

25

TEAMMATES™
MENTORING

Mission

To positively impact the world by inspiring youth to reach their full potential through mentoring.

Core Values

Commitment To Youth

Safety

Integrity & Trust

Inclusion

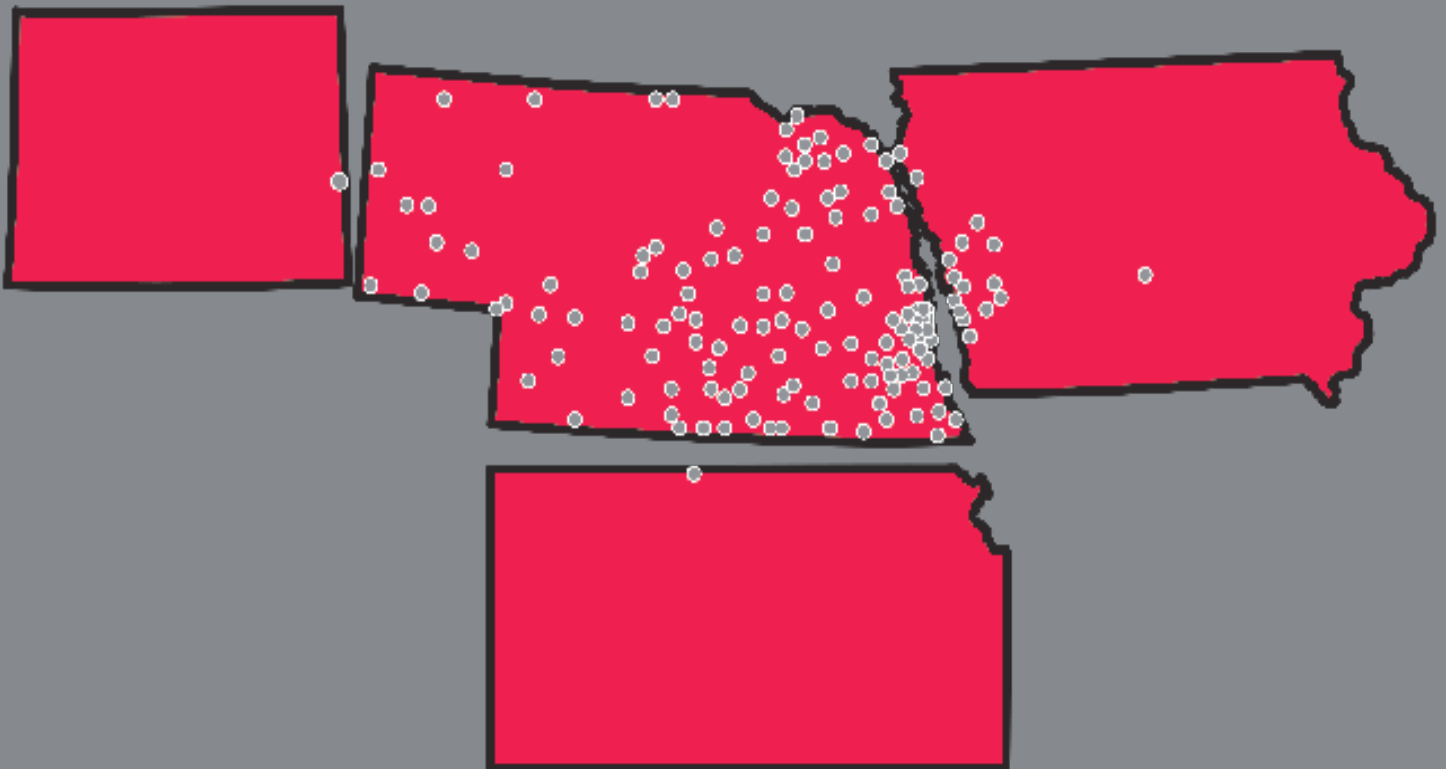
Vision

To reach the gold standard of school-based mentoring programs and serve 12,000 youth by 2020.

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What started with 22 Lincoln middle school students....



has grown to 8,000 students in 140+ communities across four states.

The Road to 25 Years of Mentoring



This fall we reached the 25th anniversary of the TeamMates Mentoring Program. TeamMates began in 1991 with 22 University of Nebraska football players being paired with 22 seventh and eighth grade boys as mentors. This venture into the mentoring world turned out better than expected with all but one of the mentees graduating from high school on time and eighteen of them choosing to go on to college. In view of those results we expanded the program beyond the football team. This last spring we reached the milestone of 8,000 matches in 143 school districts and had 589 mentees graduate from high school. A high percentage of those graduates went on to college, many of them receiving scholarship help from TeamMates. We are growing rapidly with a vision to reach 12,000 matches within the next five years.

