

The AARP Foundation Experience Corps is an intergenerational volunteer-based tutoring program that is proven to help children who aren't reading at grade level become great readers by the end of third grade.

THE ISSUE

Low childhood literacy has negative long-term consequences, and three-fourths of Georgia's third-graders do not read proficiently. Statistics show that children who are not able to read at grade level by fourth grade are four times more likely not to graduate from high school, and this can contribute to a cycle of poverty. They are also more likely to struggle with unemployment, become incarcerated, and face shorter life expectancies.

UNITED WAY'S ROLE

As the metro affiliate to bring Experience Corps to our region, United Way of Greater Atlanta is partnering with DeKalb County Human Services and DeKalb County School District to recruit experienced community-based volunteers ages 50 and over that will serve as academic tutors in the district After School Extended Day Program. The following schools are participating in the program are E.L. Miller Elementary, Redan Elementary, Murphy Candler Elementary, and Stoneview Elementary. Our goal is to break the cycle of poverty in our communities by ensuring that every student is proficient or above third grade literacy standards.

THE RESULTS

Results from multiple independent evaluations prove that Experience Corps leads to significant reading gains for students who have struggled with reading. Through volunteering, community partnerships, and uplifting schools, our volunteers rediscover purpose in their lives while children become great readers and escape the cycle of poverty.

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CONTACT:

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