

READING PARTNERS SOUTH CAROLINA – ERIN OLSON



Ministry Focus:

Our mission is to help children to become lifelong readers by empowering communities to provide individualized instruction with measurable results. Each year we serve close to 800 students in local elementary schools with the help of 900 volunteers. As a result of the pandemic, we have quickly adapted our highly successful in-person model to a virtual format where tutors and students meet through Zoom to build the foundational literacy skills necessary to be successful in school and in life.

Strategies for Sharing the Gospel in this Ministry:

Jesus commanded us to love one another as He loves us. The best way to share the Gospel with our students is through example, demonstrating love and compassion and letting His light shine through you. It is through action and not expressing personal beliefs, as the organization asks that our tutors respect the religious and ethnic differences that make us all unique. However, expressions of love are very powerful and can break down boundaries in a way that nothing else can. The relationship that our tutors enjoy with our students is critical to their academic progress, but also their social and emotional well-being. Truly, God’s love in action.

Financial Needs:

One of the requirements to participate in Reading Partners Connects is the access to a laptop to conduct the sessions. We’ve discovered through conversations with folks who would like to participate, that a few of them only have desktop computers, which cannot be transported to the tutoring center. It would be helpful to have outside support to purchase four Chromebooks for our tutors to borrow when they come in for their sessions. Each Chromebook is approximately \$350, which would bring the total donation requested to \$1,400.

Prayer Needs:

We would ask that you pray for our students, their families, teachers, and our tutors. We would also appreciate prayers for God’s help in spreading the word about our work in the community so that we continue to receive God’s blessings of financial and volunteer support.

Short-term Mission Opportunities: ___X___ Yes ___ ___ No

The most popular way for the community to engage with Reading Partners is by signing up to become a regular weekly tutor to a struggling reader in one of the 15 elementary schools we serve. It is a commitment of about 70 minutes a week for the school year. You are paired with the same student throughout the year. There are two orientations and a background check that are required to participate. To sign up visit www.readingpartners.org or email volunteersc@readingpartners.org for more information.

Short-term volunteer opportunities include book drives and serving as an ambassador to share our mission with your networks to generate more volunteer leads and to share an understanding of the importance of the work we do to ensure that all students have the equal access to the resources needed to be successful in school and in life. For more information on either of these opportunities, please email volunteersc@readingpartners.org.

Reading Partners South Carolina – Erin Olson at erin.olson@readingpartners.org or Christine Messick at Christine.messick@readingpartners.org