We have learned a good deal about mentoring over the past 25 years and now feature several practices which we believe sets TeamMates apart, they are the following.

1. School based mentoring:

Since nearly all of our mentoring occurs in school buildings, liability issues are greatly reduced. This results in lower costs for insurance and also a good deal of in-kind help from the schools which greatly reduces our annual cost per match, which is approximately \$420. This cost is about one third to one fourth the cost of most mentoring programs and enables our dollars to go further while insuring the number one objective of any program involving children— safety.

2. Strengths:

Most successful people capitalize on their strengths and don't spend a great deal of time worrying about things they don't do well. We use StrengthsFinders from Gallup to identify our mentees' strengths. Most young people are pleasantly surprised to find that there are things that they do better than most. This energizes them and often leads to exploration of academic interests and job opportunities which they had not previously thought about.

3. Post-secondary mentoring:

Only sixty percent of first-generation college students continue their college education beyond the first year. Once we began providing mentees with post-secondary mentors, the persistence rate went to 90 percent. A remarkable difference. Post-secondary mentoring has been a unique and valuable addition to TeamMates.

4. Longevity:

Each school building with a TeamMates program has a coordinator who helps make the match, finds a place for them to meet and signs mentors in and out of the building. The coordinator serves as a support person if difficulties in the mentoring relationship arise and makes sure the match is meeting regularly. This attention to making good matches and supporting those matches has led to an average TeamMates length of match to nearly three years, compared to a national average length of match of one year for mentoring programs. The longer the match, the more positive the outcomes. Many of our mentors have started with their mentee in the third or fourth grade and have stayed with the match for 9 or 10 years through high school graduation.

5. Data:

We gather extensive data concerning our matches. We keep track of what is working well, such as level of trust, feeling comfortable with the mentor or mentee, attendance, graduation, college attendance, frequency of meeting, etc. We also keep track of reasons that a match ends, reasons for disappointment in the match, discipline referrals, absences from school. By continually monitoring this data we are able to exercise good quality control and continue to improve the program.

Thank you very much for your support of TeamMates. We will continue to work hard to serve young people and to justify your trust in us.

Tom Osborne *Nancy Osborne*
Co-Founders, TeamMates Mentoring Program

Thank you

An open letter from Taylor Carlberg.

To My TeamMates Mentor,

You are amazing.

You didn't know that I was going to need you in the ways I do. You didn't know that you were going to become "my

person". But, I hope you know now how much you have positively changed my life. You didn't let me slip through the cracks and become another statistic.

You have been my biggest fan through every single stage of my life and I couldn't ask for a better cheerleader. You helped me with my spelling words, taught me how to fly my first kite, and even inspired me to go to college. Thank you for understanding when I just couldn't swing that one class, or when that test just didn't go as well as I hoped. You were always patient with me and saw something special in me that I could not see myself. Joining TeamMates was the best thing that could have happened to me.

You know some of these things, but I grew up in a busy household, with a mother taken from me too soon. We lived on little money and I worked at a young age. All of these factors led me to grow up quickly. You didn't have to know these things; you knew that I needed you from the start. You never stopped loving me even when I would act unlovable. With your guidance I have been able to receive enough scholarships for me to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and graduate with no debt. You helped me fulfill my dreams of studying abroad in Europe...twice. You motivated me to apply and accept an internship in Augusta, Georgia working at the US Masters.

Every single day, I become more confident in myself because I know you believe in me. I certainly wouldn't be the person I am today if it weren't for you. So once again, thank you – I'll spend a lifetime cherishing the hero I've found inside you.

Love,
Taylor



Taylor, her mentor, and post-secondary mentor met Garth Brooks at the 2016 TeamMates Gala in LaVista, NE.

A Look Back

TeamMates began with 22 University of Nebraska-Lincoln football players and male students from a Lincoln middle school. Of those original mentees, 21 graduated from high school, and 18 went on to pursue a post-secondary education. Below are a few of the original mentors from the class of 1991.



Bart Furrow

Why did you decide to become a mentor?

