Thank you for your interest in Project READ!

Who We Serve
Over 22% of Illinois residents speak a language other than English at home. Over 5% of adults in Illinois have under a 9th grade education and the current high school graduation rate is 85%. The need for Adult Education in Illinois is great, and we're here to help you serve your community!

Project READ Learners

Might want to improve their English to:
- Understand their child's teacher
- Communicate at the pharmacy or hospital
- Get a better job

Might want to learn Math or Reading to:
- Pass a job test or GED
- Manage a household budget
- Help their child with homework
- Read with their child

Project READ learners are diverse; they are professionals, unemployed folks, laborers, and homemakers. Some loved school, some dreaded it and some did not have the opportunity to attend school at all! All of them have decided to put time and energy into learning at this point in their life. All have a role in our community and in the lives of the people around them. They bring the value of their experiences and motivations to the learning process. Tutors learn just as much from the tutoring experience as learners, and the spirit of cooperation strengthens our community.

How We Help
Project READ volunteers provide free basic literacy, basic math, or ESL tutoring to adults in public settings or in Adult Ed Classrooms. Our organization needs volunteers who are able to commit to 14 hours of in-person and on-line training, and then are able to meet with a learner approximately 2 hours a week. We hope tutors and learners can work together for about a year. Goal-setting with students, subject instruction, soft skill coaching, time keeping, finding new materials, and keeping in communication with Project READ staff are all important components of being a tutor.

Project READ gives you the support and training you need so you are best prepared to work with learners toward their goals. Many of our tutors say the time they spend tutoring is the most rewarding part of their week! Project READ is made possible by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State, using funds designated for literacy. We are supported by Parkland College Adult Education. Together, we have provided quality educational support to adult learners in this area since 1984.

Why Project READ?
As a Project READ volunteer tutor, you will have the opportunity to:

- Make a difference in a person's life
- Use a skill or talent
- Gain professional experience
- Meet friendly, action-minded people

With this free program we provide:

- 14 hours of training and observation opportunities prior to certification.
- post-certification training and support
- expert staff to provide feedback and guidance
- tutoring resources to loan
- opportunities to work with dedicated learners in need

Want to Learn More or Get Started?

Sign up for an *Intro to Tutoring* session here: Sign-Up Genius. This training counts toward your 14 hours and will explain more about Project READ and answer questions of prospective tutors. If you and your group are interested in learning more about tutoring, we can arrange a presentation for your group.

Other Ways to Help:

Additionally, we seek support in our partnerships with local tutoring sites like the Wesley foundation where we provide tutoring, snacks and childcare concurrent with the food pantry.

Additional help might be:

- Volunteer in the Wesley tutoring site childcare area, email ProjectREAD@parkland.edu for details
- Sponsor a childcare worker for one night ($40) https://webapp.parkland.edu/foundation/donate.html Please mark your donation to the Parkland Foundation "Project READ Childcare"
- Become a non-tutoring volunteer host at a tutoring site, inquire at ProjectREAD@parkland.edu
- Make a donation at https://webapp.parkland.edu/foundation/donate.html Please mark your donation to the Parkland Foundation "Project READ"
- Donate gift cards or 'swag' for Project READ tutor appreciation/learner incentives
- Spread the word to other potential helpers! https://www.facebook.com/ProjectREADatParkland/

Sign up for an *Intro to Tutoring* session here: Sign-Up Genius

Please feel free to contact us with any questions. 217-353-2662 | ProjectREAD@parkland.edu
Additional information is at the following links: Adult Education | Facebook | LinkedIn
Adult Literacy Volunteer Tutor Training Illinois State Library online material:
http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/literacy/oltt/

Project READ is funded by the Illinois State Library.