

**The *HOPE* Organization**

115 North 300 West, Bldg. B, Suite 101 Washington, Utah 84780

Phone: 435.627.9582 Fax: 435.627.9583  
Web Site: theHOPEorg.org Email: the\_hope\_org@yahoo.com

Contact: Elaine Tyler  
Phone: 435-627-9582  
Email: the\_hope\_org@yahoo.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**A JUMP START ON LIFE**

St. George, UT, August 24, 2009 – Jump Start is a Life Skills Education Program designed to assist children living in the isolated polygamous communities of Hildale and Colorado City. “Jump Start will help children who are currently living in this remote area learn valuable skills to help them succeed in life. These children will gain self-confidence as they learn social skills and practical information that will help them successfully interact with the outside world,” said Elaine Tyler, President of The HOPE Organization. HOPE is a United Way Dixie partner agency assisting people who have left the polygamous lifestyle safely transition into mainstream society.

Jump Start will run in eight-week sessions beginning in September. Classes will be divided into three age groups with age appropriate lessons. Subjects will include Self-Awareness, Interpersonal Skills, Ways to Succeed and My Place in the World. The program is being sponsored by the HOPE Organization through a two-year grant provided by the Creative Ministries of Presbyterian Women Thank Offering through the National Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky. Jump Start is a secular program suitable for children of all religions and ethnicities.

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