



Mesa County youth get ready to create change and be changed! The Kids Give grant project is an opportunity for creative, energetic and generous youth to give their time and resources to meet essential community needs. The goal of the project is to get kids involved with giving.

The Kids Give grant project evolved when the winner of a \$10,000 Mesa County Mall sweepstakes prize decided to use the winnings towards helping youth learn about philanthropy and altruism. Someone caught wind of the plan and decided to contribute another \$10,000 towards this project. The hope is that the giving will continue to be contagious!

Project proposals will soon be accepted from groups of youth who are motivated and committed to becoming educated about community needs and encouraging their peers to join them in developing and implementing service projects that will generate resources for non-profit agencies in Mesa County. Priority will be given to projects that target the areas of food, clothing, shelter, medical and/or literacy services for those in need. The Kids Give grant project will provide matching funds up to \$500 per project to the value of the completed service project. The ultimate outcome could be over \$40,000 in funds and resources being contributed to local agencies!

How can we expect success during such tough economic times? We know people are hurting. Some are hurting more than others. We also know the young people of today will be shaped by their experience of living through these tough times. Some will be impacted because of personal loss and hardship; others will be impacted by witnessing the struggle of their fellow citizens.

Earlier generations have shown us that significant change can evolve from many people giving a small amount of themselves – their time, their talent, their treasure – to address the needs of the larger community. Think about what the Great Depression and WW II taught us. During those times people pulled together, looked beyond their own self-serving excesses and focused on meeting the basic needs of the larger community. What lessons will the young people of today carry with them into the future?

Interested in this project? E-mail Kids Give at spreadthecaring@gmail.com or visit us on Facebook to learn more about the application process. If you are you interested in contributing to the Kids Give grant fund, donations may be sent to:

Western Colorado Community Foundation
Kids Give
P.O. Box 4334
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