



## Instructions for Reading Volunteers

The literacy component of Project Transformation is an exciting opportunity for volunteers to interact with our children in a one-to-one setting. Volunteers listen to each child read for approximately 30 minutes. After reading, the pair engages in discussion and comprehension activities about the story.

- Reading takes place at each summer program site location, Monday through Thursday from 9:50 am-12 pm at Lakeside and 10:30 am-12 pm at St. Luke. Volunteer orientation will take place online prior to arrival, but your first day may be nice to come to site early to become acquainted with the layout. Your punctuality is appreciated!
- It is easiest for scheduling purposes if your organization, congregation, or group can commit to coming for a day of the week for 1 month or 2 months. Example: St. James is coming on Wednesdays in June and July. Or Lakeside will volunteer on Thursdays in June.
- To ensure one-to-one reading, it is helpful to have 10-12 volunteers per day. While it is not necessary to have the same reading volunteers each week, having consistency among volunteers helps us to reach goals of building relationships. If you are local and would like to volunteer more often, we can help accommodate you.
- The site coordinator at your reading location will call you the last week of May to confirm your scheduled reading days and to give you more information. They will answer specific questions about the site where you are serving.
- To ensure the safety of our children, all volunteers 18 and up must complete a background check and child maltreatment form prior to volunteering with Project Transformation. Volunteers serving through a UM congregation must also complete Safe Gatherings Training. Safe Gatherings is provided by the Arkansas Conference and is free to lay members. In the event that a volunteer is reading less than 3 times in the summer, a simple background check and child maltreatment check will suffice.
- Please avoid cell phone use during the reading program. We want to give the children our undivided attention. **We also ask that you not take pictures that include children's faces.** Project Transformation staff is happy to take pictures of your time spent volunteering. Let a staff person know and we will take pictures that we can share with your congregation.
- We welcome youth groups! We ask that volunteers be at least 13 years of age. Please make sure you bring plenty of adults with your youth group. We request at least two adults accompany any youth groups that participate.
- Project Transformation provides books through our on-site libraries, but if you would like to bring a special book to share or a literacy learning tool, please talk to the reading coordinator.

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