

R.E.A.D.'s mission is to provide Northwest Ottawa County adults with an opportunity to improve and transform their lives by strengthening their reading and language skills.

When you teach an adult to read, you change a life and strengthen the community. R.E.A.D. provided hope and access to free one-on-one literacy tutoring for 57 students in Northwest Ottawa County in 2017. R.E.A.D. trained 16 new tutors to help adult learners reach their literacy goals.

Goals:

- Improve basic literacy skills
- Improve English language skills
- Improve ability to read to children/grandchildren
- Obtain employment or better employment
- Obtain a driver's license
- Obtain United States citizenship
- Achieve education beyond high school

Student testimonials:

“What I have gained from the R.E.A.D. program is the ability to improve my vocabulary and my reading skills that I use on a day to day basis.” ”

-MATT
R.E.A.D. STUDENT

“I am very happy to be part of the R.E.A.D. program for many reasons. The most important thing for me is knowing a wonderful tutor and also knowing the other people I have met inside of R.E.A.D. My tutor has helped me in many ways including understanding and learning English and also improving my pronunciation!”

-FREDERICA
R.E.A.D. STUDENT

Suk Maya & Eunice

Suk Maya lived with her family in a camp in Nepal for 18 years. She immigrated to the United States as a refugee in 2009. Suk Maya never attended school in Nepal and was not literate in her own language when she arrived in West Michigan. Through hard work, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and tutoring through the R.E.A.D. program; Suk Maya has learned to read, write and speak English.



To help her expand her English literacy skills, Suk Maya has been working with her R.E.A.D. tutor, Eunice, since 2012. Suk Maya applied to become a United States citizen in 2016 and began the intense studying process for the test. In addition to being able to read and write sentences in English, she had to learn the answers to one hundred questions about United States history, government and geography. Through her perseverance and the help of her ESL class, her R.E.A.D. tutor, family and friends; she passed the U.S. Citizenship test in Detroit on March 15, 2017!



We are making a difference! With the strong support of our donors and the tireless work of our fantastic tutors, R.E.A.D. is changing lives. Improvement in students' reading and communication skills are leading to better jobs, better relationships and better community members.

We would like to thank our community partners - the Loutit and Spring Lake District Libraries and Zeeland/Holland Adult Education - for providing space and shared resources that make our mission a reality. You can help us keep our free adult literacy services available to our community by volunteering as a tutor or making a generous donation.

Paul Martin
PAUL MARTIN
PRESIDENT

Thank you!

Thank you to all the generous donors that support free one-on-one tutoring for adults who struggle with literacy in our community!

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