

Twin Cities and Metro Area Children's Literacy Programs



Directory

Updated 1/9/2021

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If you have a volunteer opportunity that you would like to add to our list, contact Kelly at krynda@literacymn.org.

Volunteer applicants may be subject to a background check.

MINNEAPOLIS

East Side Learning Center (ESLC)

Locations available throughout St. Paul and Minneapolis.

- Coordinator: Shoua Khang
- E-mail: shoua.khang@eslcmn.org
- Phone: 651-793-7364
- Commitment: 1 hour per week. Stipends available for volunteers age 50+ who commit 8-10 hours per week.
- [Website](#)
- [Online application](#)

East Side Learning Center provides free, one-on-one reading tutoring to Pre-K through 3rd graders. Tutoring opportunities are available at eleven different schools and after school sites in St. Paul and Minneapolis. Volunteers are only asked to tutor a minimum of one child, once a week for about 30 minutes, but most people tutor much more! No experience? No problem! Training, materials, and on-site support are provided.

ESLC is the proud host of the AARP Foundation Experience Corps program, inspiring and empowering adults 50 and older to serve in their community and disrupt the cycle of poverty by making a lasting difference in the lives of America's most vulnerable children. 6-10 hours per week commitment for one school year; volunteers who commit 8-10 hours/week are eligible for a stipend.

<https://www.aarp.org/experience-corps/experience-corps-volunteer/>

Volunteers age 16 and up accepted. Opportunities available Monday - Thursday, 8:00am to 5:00pm. Volunteers accepted year round, including summer. Wheelchair accessible locations.

COVID-19 Update for Fall 2020: ESLC is preparing for virtual tutoring. Volunteers will be provided with everything they need to successfully tutor from home: training, technology, materials and staff support. ***ESLC is now only recruiting volunteers for the Experience Corps program - volunteers 50 years and older who can make a 2+ day a week commitment.***

MINNEAPOLIS

Simpson Housing Services

Reading Tutoring: 17 E. 24th St., Minneapolis, MN 55404

Literacy Mentoring: public libraries throughout western metro

- Coordinator: Jocelyn Pickreign
- E-mail: jpickreign@simpsonhousing.org
- Phone: 612-455-0850
- Commitment: Reading Tutors: minimum 1 hour/week for the school year. Literacy Mentors: 1 hour/week, plus 1 Saturday per month for the school year.
- [Website](#)
- [Online application](#)

Tutors and mentors support literacy skills, social-emotional skills, and relationship building for elementary-aged (K-5) students, with the ultimate goal of interrupting the generational cycle of homelessness. Reading Tutors work 1:1 with a child at our transitional housing site for 60 minutes once or twice a week. Staff prepare the literacy lessons and materials and are available on site for support. Hours are M-Th, 5:00-6:00 pm. Literacy Mentors work 1:1 with a child in our scattered site programs for 60 minutes once a week. Staff prepare the literacy lessons and materials, but tutoring takes place according to the mentor and mentee's schedules at various public libraries across the west metro. In addition to weekly tutoring, mentoring pairs attend monthly enrichment outings.

Volunteers must be 21+ and pass a criminal background check. Reading Tutors serve October-May; we will accept applications all year, but cannot guarantee a full-time match after the start date. Literacy Mentors serve during the school year; we will accept applications until our school year cohort is full (usually late September). Applications received after that will be held for the next year's cohort.

COVID-19 Update for Fall 2020: Due to Covid-19, mentors and tutors will begin volunteering virtually, using Zoom or another approved video platform. Training will be provided. Volunteers will transition to in-person service as soon as it is safe to do so.

MINNEAPOLIS

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities

Locations in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and suburbs: 2410 Irving Ave N; 701 E 39th St; 291 East Belvidere St E; 690 Jackson St

- Coordinator: Molly Hemes
- E-mail: mhemes@bgc-tc.org
- Phone: 651-200-4102
- [Website](#)

Our Literacy Program takes place from 4-6 p.m. Monday through Thursday. All members K-3 are involved in literacy stations and/or literacy lessons during these times. Our area of need is helping our Education Director run literacy stations during that time. Each program area has stations set up that focus on phonological awareness (letter/sounds/alphabet recognition), vocabulary/sight words, and reading/comprehension/fluency. Education Directors run these stations in hands-on multi-sensory ways that are engaging. We need volunteers to run literacy stations as these members are rotated through. As we group our members based on assessment data, we may also need volunteers that are interested in doing one-on-one tutoring in reading (this could be a more flexible time commitment). We would love to have you as a part of our literacy team!

