





A message from TeamMates' Co-Founders:

Create the ripple

Often a person who is considering becoming a mentor is concerned about the impact their mentoring just one child can make on society as a whole. As I speak to groups of potential mentors I often address this concern by relaying the story of my grandfather who grew up in the 1880's on a homestead in Western Nebraska in a family of five with a father who was reported to have a serious drinking

A traveling preacher, a circuit rider, heard my grandfather give a talk at a school or church function when he was in the fifth grade. The preacher was very impressed. He decided to become my Grandfather's mentor and spent time with him each time he went through the small town of Bayard. When

my grandfather graduated from seventh grade, the final grade of schooling in Bayard, the circuit rider encouraged my grandfather to attend the only high school in the area, Crawford Normal, which was ninety miles away.

The circuit rider continued to mentor my grandfather through high school, and upon high school graduation convinced him that he should go on to college to prepare for the ministry. Because of that mentor's encouragement and guidance, my grandfather enrolled at Hastings College, 300 miles to the east. It was rare for anyone to go to college in the 1890's, only two percent of the population had a college education, and almost no one from Western Nebraska attended college.

My grandfather was captain of the football team at Hastings College and was fluent in five languages due to time spent working at a trading post. After graduating from Hastings College, he attended seminary in Bellevue, Nebraska and became a well-known preacher in Western Nebraska. He also served two terms in the Nebraska legislature. Without the influence of that circuit rider in his life, my grandfather's formal education would have ended after the seventh grade and his life would have been very different.

There was a ripple effect that began by my grandfather's mentor. My grandfather's five children were expected to attend college because of the influence of my grandfather's mentor, which they did during the Great Depression when few people attended college. The influence of that circuit rider impacted my grandfather's children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren. This mentor had a very strong influence on me as my grandfather was a very strong role model for me. That circuit rider indirectly influenced many who were in my grandfather's churches, and on a more personal note, the players I coached over many years.

The ripple effect of mentoring is very powerful and can be one of the most effective ways to strengthen our culture. Please join us in our efforts by becoming a mentor and by supporting us financially as we continue to reach more young people through TeamMates.

for Osborne NavyOshorne

A message from TeamMates' Executive Director:

Looking toward a strong future

The past year has been one of significant change for TeamMates. Our long-time Executive Director, Suzanne Hince, stepped down from her role to spend more time with her family. We are fortunate that Suzanne is staying on to lead our Foundation and focus on building long-term sustainability for TeamMates. I stepped into this role with a passion for TeamMates and experience as a mentor and board member. In addition, we have had several staff members take on new roles and added others to our team. Through all this change, one consistent theme was our commitment to our mission, to positively impact the world by inspiring youth to reach their full potential through mentoring.

I am proud of the incredible progress TeamMates is making toward our mission. Our matches continue to strengthen and lengthen, providing a strong foundation of trust between our mentors and mentees. It is through this trusting relationship that growth, development and hope flourishes. We see the positive impact TeamMates mentors have on the life-path of their mentees every single day. This impact happens because thousands of volunteers show up week after week and remind TeamMates mentees what is right with them and that they have incredible potential to accomplish their goals. We are so grateful for every mentor, coordinator, donor, volunteer and partner of Team-Mates. Positively impacting lives is definitely a team effort. Thank you for all that you do for TeamMates!

Saraly Waldman

A look into lowa...



Mentoring Impact

96% of MENTORS rate the quality of relationship as good or excellent

98% of MENTEES feel like they can trust their MENTOR

99% of MENTEES say their MENTOR cares about them



Des Moines match shares magical story

ulie, a fifth grader, spends time once a week deep in a notebook creating a new world.

She and her mentor, Janet, are creating a children's book to teach kids a lesson about getting along. They're calling it *The Big Soccer Game*.

The story is about a group of animals playing a game Julie calls "Hoof Soccer". It's similar to regular soccer, except the players are animals with hooves, the referees are rhinos, and the coaches are "Geeps"— an animal that is half sheep, half goat.

"Janet is a lot of fun," Julie said. "She likes a lot of the things I do, like drawing."

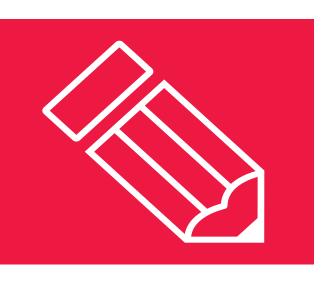
Each week, Janet brings a pink box full of colored pencils. Together, they draw and color in the characters for their book. One Julie says she's very proud of is "Chow Chow the Cow Cow", a cow with rainbow eyes.

In the last year, Janet and Julie have worked on rhyming and storytelling. They're hoping to write the book as a poem, similar to Dr. Seuss.

Julie said she's not sure what she wants to be when she grows up yet, but she does love to draw.

The Des Moines Public Schools chapter started in 2015. Right now, they have about 50 matches in 6 schools. Janet and Julie have been matched since its inception. They're hoping to continue their friendship as Julie goes into middle and high school.

Julie said if she had to say one thing to Janet, she'd say, "I like having you as my mentor."



Who's on the

Former mentee pays experience forward

Aaron Butler's red polo symbolizes two different stages of his life— mentee and mentor.

