

## **Mentor biography:**

Name: Ramona Erickson

Education level: B.S. Degree plus 51 graduate semester hours

Areas of expertise: Child Development, Preschool, Mother of 5, Home Provider, Director Large Preschool (Denver Area), 4 years, Teacher- preschool, high school, and community college.

Number of years in the early care and education field: 20 plus

Regions in which I would like to mentor/coach: Primarily Region 3 and Region 4 but will go to other areas if needed

What mentor/coaching means to me: As a teacher who has enjoyed teaching and working with children from preschool to college age, I am anxious to share and assist others interested in the field. I feel I have a passion for children and teaching. Realistically, I know from experience that some days can be rough and others exhilarating. We can all learn from having an available listening ear and a pat on the back to help us recognize we do make a difference in the lives of children and to enhance our feelings of self worth. I feel that teachers I have mentored have become my choicest friends. We still continue to bounce ideas off from one another and to cheer each others victories as well as share in challenging times. As a teacher who retired before I was ready in order to relocate back to the Boise area to be near family and assist my mother, I relish the opportunity to remain professionally active.