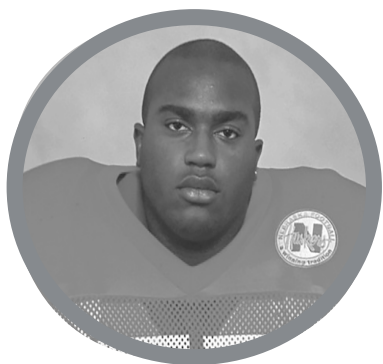
Being an only child I was looking forward to helping Matt as a role model since I never had any younger brothers. I wanted to help show him what he could accomplish, be positive and make sure he knew there was someone looking out for him. I wanted to make sure we always had a good time hanging out.



Dr. John McMillen

What would you say to someone considering becoming a mentor?

This is a great experience, but don't do this if you're expecting something in return. It's not about you. It's about adding value to a child's life. The impact you have isn't immediately noticeable so don't expect any great "change". Your job isn't to "fix" your mentee. Your role is to invest in a child and simply be there to help them along the way.



Will Shields

How has TeamMates had an impact on you?

My motivation for establishing the 'Will to Succeed Foundation' started in my early days as a college athlete under the influence of legendary University of Nebraska coach Tom Osborne. Through this experience I learned the value of community service and how one-on-one supportive relationships can positively affect young people. The Will to Succeed Foundation is a project of love, dedication and vision working to touch others' lives, in the process creating a healthier society for us all.

Richard Bollen

Why did you decide to become a mentor?

When Coach Osborne asked the team that day who wanted to help mentor some school-aged kids and have a friendly relationship with them I just thought that I would be a great fit because it sounded like what my father, mother, brother, friends, church members, coaches, etc. would have done for my brother and I.



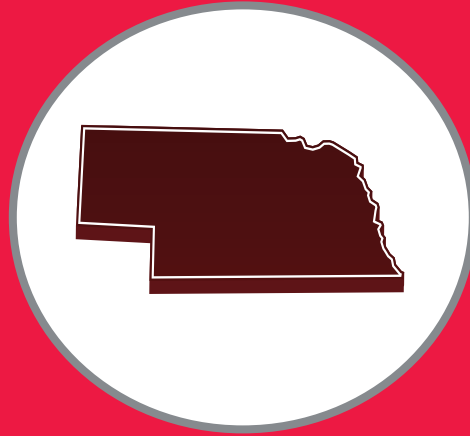
1991-

1991



22 University of Nebraska football players teamed up with 22 Lincoln middle school students.

1998



TeamMates launches statewide.

2004



TeamMates expands into Iowa.

2008



TeamMates implements Gallup Strengthfinders for matches.

2012



TeamMates+ launches to help mentors and mentees plan and prepare for college. The first college-age mentees began their freshman year with their mentor there for support.

2016



The TeamMates Board established a set of strategic initiatives to reach our vision of becoming the gold standard of school-based mentoring programs and serve 12,000 youth by 2020.

25

TEAMMATESSM

MENTORING

2016

\$420

per match compared to
\$1,000-\$2,000 nationally.

Young people who had a mentor are:
**78% more likely to volunteer
regularly.**

TeamMates mentees
whose mentors talk about
their **strengths** look
forward to meeting with
their mentor. They also
have increased sense of
**hope, engagement, and
wellbeing.**

Students who meet
regularly with mentors are
52% less likely
than peers
to skip a day of school.

Youth who have a mentor
are more likely to hold
a **leadership position** in
a club, sports team, or
school council. They are
also more likely to
volunteer regularly in
their communities.

589

Mentees Graduated
2015-2016

Students at risk of
dropping out of school are
55% more likely to enroll
in college if they have a
mentor.

