” – Moab mentor, May 2022

Behavior

The U.S. Department of Education set a goal of 40% reduction in disciplinary actions for mentored youth, children who are at risk and expected to do worse over time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100% of parents agree that: “since being matched with a mentor, my child gets along better with others.”

92% of mentors agree that: “my mentee has demonstrated improved social skills with peers or adults since we started meeting.”

90% of teachers agree that mentoring is an important strategy to support vulnerable students who exhibit antisocial behavior, have few friendships, demonstrate low commitment to school, earn poor grades, and/or live in a troubled home or neighborhood.

“My students look forward to mentoring and they come back happier kids. Feeling that undivided attention and care from an adult is very important.”

92% of teachers agree that most mentored youth demonstrate better social skills.

“My favorite thing was working with my mentor and getting help to figure out issues. I love spending time with her because I feel loved inside.” – Eighth grade student
The Year Ahead

The program resumed mentor orientation in 2021/2022, but the waitlist of students is substantial. Next year, the program aims to expand mentoring opportunities to 75 youth. This will require investment in recruiting, screening, and training new mentors. To learn more, contact: Grand Area Mentoring • (435) 260-9646 • grandareamentoring@gmail.com

Expanding Horizons

88% of mentors agree that “our activities this year brought new experiences, places, or people into my mentee’s life.”

100% of parents agree that “mentoring provides my child with new opportunities.”

“We went to the Mill Creek Dino Tracks. It was super fun and cool.” – Fifth grade student, May 2022

“We went along the bike path on bikes and we cleaned up plastic. We also went ziplining. It was really fun. There was a courage test where you went off backwards and didn’t grab the line.” – Eighth grade student, May 2022

“I learned to ride a bike with my mentor.” – Third grade student, May 2022

“This has been such a cherished and important part of our family. We love our mentors and the program.” – Moab parent, May 2022

Attendance

The U.S. Department of Education set a goal of 35% improved attendance for mentored youth, children expected to miss more school days over time.

In the 2021/2022 school year, 34% of mentored youth improved their attendance. This is set in a context of widespread illness and disruption around school routine.

Demographics

Students served in 2021/2022: 68
SES: 96% free or reduced lunch
Ethnicity: 44% minority
Gender: 60% male, 40% female
Average age: 12 years
(youngest 6, oldest 20)
Avg number on waitlist: 20

Academic Performance

The U.S. Department of Education set a goal of 35% improvement in grade point average for mentored youth.

88% of parents agree that “since being matched with a mentor, my child likes school more.”

“My mentee was struggling with turning in work. We were able to put an incentive plan in place that improved work completion.” – Moab mentor, May 2022

“Kids are excited to be with their mentors, and these relationships translate to the classroom.” – GCSD faculty member, May 2022

Quality Assurance Measures

100% of mentors agree that: “my mentoring relationship has deepened, gotten closer, or remained strong during the 2021/2022 school year.”

The average match length, an indicator of program health, is up to 46 months. That’s more than 600% better than the average school-based match in America. Studies show that lasting relationships lead to better outcomes for youth.

Out of four stars, mentors rate the value of their mentoring time at 3.8 on average.

100% of mentors agree that “Grand Area Mentoring staff were there for me if I needed help, ideas, or encouragement.”

100% of parents agree that “since being matched with a mentor, my child is happier.”

100% of parents rate the quality of their child’s mentor as very good or excellent.