Individuals must complete a background check and online training.

COVID-19 Update for Spring 2021: We will reopen for 30 kids K-5 (focus on reading, math, and STEAM) at four sites on January 11 from 10am to 12pm, Monday-Friday. In-person volunteers needed on a limited basis. Virtual tutoring via Google Classroom also available at limited capacity. Please email Molly Hemes to inquire about volunteer capacity – please note that you are reaching out through Literacy Minnesota.

MINNEAPOLIS

<p>DinoMights Green Central Elementary School and Park Avenue Church, Minneapolis; Securian Equity on Ice Center, St. Paul</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinator: Emily Rees, Academic Coordinator • E-mail: emily@dinomights.com • Commitment: 1-3 hours per week • Website • Online application 	<p>Mentor youth. E-Mentors support students' academics and Social Emotional Learning by phone or video chat. Staff will provide standard check in questions for mentor and student to discuss each week. Mentors will help answer academic questions if possible. Elementary mentors will read with students if possible. Time Commitment: Two check-ins per week. Elementary students: October – early April. Middle school: October – May. High school: September – May.</p> <p>Wheelchair accessible locations. Must pass a background check. Volunteers 16+ accepted.</p> <p>COVID-19 Update for Spring 2021: Mentoring done by phone or video chat. E-Mentoring calls can be made at times that are convenient for both mentor and student. Still in need of tutors!</p>
<p>Urban Strategies – Heritage Park 1000 Olson Memorial Hwy, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55411</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinator: Audrey Seligman • E-mail: audrey.seligman@urbanstrategiesinc.org • Phone: (917) 410-0744 • Commitment: 4 hours/month for the school year • Website • Online application 	<p>One-on-one Mentoring: The overarching goal of this program is for students to graduate high school on time and graduate college or career ready.</p> <p>One-on-one Tutoring: This will be one-on-one tutoring with one consistent student. This will be very similar to a more traditional tutoring scenario or relationship except that it will take place online. We are able to match the student's interests (academic needs) and preferred learning style with the tutor that is the best fit. Students and tutors will choose the platform that they prefer.</p> <p>Volunteers age 18 and older accepted. Volunteers must have graduated from high school/GED.</p> <p>COVID-19 Update for Spring 2021: Still actively seeking more mentors and tutors!</p>

MINNEAPOLIS

<p>826 MSP 1915 E. 22nd St, Minneapolis, MN 55404</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-mail: ellen@826msp.org • Phone: 612-259-8562 • Website • Online application 	<p>826 MSP empowers underserved K-12 students to think creatively, write effectively, and succeed academically alongside a community of caring volunteers. 826 MSP seeks to inspire the next generation of Twin Cities readers and writers through After-School Writing Lab, Storytelling & Bookmaking Field Trips, Young Authors' Book Project, Creative Writing Workshops, and the Writers' Room at South High School.</p> <p>COVID-19 Update for Spring 2021: Virtual after-school tutoring and writing Mondays–Thursdays, 3–6 p.m., on Zoom. Volunteer shifts are 90 minutes, 3–4:30 or 4:30–6. Daytime opportunities also available Mondays–Thursdays between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., pivoted to Zoom or other digital formats.</p>
<p>St. Anne's Place of Haven Housing 2634 Russell Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55411</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinator: Kathy Moe • E-mail: kmoe@havenhousing.org • Commitment: 3 months, every other week. • Website • Online application 	<p>St. Anne's Place is an emergency homeless shelter in North Minneapolis for women-led families. There are up to 16 families living at St. Anne's and the average stay is 45 days. Tutors help with K-12 homework each evening.</p> <p>Volunteers age 18 and older accepted. Evening opportunities available from 7:00pm – 9:00pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and 8:00pm – 9:00pm on Mondays.</p> <p>COVID-19 Update for Spring 2021: All tutoring is virtual. Volunteer spots are currently filled, but interested volunteers can complete the volunteer form on the website if interested in being contacted when there are openings (currently projected to be February or March). Openings will be during the day and evening, Monday–Thursday.</p>