98%

Mentees trust their
mentors

85%

Same or fewer unexcused
absences

75%

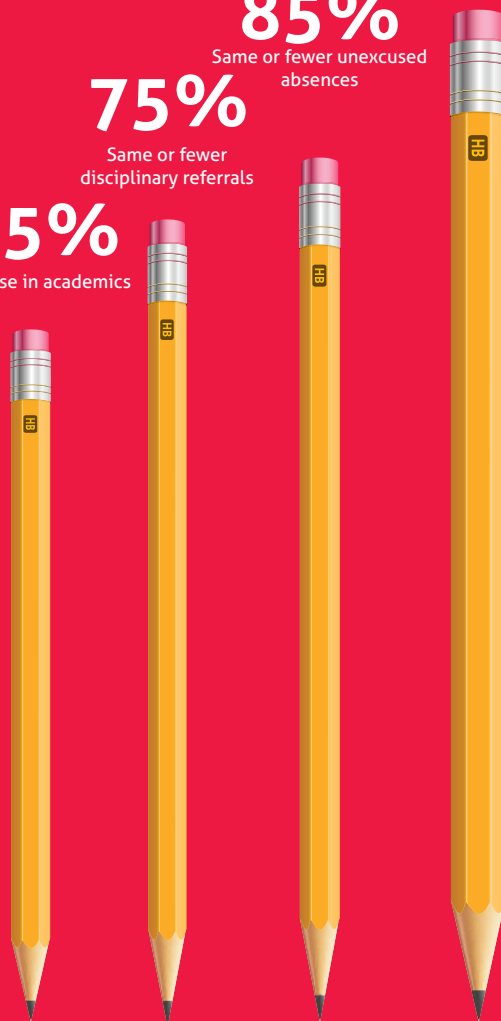
Same or fewer
disciplinary referrals

55%

Increase in academics



TeamMates celebrated its first class of mentees to
graduate from college after participating 4 years in the
Post-Secondary program.



Donors

Thank you for your gift!

Foundation Donors

Donors who have made commitments to the long-term sustainability of TeamMates Mentoring Program and local chapters.

Anonymous Donor

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Mr. Donald Seaton

Union Pacific

Mile High United Way

Osborne Legacy Society Fund Donors

Donors who have made a commitment to the sustainability of TeamMates Mentoring Program in their estate plans.

Dr. Lois I. Johnson

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Mr. and Mrs. John M. Northrop

Dr. and Mrs. Tom Osborne

Daniel R. Pestal Family Trust

Mr. & Mrs. John Schuele

Mr. Larry Sparks

Mr. and Mrs. Denny Walker



Gifts received during the July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 fiscal year.

* = Committed a pledge for three more more years of operating support. Red = Former Player Campaign Donor

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Walter & Sandra Price
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Dr. and Mrs. Charles D. Bauer

Eric and Renee Schafer
Reverend and Mrs. Gregory S. Bouvier

Denny Walker
Mr. Don Chase

Tom Osborne
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Tom and Kim Ferguson's 30th Wedding Anniversary
Ms. Martha Douglas

My wonderful mentee Allie
Ms. Rhonda Douglas

Darynn Ruiz
Dana Engelbert

Richard "Gibby" Gibson
Mr. Kyle Gibson

Tom and Kim Ferguson's 30th Wedding Anniversary
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Goodwin

Tom and Kim Ferguson's 30th Wedding Anniversary
Mr. and Mrs. Don Graham

Tom and Kim Ferguson's 30th Wedding Anniversary
Ms. Sandra Gutwein

Son Nich Herrington and his work with TeamMates
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Herrington

Jennifer Wohlgemuth and Annie Williams
Dr. Barbara J. Hopkins

Ladd Reeves
Ms. Julia Hutchinson

Gigi's 60th Birthday
Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. Inness

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Dahn Hagge
Ms. Rebecca Vanek

Jenna Wendelin's 15th Birthday in memory of her grandfather Duane "Speed" Wendelin
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wendelin

Tom Osborne's Birthday
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Yanney

Melissa Turner's volunteer hours as a mentor
Arbor Bank

Darynn Ruiz and her volunteer hours
Arbor Bank

In honor of Trev Alberts - (speaking at their annual staff meeting and he requested his honorarium go to TM)
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Ms. Lois Went

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Haarberg Farms

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Mr. Mike Hardin

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Ms. Christine Gates

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Lynn and Bev Hansen

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Mr. and Mrs. Dan Huss

Donna James

Mr. and Mrs. Lowell N. Jenny

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin D. Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Kamphaus

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Klager

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Knight

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Korthals

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Mr. and Mrs. Willotte Medow

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Mr. and Mrs. Gregory S. Sears

Dr. and Mrs. Robert L. Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Stan C. Staab

Ms. Kay D. Stafford

Mr. and Mrs. G. Tom Surber

Former players team up for TeamMates

In celebration of 25 years of TeamMates, six former Husker players and staffers have joined forces to launch a special campaign to honor Coach Tom Osborne with donations in support of TeamMates. To date, more than \$1 million of the \$2.5 million goal has been committed from players, coaches and staff members who were part of Coach's career, which spanned four decades.

