

Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement (M4RA)

February 2015

Greetings to all,

We know that many of you feel discouraged because students are missing mentoring sessions due to bad weather. Hopefully the worst is behind us!

News 4 You on M4RA.org:

- **Mentor Training for College Students Powerpoint**- Due to requests to provide a scripted training for colleges and universities, Debby created and uploaded a sample powerpoint. Please feel free to “tweak” to fit your needs. Here is the link. [Mentor Training OSU Marion](#)
- **Organization Ideas**- Includes many photos taken from some of our school visits found here - [Organization Ideas](#)
- **Upcoming Instruction Sessions #1 and Session #2**- [Instruction Sessions #1 and #2](#)

M4RA, Juvenile Correctional Facilities & University Partnerships:

- Six juvenile correctional facilities serving youth in multiple counties throughout Ohio are using/hoping to use the 1:1 reading mentoring program with college/university students as their mentor pool.

4 the Coordinators: Kohl's Cares- Scholarship Program

- Nominate a young volunteer, age 6 to 18, for up to \$10,000 in scholarships. To submit a nomination, go to kohlskids.com and follow the online instructions. Nominations accepted through **March 13th**; nominators must be 21 or older. For more information: [Kohl's Cares Info](#)

4 the Mentors- Value of Peer or Older-Age Mentoring:

- *“Educators, administrators, and parents sometimes raise concerns about the possible detrimental impact on peers without disabilities when they work with and alongside their classmates with severe disabilities in inclusive settings. Research suggests that peers not only are not hampered academically by their role in these interventions, but they actually may improve their academic engagement when assuming responsibility for assisting their classmates with disabilities. For example, a study conducted by Lisa Cushing, Craig Kennedy, Erik Carter, and others found that peers who were themselves struggling academically gained an average of 1.5 letter grades as a result of serving as a peer support.”* Dan Habib is a filmmaker at the University of New Hampshire’s Institute on Disability

M4RA School Visits and Communication:

- Debby and I will be scheduling school visits over the next few months. Please contact us with any questions you may have.

Best wishes to you and your students,

Amy