

Spring 2009

Call 435-260-9646  
for more information

# GRAND AREA MENTORING COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

“The interests of childhood and youth are the interests of mankind.” –Edmund James

## Grand County School District



## ECONOMY of service

Our nation is currently facing many challenges, including the largest economic crisis since the Great Depression. All figures and projections are gloomy, illustrating how difficult it will be to dig ourselves out of this mess. It's a time when consumer confidence is low and unemployment rates are rising.

But this is also an opportunity to see how U.S. citizens are not simply creatures of industry. We are cooperative souls that exchange more than money and debt. We strive to do better, to learn more, to make this world a better place, regardless of whether the economy falls in the green or the red.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, “Life's most persistent and urgent question is: ‘What are you doing for others?’” Challenging times come and go. Economies sputter and recover. And all the

while – *always* – there is an multitude of individuals doing good in countless ways. In the spirit of King's enduring question, even in the toughest and bleakest of times, people refuse to stop helping others. From committing one's life to the service of a country to taking an hour per week to mentor a child, you and your neighbors are stepping forward to invest human capital.

This brings us to the question of Moab's volunteers. Are they stepping up? The answer is unequivocal: YES. Our *economy of service* is still alive and growing. Volunteers from all segments of Grand County have chosen to invest one hour per week and reap the rewards of working with children.

What are the benefits of becoming a mentor? Not only will you improve the life of a child, you will also enjoy the other benefits of

[Continued on back page.]

### Mentoring Sites:

- Red Rock Elementary
- HMK Intermediate
- Community School
- Grand Co. Middle School
- Grand Co. High School

### Major Donors:

George & Dolores Eccles Foundation

Rocky Mountain Power Foundation

Grand Co. School District

Robert Fulghum Family Foundation

Wells Fargo Foundation

Footprints, Inc.

AmeriCorps

### Financial Update:

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to help us reach our goal. Your contributions allow GrandAM do invaluable work for our children.

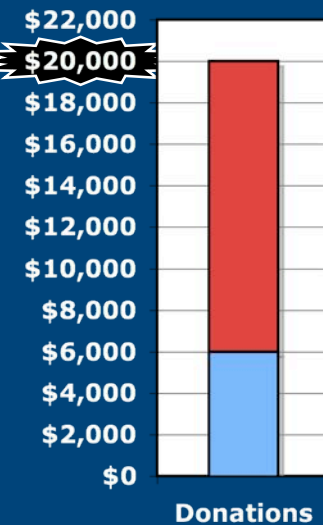
## SPONSOR A MATCH:

### Want to be a MENTOR but don't have the TIME?

Community members, corporations, public service groups, or associations can make a donation to GrandAM that will support a specific match. Donations will be acknowledged with a match bio, including favorite activities, grade level (student) and occupation (mentor), and a personalized note explaining what the donor's sponsorship means. When available, a photo of the match at a weekly meeting will be included.

Mail checks payable to Grand Area Mentoring at: Grand Area Mentoring, 264 South 400 East, Moab, UT 84532.

- \$49 Level: The Giver**  
supplies and equipment for 1 year
- \$149 Level: The Helper**  
supplies, equipment, and match support for 1 year
- \$290 Level: The Benefactor**  
supplies, equipment, match support, and program infrastructure for 1 year



## Grand Area Mentoring

Address:

Grand County School District  
264 South 400 East  
Moab, UT 84532

Phone: [435-260-9646](tel:435-260-9646)

E-Mail:

[grandareamentoring@gmail.com](mailto:grandareamentoring@gmail.com)

**We're on the Web!**

See us at...

[www.grandschools.org/mentor](http://www.grandschools.org/mentor)

Coordinator:

**Megan McGee**

Program Director:

**Daniel McNeil**

Advisory Committee:

**Moab Community Action Coalition**

Next Mentor Orientation:

Please call for time and location. 260-9646

### About GrandAM...

Funded by the generous donations of local citizens and organizations, Grand Area Mentoring is now completing its fourth year of service to Grand County.

Mentors aged 24 through 83 years meet with students in one-on-one settings to encourage growth and bolster self-confidence. Their weekly hour-long sessions sometimes include board games, basketball, and computers. Other matches pursue crafts, reading, and talking about school. Mentors and students seek activities that are mutually enjoyable and enriching.

Grand Area Mentoring continuously strives to create lasting and fruitful relationships. New volunteers are trained in mentoring best practices and always supported with regular staff contact. Volunteers simply offer one hour per week and receive the satisfaction of positively impacting a life forever.

Call 260-9646 for more information.

## From the Top: Michelle's Email

Michelle Obama sent out an email on January 12, 2009, entitled "Your Call to Service." In the message, she asked Americans to donate time and energy in the spirit of bettering the United States and bettering themselves on January 19, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

She wrote: "Whatever service activity you organize or take part in – cleaning up a park, giving blood, volunteering at a homeless shelter, or **mentoring an at-risk youth** – you can help start this important journey. But this is about more than just a single day of service,



it's the beginning of an ongoing commitment to your community."

This newsletter is your call to commitment right here in Grand County. Whether you choose to mentor a student, help Moab Solutions do parkway trash cleanup or donate to your favorite local

nonprofit, your action today will improve our community. Our community thrives when we share of ourselves. Please join our team of mentors.

*(Emphasis added.)*



## Economy (continued story)

service: GrandAM mentors learn new skills through working with children at whatever age group they choose. And because mentoring takes place on school grounds or during group field trips, mentors can visit our schools and meet likeminded people.

The biggest advantage of volunteering for Grand Area Mentoring: mentors have the opportunity to feel like they are pulling their weight. You can contribute to the human collective through the life of a child. If an *econ-*

*omy of service* has provided us a great nation and shared promise, we are each needed right now as an investor in our children's growth. An economy can only grow when we are prepared to input something of value. One hour per week is all it takes.

The financial economy may be wavering, but the spirit of goodwill and dedication must not. Our children are eager to understand the promise of life and the economy of service. Answer their call. Be a mentor.



A message from Barack Obama, President of the United States, delivered January 20, 2009, in his inaugural address:

...

**"What is required of us now is a new era of responsibility – a recognition on the part of every American, that we have duties to ourselves, our nation, and the world, duties that we do not grudgingly accept but rather seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit, so defining of our character, than giving our all..."**

–President Barack Obama, Washington DC

**Give your all. Be a mentor.**