Committee members wrote a letter asking their team members for support of TeamMates in honor of the support they received from their Coach. Here is an excerpt from the letter:

TeamMates mentors serve as their youth mentee's greatest champion, as former players and coaches, Coach Osborne was our greatest advocate and champion. Those of us fortunate enough to play for or know him are the luckiest mentees of all. Loyalty, Trust and Teamwork were all building blocks that helped to create hope and encouragement in all of us.

Former Players Committee:

Dr. Pat Clare, Half Back, 1958-1961 and Team Surgeon, 1973-2015

Jim Pillen, Defensive Back, 1975-1978

Trev Alberts, Line Backer, 1990-1993

Doak Ostergard, Athletic Trainer, 1990-2013

Zach Wiegert, Offensive Tackle, 1991-1994

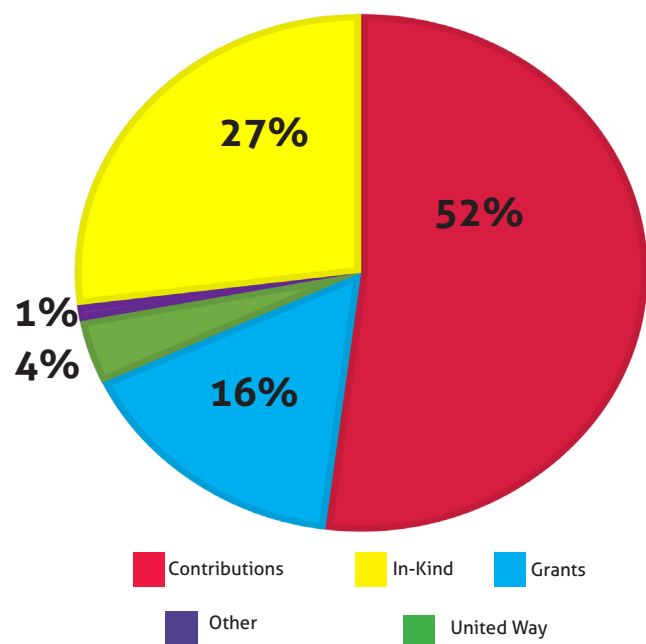
DeMoine Adams, Rush End, 1998-2002



Want to join the team? Contact Jen Benson at 402-390-8326 or jbenson@teammates.org.

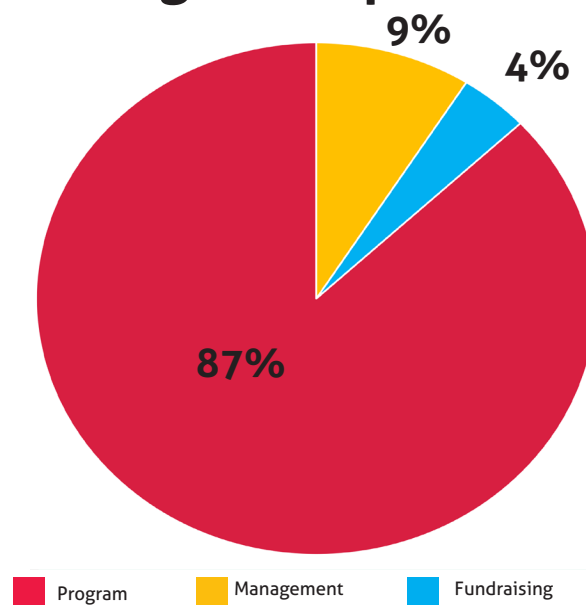
Thank you for your support of the TeamMates Mentoring Program. Below is how your dollars are being put to use to make a difference in the lives of youth. The TeamMates Mentoring Program's cost per match is \$420 compared to \$1,000 to \$2,000 per match nationally.

Program Income



\$4,435,271

Program Expenses



\$4,603,921

For more information on the TeamMates Foundation, or to make a planned gift to provide endowed support to TeamMates Mentoring Program, contact Jennifer Benson, Development Director, at 402-390-8326.



TeamMates Mentoring Program
11850 Nicholas Street, #130
Omaha, NE 68154
877-531-TEAM (8326)
teammates.org



Staff



Captioned from left to right, back to front

DeMoine Adams
Beth Roberts
Sue Kennedy
Jen Benson
Annette Woodhead

Julie Wentz
Gayle Norris
Hannah Miller
Tom Miller
Nich Herrington

Brandon Leppke
Kelly Sears
Jaci McKeever
Kelly Koehler
Suzanne Hince

Tess Starman
Tricia Dix
Allyson Horne
Steph Pravecek

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