

PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES



READING INTERVENTION

Identified students attend tutorials twice weekly for 30 or 45-minute sessions with highly trained interventionists during the school day for 23 weeks (October-April). This program focuses on the five core components of reading as determined by the National Reading Panel: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

READING INTERVENTION ASSISTANT

As a Reading Intervention Assistant, you will assist our interventionists during small group reading tutorials. Tasks vary depending on the lesson which changes every week but typically includes helping complete projects, reading books, and reviewing literacy skills with students. Opportunities are available Monday through Thursday between 8:30 am and 3:00 pm in 5th Ward (near Downtown), west Houston, and the Museum District. Volunteers are expected to commit to at least one 30 or 45-minute session every week October-April. No prep time is needed. Training and HISD background check required.

Campus schedules TBD.



LUNCH BUNCH

Trained volunteer mentors meet with small groups of single gender 3rd, 4th or 5th grade students to promote positive decision making and healthy relationships. Meetings take place weekly during the students' 30-minute lunch period from October through April.

LUNCH BUNCH MENTOR

As a Lunch Bunch Mentor, you will help your students by exploring topics such as self-esteem, social skills, critical thinking, problem solving and community. You are provided with a curriculum to use as needed. Opportunities are available Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm in 5th Ward and West Houston. Volunteers are expected to commit to at least one 30-minute session every week October-April. Up to 30 minutes of prep time is expected each week. Training and HISD background check required.

EVENT OPPORTUNITIES



FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT (FLN)

These outreach events are fun and offer plenty of hands-on interaction with children and their families.

FLN events are held at schools, community centers, and apartment complexes and provide materials, education, and activities for K-2nd grade students to encourage reading in the home. In addition, families take home new books and supplies to practice what they have learned to help them make reading *a way of life* at home.

FLN VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are asked to help manage activity stations and interact with families to provide them with tips and strategies to engage their children in literacy activities.

Family Literacy Night occurs several times throughout the year.



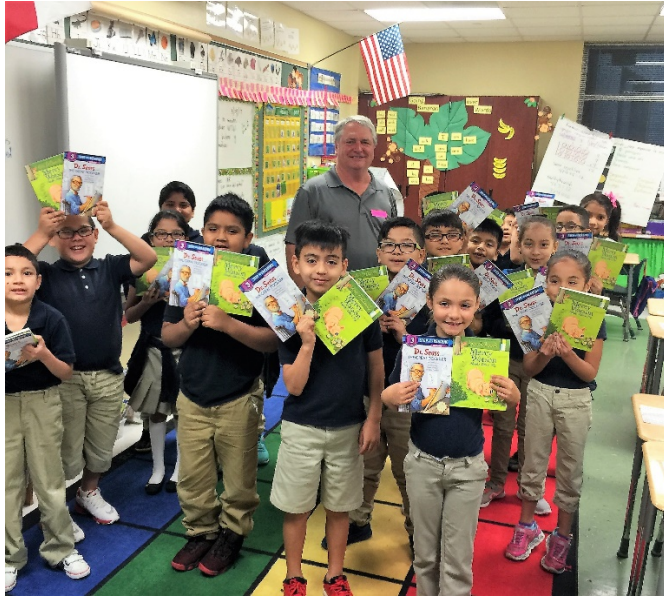
GROUP ENRICHMENT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Does your staff or service organization enjoy serving together? Do you need a great team building project?

These 45-minute reading enrichment activities are great team building opportunities while providing 36+ of our Reading Intervention program students (K-2nd grade) with fun ways to improve their literacy skills.

GROUP ENRICHMENT SERVICE VOLUNTEER

Making It Better will choose the book, plan the activities, and assist your group at the event. In addition to your time, we request that your group offset the costs of this program by providing activity supplies and snacks (\$75-\$100), as well as a \$250 donation to purchase the books that will be read aloud and given to each child to help build home libraries. At least nine volunteers are needed to maintain a low 4:1 child: adult ratio to ensure a successful event for all who are involved. Groups may choose from the following themed events: Fall (late October/early November), Winter (first two weeks of December), Valentine's Day (first two weeks of February), and/or Spring (first two weeks of April). Opportunities are available in 5th Ward, west Houston, and the Museum District.



READ ALOUD MONTH

Read Aloud Month (RAM) is a focused effort to share the love of reading during February and March. Just spending 15 minutes a day reading to or with a child can help bridge a [“30 Million Word Gap”](#) between low and higher-income children by the time they reach age 4. Not to mention, this helps position the child for long-term success in school, work and life.

RAM VOLUNTEER

Volunteers can contribute to closing this gap by reading aloud in an HISD elementary classroom once a week for 30 minutes beginning the week of February 19th through the week of March 5th. Making It Better will offer this opportunity to 9 HISD 1st grade classrooms in West Houston, NRG stadium, Museum District and the 5th Ward area. HISD background check required.



IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

This annual event is held in partnership with Texas Children's Hospital and Grace Presbyterian Church to provide free immunizations to children (birth – 18 years old). The clinic is held in August from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at Walnut Bend Elementary ([10620 Briar Forest Drive, Houston, TX 77042](#)).

CLINIC VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are needed to engage children in games and activities as they wait to be immunized. In addition, volunteers will assist the children as they select books to help build their home libraries and receive backpacks with school supplies. Volunteers are asked to commit to at least one of the following shifts: 8:30-10:30 am, 10:15 am-12:15 pm and/or 12:00-2:00 pm.

Indirect Service Opportunities



GROUP SERVICE PROJECTS

Are you part of a service fraternity/sorority, community group, work staff, or group of friends looking for a way to give back? Throughout the year we offer various opportunities to volunteer at our main site located at Belmont Apartments (in west Houston near Briar Forest and Beltway 8).

GROUP SERVICE VOLUNTEER

Volunteers participate in a variety of activities such as creating literacy activities and crafts, resources, and art projects. In addition, volunteers may paint, build furniture, sort books, or stuff envelopes. Dates and times of group service projects vary. If your group is interested in helping, contact Ashely Danna at (409) 239-4573 for more information.

To complete a volunteer application, click [here](#).

Please contact Ashley Danna at (409) 239-4573 or adanna@mibt.org for more information.



ADMINISTRATIVE

Because Making It Better operates with a relatively small staff, there is often a need to complete projects and build sustainability for our organization with administrative tasks.

ADMIN VOLUNTEER

Administrative needs vary throughout the year. Currently our greatest need is data entry assistance, donor solicitation, blog writing, and social media management assistance. Dates and times are flexible.