

In a world where guidance and support are invaluable, the RUSC Kinship mentorship program has remained steadfast in our mission to provide positive role models and guidance to youth in our community. Throughout the year, we have witnessed firsthand the profound difference mentorship can make in the lives of both mentors and mentees due to the collective dedication and passion exhibited by our mentors, mentees, and the broader RUSC Kinship community.



12 *Mentor Matches*
PER MONTH ON AVERAGE



117 *Participants*
IN 7 MONTHLY EVENTS

Including making holiday wreaths, pumpkin decorating, bowling party, knitting arm blankets, cookie decorating, coloring, crafts at West Central Homes, & a Twins game.



1143 *Hours Dedicated*
TO OUR YOUTH

Over 150 volunteer hours from board members and other members of the community.



FEEDBACK FROM OUR MENTORS

The most satisfying about mentoring:

- » Watching her grow
- » Building new relationships
- » Meeting a wonderful person

71%

Definitely wish to continue mentoring

MENTORING TIME

Has it been beneficial for your mentee?



PROGRAM RATING



FEEDBACK FROM OUR MENTEES

What did you learn?

- » Coping skills
- » "You can use less glue." 😊
- » Gardening
- » How to make a pie

What did you like best?

- » Meeting new people
- » Doing new activities
- » Seeing them
- » Everything!

Favorite Activities:

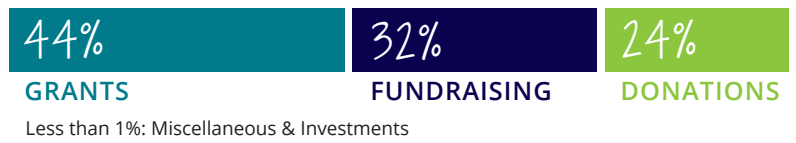
- » Going to the RFC
- » Trips to the library
- » Playing games
- » Gardening
- » Arts & Crafts
- » Strawberry picking
- » Baking
- » Handing out Halloween candy

80%

Excellent rating of the mentoring program



INCOME



EXPENSES



Lunch Buddies

As we look back on the past year, we are humbled by the countless stories of growth, resilience, and transformation shared by our Lunch Buddies group.

41

**2nd Graders
AT 3 ELEMENTARIES**

What was the best thing?

- » I have one more person to care about me.
- » She supports me.
- » I feel happier.

As a volunteer, what have you gained?

- » A refreshed view of the world through a young person's eyes.
- » I had two students that are probably opposite in their classroom setting, yet we got along quite well. I think that could be called good cooperation with the three of us.
- » So enjoyable to see how from the beginning of the year to the end how they change and open up, becoming more comfortable and their conversations over lunch are the best!
- » Connection to youth in our schools and confidence that other adults are interested in investing in our area youth.

100%

Volunteers said their Buddy improved in expressing feeling & thoughts

44

**Lunch Buddy
MENTORS**

What was the best part about volunteering?

- » Seeing my buddy in her element at school and having confidence as she goes about her day, makes my day.
- » Staying connected with the school and meeting new people. Seeing the smiling face of my lunch buddy when he sees me!
- » Showing our young people that we care about them.

95%

Volunteers want to return next school year

91%

Students who feel it is important to help others



Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Stevens County started its participation in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in September 2021. From program inception through June 2023, 3,378 books have been mailed to children ages 0-5.



2,291

Books Delivered
JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023