Aaron's TeamMates journey started when he was 13-years-old in the Papillion La Vista school district. He said he was a shy 7th grader coming close to truancy status in the classroom.

"The school suggested I have a mentor," Aaron said. "I was always willing to give something a try."

In walked Travis French, Aaron's new mentor. They met at school once a week until Aaron's graduation in 2008.

"I grew up without a father, so it really helped to have that male role model," Aaron said. "Travis was always timely and professional."

Now, Aaron is channeling those skills in his new role as a mentor in Bellevue Public Schools. He started meeting with Xzavier three years ago. As a 6th grader, Xzavier is in his final year of elementary school and is preparing to enter middle school.

"Our meetings make me feel old," Aaron laughed. "They give me flashbacks of snacks and recess."

Aaron works as an automotive lab tech at Metro Community College. He said as a mentor, he understands the commitment Travis made to him so long ago.

"I appreciate him balancing his lunch schedule and everything he had to do on his side to make sure I got to see him," he said.

As Aaron and Xzavier chit chat about movies, upcoming trips, basketball, and WWE, you can often hear laughter come from both ends of the table. Aaron said it's fun to see the world through Xzavier's eyes.

"Getting to watch him grow up is the best part," Aaron said.

As the program continues to evolve, Aaron said he's happy to see TeamMates grow. He is one of 69 other former mentees creating a ripple effect through the program to help impact generations.

"TeamMates is moving in the right direction," he said.





cover?



69 former mentees are known to be serving as mentors in TeamMates.



Preparing for the future: Osborne Legacy Scholars

The Osborne Legacy Scholarship for TeamMates awards one student per year with full tuition to Hastings College in Hastings, NE. In order to be eligible for the scholarship, students must be matched in TeamMates for at least two years and have a 2.5 GPA. In the fall of 2017, four Osborne Legacy Scholars studied at Hastings College. This is first time TeamMates has had one of these scholars in each class.

Here are the Osborne Legacy Scholars:



Rebekka Ralston — Senior Sutherland, NE English Literature

"This scholarship means the world to me, I would not be here without it. Hastings was my number one choice, the English department is wonderful. I don't know what I would do without those professors in my life, and I have my mentor to thank for all of it."

Holly Haswell — Junior Ashland, NE Criminology, Psychology Minor

"I appreciate my mentor for listening to me and helping me become the person I am today. I'm looking forward to being out in the world and seeing what it has to offer. My end goal in life is to help people."





Alondra Zapata Gonzalez — Sophomore Grand Island, NE Sociology

"Honestly I can say if it wasn't for my mentor, I don't know where I would be schoolwise. She was always there to give me that extra little push that I needed."

Derek Monie — Freshman Arapahoe, NE Digital Media Arts

"I would love to be a news anchor or action reporter. This scholarship means a lot to me because I don't have to graduate with a lot of student debt, and it gives me an opportunity to get my message out to impact people."



During the 2016-2017 school year, TeamMates and its partners awarded close to \$3 million in scholarships to mentees.



Our Outcomes:

8,203

Total TeamMates Matches



of mentees graduate high school.

Schools Report Students With TeamMates Mentors:

Academic Improvement



Fewer Unexcused Absences



Fewer Disciplinary Referrals







TeamMates matches last an average of 27.6 months. This is compared to the national average of mentoring programs, which is 16 months.

Thank you for helping us create a ripple through the generations!

TeamMates Mentoring is extremely grateful for our generous supporters. We would like to recognize the following donors who have contributed to our mission to make a difference in the lives of youth during the fiscal year July 1, 2016 thru June 30, 2017.

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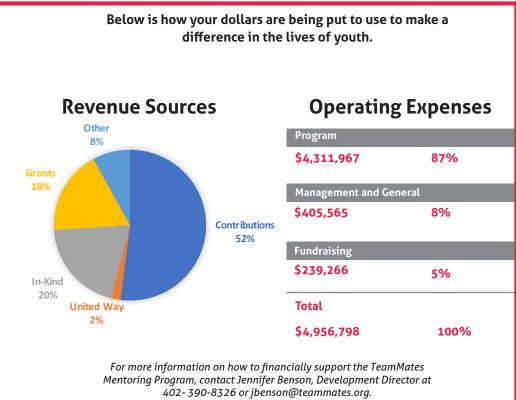
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TeamMates Foundation continues mentoring legacy

The mission of the TeamMates Foundation is to provide financial resources to the TeamMates Mentoring Program in pursuit of its mission to impact the world by inspiring youth to reach their full potential. The TeamMates Foundation is a perfect place to make a gift that will last in perpetuity. Whether you want to support the TeamMates Mentoring Program as a whole or support a specific chapter, the TeamMates Foundation is the place to do this. Please contact us to discuss your future plans and to make a difference for years to come.



"Mary and I are life-long investors in mentoring because it easily provides the best cost benefit of all social programs. It requires one to be patient but the TeamMates Program creates life-long benefits for the mentee that will also impact future generations. Mary and I are entering our 30th year of formal mentoring and we know it works and our daughters now mentor as well."

To discuss options for a memorial designation or establishing a planned gift, contact Suzanne Hince, TeamMates Foundation Director, at 402-390-8326 or shince@teammates.org.



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



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Captioned from left to right, back to front

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