SAINT PAUL

<p>Good Neighbor Center 441 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinator: Amanda Jacobson, Becky Peeper • E-mail: amanda@441rice.com, becky@441rice.com • Phone: 651-587-3451 • Commitment: Varies. Contact program for more info. • Website • Online application 	<p>Good Neighbor Center tutoring program provides academic tutoring and mentoring for children in grades K-12+. This program is free of charge to any young person who has the desire to learn. The program works to provide educational resources and enrichment opportunities to all young people in our community, in an effort to support strong and empowered communities.</p> <p>Opportunities available Monday - Wednesday, 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Free street and lot parking after 5:00pm.</p> <p>COVID-19 Update for Spring 2021: In-person tutoring has begun again. Everyone is temperature checked at the door and no one with symptoms is allowed inside. Care was taken to measure out space for proper social distancing.</p>
<p>DinoMights Securian Equity on Ice Center, St. Paul; Green Central Elementary School and Park Avenue Church, Minneapolis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinator: Emily Rees, Academic Coordinator • E-mail: emily@dinomights.com • Commitment: 1-3 hours per week • Website • Online application 	<p>Mentor youth. E-Mentors support students' academics and Social Emotional Learning by phone or video chat. Staff will provide standard check in questions for mentor and student to discuss each week. Mentors will help answer academic questions if possible. Elementary mentors will read with students if possible. Time Commitment: Two check-ins per week. Elementary students: October - early April. Middle school: October - May. High school: September - May.</p> <p>Wheelchair accessible locations. Must pass a background check. Volunteers 16+ accepted.</p> <p>COVID-19 Update for Spring 2021: Mentoring done by phone or video chat. E-Mentoring calls can be made at times that are convenient for both mentor and student. Still in need of tutors!</p>

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SAINT PAUL

Karen Organization of Minnesota

Humboldt High School, 30 Baker St E, St. Paul, MN 55107; Harding High School, 1540 6th St E, St. Paul, MN 55106

- Coordinator: Suzanne Olive
- E-mail: solive@mnkaren.org
- Phone: 651-202-3112
- Commitment: Ideal commitment is 2-4 hours per week, but flexible.
- [Website](#)
- [Online application](#)

KOM leads afterschool programs at Humboldt and Harding high schools in St. Paul to provide academic, cultural and social support for Karen youth who have been in the U.S. under 5 years. Tutors focus on academic support by providing homework help for students. Help high school students with homework in small groups. Homework subjects vary by student, but include general high school courses (English reading and writing, History, Math, Science). **Time commitment: Tutor during the afterschool program on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. Times range from 2:00-5:30pm, with some opportunities for day-time tutoring.**

Please contact Humboldt High School and/or Harding High School's office regarding building accessibility. We have a required online application (available in paper copy as well), minimum age requirement of 18 years old, and we complete a background check on all youth tutor volunteers.

COVID-19 Update for Fall 2020: Tutoring is happening online. Distance learning has been challenging for our youth and staff, so we need your support! (Potential for limited in-person tutoring at a designated location. More info to come.)

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TWIN CITIES METRO AREA

<p>Edina Public Schools Locations available throughout Edina Public Schools District.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinator: Carynn Roehrick • E-mail: carynn.roehrick@edinaschools.org • Phone: 952-848-4923 • Commitment: Flexible, contact program for more info. • Website 	<p>Edina Public Schools is committed to using volunteers to promote and strengthen partnerships between the school and the community as well as to help personalize instruction and enrich the curriculum for all learners.</p> <p>Volunteers 9th grade or older accepted. Morning, afternoon and after-school opportunities available. Wheelchair accessible locations.</p> <p>COVID-19 Update for Spring 2021: Please contact Carynn directly for information.</p>
<p>30,000 Feet 2355 Highway 36 West, Suite 400, Roseville, MN 55113</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinator: Vanessa Young • E-mail: vanessayoung@30kft.art • Phone: (651) 123-4567 • Online application • Website 	<p>We are looking for several experienced and reliable tutors to join our educational team. You will work with students of various ages, either one-on-one or in groups, to provide help on a particular assignment or with basics in a specific subject. After each tutoring session, you will need to document what tasks you worked so that you can share the student’s progress with their parents and teachers. Our ideal candidate has worked professionally with school-age students for at least one year and is comfortable tutoring in math.</p> <p>High school degree or equivalent, proficient in at least two of the four core subjects up through early high school levels, proven experience working with children and older students. Must be able to pass a background check and able to work either during or after school hours. Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, Zoom and Google Hangout.</p> <p>COVID-19 Update for Fall 2020: Virtual; in-person when safe to do so.</p>

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