Donors

We would like to acknowledge our Read to Learn Donors through 9/7/2019. They all have made such a tremendous impact on the Read to Learn program and have contributed to the success of our program.

- Rita Brandt
- Patricia Coyle
- Marlene Delaney
- Nancy Dorsey
- Helene Gidaspow
- Lynne Huedepohl
- Marnie Kapucinski
- Sandra Kolls
- Ernest Kosciuk
- Marga Levy
- Gwendolyn McNamara
- Lois Murphy
- Patricia Romejko
- Lois Murphy
- Walter and Judy Salganik
- Prabha Vaidya
- Doris Waither

Community Institutions
- Arlington Heights Memorial Library
- Indian Trails Public Library
- Mount Prospect Public Library
- Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
- Schaumburg Township District Library
- CE Performing Arts
- CE Travel
- Chevron
- Starbucks
- Outback Steakhouse
- Lynfred Winery
- Metropolis Performing Arts
- Southwest Airlines

Volunteers

Here are the Volunteer Tutors who assisted at RTL student registration this Fall! We could not have done it without you!

- Cathy Bert
- John Brandner
- Robin Brantman
- Art Briggs
- Chris Chason
- Lilian Clinton
- Marlene Delaney
- Pat Denman
- Miles Ducore
- Betty Edgecombe
- Mike Emigh
- Dawn Everard
- Linda Falotico
- Deb Fredricks
- Sathya Ganeshan
- Donna Glade-Tau
- Bob Hinrichs
- Pat Kaminski
- Joen Karmanian
- Leanna Kaser
- Susan Katz
- Jo Korreck
- Mark Lundberg
- Karen Schiote
- Michael Mokate
- Fran Morning
- Lois Murphy
- Kazumi Naito
- Ronnis Oher
- Joanne Peace
- Lynn Pearson
- Marty Piltz
- Jan Pichay
- Margaret Reed
- Barbara Saunders

Tutor Training Session Emphasizes The Importance of Writing

Just like reading, writing is also a key component of good communication. Marlene Delaney, a long-time tutor, made a presentation about how to incorporate more writing into Read to Learn lesson plans at the Read to Learn fall tutor training.

The purpose of the workshop was to introduce effective writing techniques and practices to help adult learners improve both their reading and writing skills and to develop ways to encourage them to write.

Delaney said, “We all write - everyday - be it notes, lists, emails, forms, snail mail, etc. But since English is difficult, our program can focus on writing as one of the skills that adds value to our learner’s lives and helps them in their day to day communications.”

Some key components of Delaney’s presentation at the fall tutor training include:

- **Journal Writing**
  - Promote literacy skills
  - Helps hesitant writers gain confidence
  - Encourages creativity
  - Encourages continued English learning outside of class

**Spring 2020 Schedule – Read to Learn Adult Literacy/Volunteer Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday Feb 10</td>
<td>Schaumburg Township District Library</td>
<td>9:30 am – Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Feb 17</td>
<td>Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church</td>
<td>9:30 am – Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday Feb 4</td>
<td>Arlington Heights Memorial Library</td>
<td>9:30 am – Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday Feb 11</td>
<td>Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (Schaumburg)</td>
<td>12:30 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday Feb 5</td>
<td>Indian Trails Public Library</td>
<td>9:30 am – Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday Feb 12</td>
<td>Schaumburg Township District Library</td>
<td>9:30 am – Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday Feb 19</td>
<td>Elk Grove Village Public Library</td>
<td>9:30 am – Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday Feb 26</td>
<td>Arlington Heights Memorial Library</td>
<td>7:00 pm – 9:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday Feb 26</td>
<td>Wheeling High School Library</td>
<td>7:00 pm – 9:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday Feb 6</td>
<td>Forest View Educational Center (Rooms 229/231/233)</td>
<td>9:30 am – Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday Feb 13</td>
<td>Rolling Meadows High School Library</td>
<td>7:00 pm – 9:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Feb 7</td>
<td>Mount Prospect Public Library</td>
<td>9:30 am – Noon</td>
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A Dedicated Read to Learn Pair

Joe Maniscalco and William Abel are an amazing team. Abel is dedicated to learning how to read and Maniscalco is devoted to helping him reach his literacy goals, while giving back to the community.

“For years, nobody knew I did not know how to read,” said Abel. His tutor had to start with basic phonics lessons, and continues to introduce strategies to assist Abel with word recognition and correlating sounds with letters.

Abel was a construction worker for years and said he took verbal direction at work so he was able to do his job successfully. He keeps a cassette player in his shirt pocket in order to assist him with everyday tasks that most people take for granted.

One day, when Abel was at his cardiologist’s office, he was unable to read and fill out the medical forms. He confided in his cardiologist that he was unable to read the forms. Subsequently, his doctor referred him to the Read to Learn program, which has had a positive impact on his life.

Abel explained that he plays DVDs to practice phonics, listening and writing skills. He does worksheets that incorporate vocabulary and comprehension questions following a short story that he reads. His tutor provides short stories that include text dependent questions in order to improve his vocabulary and comprehension.

“I work hard to try to keep up with him,” said Abel, looking over at Maniscalco.

Maniscalco has been volunteering for more than 30 years in various programs and he enjoys being a Read to Learn tutor. He has been with the program for more than five years.

Looking over at Abel with a smile, Maniscalco said that Abel has worked very hard and has made a lot of progress during their two years working together. He said that Abel has a terrific memory and puts in the time and effort to make improvements.

“It’s part of the civic fabric,” shared Maniscalco, who feels volunteering in the community is so important. “It’s stitched into the fabric of the society.”

How Many Tutors are Returning? : We Need to Know

As part of the planning process at the beginning of each semester, site supervisors need a very important number – how many tutors are returning? This number is critical as we go into student registration, so we know how many adult learners we can accept into our classes.

The way we ask for this information is through the pre-semester mailing so we know how many tutors are returning? This number is critical as we go into student registration, so we know how many adult learners we can accept into our classes.

A pre-semester mailing goes out in July and January, for the fall and spring semesters respectively. In that mailing we provide you with information that you let us know if that happens. The fall semester was a real challenge for site supervisors, as we didn’t have the best information available. This resulted in extra work for them, as they had to reach out to those tutors we had not heard from. So, what are we asking? Please respond to the tutor mailing each semester, specific to their goals.

The Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church site is a very active site. For example, it holds community events during the annual Make a Difference Day observation, such as food drives to benefit the local food pantry.

Volunteers at the site bring refreshments in weekly for learners and tutors to enjoy. Langefeld has built a library at their site that includes various genres of books and for different reading levels.

Students and tutors at the Read to Learn site at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church in Arlington Heights are devoted to the program. In return, the site supervisor provides them with the support and resources that they need to be successful.

At the Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church in Arlington Heights site there are 17 volunteer tutors and 17 adult learners.

“The tutors are really the foundation of our program,” said Kelly Langefeld, site supervisor. “It takes a community. I try to build the community.”

Langefeld said she helps the tutors meet the needs of the adult learners by providing advice and creating individualized lesson plans each week, specific to their goals.

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Langefeld said that learners are reading a series of biographies and since they recently read about Claude Monet, an outside trip is being planned by some tutors and learners to The Art Institute of Chicago.

Ronnis Oher and Ki Pae are a pair in the Read to Learn program that have been working together the past couple semesters and have formed a close bond.

“I’m a firm believer in the practical application of what you are studying,” said Oher. She said she has cooked with students in the past so they can practice reading recipes.

Many Read to Learn volunteers and tutors at the Our Saviour Lutheran Church site have formed unique friendships through the program that changes so many lives.