



TUTORS FOR KIDS, INC.

January, 2018

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process.

Excited Children Eager to Learn

Our Children – Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow



Tutors for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process. Our Mission: Meeting student educational needs as defined by the teacher through suitable and trained volunteer tutors in the local, tri-county Title 1 public schools as determined by the Board of Directors.

NEEDED Stories about your Students – We need some human interest stories about your students whom you tutor. Pictures would be great also. They could be about tutoring and seeing progress in your students. Even better if you have pictures that you took during book distribution (even if they are not this year) PLEASE send them to us in Email: tutorsforkids@att.net. Just be sure that your students' are not facing the camera.

Why the stories and the pictures? - The organizations that give us grants for books, etc. like to see success stories. They use our successes to show their funders that our program works. Thus, Tutors for Kids has a better chance of receiving funds in the future.

Speaking of receiving funds – United Way of Lake and Sumter just awarded Tutors for Kids \$30,000 for calendar year 2018. These funds will be used to support our book program, our parent outreach program, and our computer systems. Thank you, United Way, for your continued support.

Fruitland Park Elementary Needs Reading Help – Rick Orsini, Instructional Dean at Fruitland Park Elementary, has a request for reading help. If you can help, contact Rick directly.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all the tutors for their willingness to come out week after week to help us at FPE. The leadership at FPE is always looking for ways to continue to move the students forward.

We would like to request tutors to help during Reading time to do book studies with the students for grades 3-5.

These grade levels have RI during the following times:
Third Grade 10:55- 11:30 am Fourth Grade 2:30- 3:00 pm Fifth Grade 2:25- 2:55 pm.

The goal is to have 5 tutors for each grade level for a total of 15 tutors. Thank you

Ricardo Orsini, Instructional Dean, Fruitland Park Elementary - 352-787-2693 ext. 7722
Email Orsinir@lake.k12.fl.us

Starting your New Year with Books for your Students - Don't forget to put some books in your bag for rewards with your students. Remember we want them to "earn" a book a month. This gives them their own books to read, as well as help them feel good about themselves for accomplishing goals.

We all know that it is a long way until the end of May, and your students will hopefully start to 'catch fire' and improve over these next few months. So be prepared to 'reward' them.

Last Training Date - Our last training date for the 2017 – 2018 school year is Thursday February 8 at 9 a.m., at the home of Carolyn Ruhe and Frank Russo. New tutor applicants who sign up after February 8 will be trained information starting in August of 2018 for fall placement.

Training Statistics – Through January of 2018 we have trained over 110 new tutors to work with students in our twelve schools. This is truly amazing. Thank you to all our volunteers.

Tutors meeting at St. Timothy's Hall – Our 2018 tutor meetings will begin on Tuesday, February 13, at 3 p.m. in St Timothy Church's Main Hall. The church is located off SR 27 – 441 near the Villages Hospital. Remember:

**St. Timothy's Church (Main Hall)
Tuesday, February 13, 3:00 p.m.
1351 Paige Place
Lady Lake, FL**

New Book Database – Thanks to Tim Casey, our Database Developer, we are about to launch our new book database. Tim has develop the Book Database to track our book inventory and budget to also help us report to our donor agencies.

The Book Program – Remember, you are tutoring approximately 2,500 students each week. These students are encouraged to 'earn' a book a month as part of our 'books-for-the bag' program. Also we give a book to every student in a class where we tutor two times a year. In 2016, this was over 17,000 new books given to students for them to keep and read. Keeping track of the inventory at each school and the inventory in Frank and Carolyn's garage is a major project. Figuring out how many and what books is another major project.

The Reports - Each of our major funders wants reports on how we use their funds. They want to know the number of books purchased, the number of books distributed, the age range of the students receiving books, etc. Before the new database, keeping all these records on spreadsheets was a major administrative headache. Your SBCs have done a wonderful job tracking these on paper, but things will be easier now. And will reduce administrative overhead.

Facebook and Tutors for Kids – Jessie Jean-Baptiste, our intern from Public Allies, has developed a Tutors for Kids page on Facebook. From Jessie:

"Greetings Tutors and thank you for your hard work. I'm happy to announce the completion and evolution of the Tutors for Kids

Facebook page. It'll be an interactive space for tutors to share tips and trades.

General Guidelines: All posts should exclude any identifying features such as: the student's name, teacher's name, and school's name. If you'd really like to praise a teacher or school, contact me at

jessie.jean-baptiste@tutorsforkidsinc.org.

Note if you do not have a Facebook Account then go to Facebook.com to create a login and password (write it down and save it)

We're encouraging folks to post about what it's like to be a Tutors for Kids tutor. The motto is positive insight. Heartwarming stories and hilarious tidbits are more than welcome.

Also be sure to keep an eye out for polls and updates! The goal is to foster an internet community of support and positivity!

Any and all questions can and will be answered with a message to the Tutors for Kids page.

We've also launched the Tutors for Kids Instagram. There will be a link to it on the Facebook page so encourage everyone to check us out and give us a follow!"

NOTE: To access the Tutors for Kids Facebook page, you have to log in to your personal Facebook account, and then search for the Tutors for Kids page in the search bar at the top of the screen.

Donations – Since our last newsletter, we have received over \$850 from generous individuals and from rewards at Capital One. In addition we received "anonymous" donations from our Facebook page!! And, United Way has given Tutors for Kids the first quarterly grant for 2018.

For your Calendar

Support our Supporters

February 20, 6 p.m. The Pops Chorus Folksingers will present "Give a Hoot 3," an old-fashioned hootenanny (one show only) at North Lake Presbyterian Church. We are so fortunate that they have again chosen Tutors for Kids as one of the charities to receive proceeds from this event. Last concert 'Hoot 2' was a wonderful event and was sold out very quickly. For more information and to purchase tickets use this link below. <https://www.thevillagesentertainment.com/give-a-hoot-3>

We sent many thanks to the Villages Pop Chorus who have been very generous to Tutors for Kids. Please support them and buy a ticket.

March 20 - 22 - 2 and 7p.m. – Savannah Center – Evita – Featuring our Tutors for Kids, database developer and webmaster, Tim Casey - KC Productions presents EVITA, starring Broadway's Alex Santoriello as Che and Dawn DiNome & Mary Jo Vitale, as Evita at different performances. Evita is the dramatic achievement of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. Evita is among the most passionate and memorable productions in musical theater history. The show also stars Tim Casey as Peron, and Kathleen Kane as the Mistress.

April 9, 3 and 6 p.m. – The Villages Pop Chorus Presents "You Can't Stop the Beat" at North Lake Presbyterian Church, featuring a variety of great popular songs including Broadway, the movies, rock, and standards. Tickets on sale in early January at Villages Entertainment. These concerts sell out FAST!

St. Timothy's Meetings –The next tutor meeting at St Timothy's is on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 3:00 p.m.

Education Links to Check Out

Students who don't read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma than proficient readers". This quote is from the Annie E. Casey Foundation here is the link to the article.

<http://www.aecf.org/blog/poverty-puts-struggling-readers-in-double-jeopardy-minorities-most-at-risk>

Here is a brief article from National Education Assoc.

<http://www.nea.org/grants/facts-about-childrens-literacy.html>

Some old statistics but still relevant

<http://floridaliteracy.org/refguide/Youth%20and%20Education%20in%20Florida%20-%20final.pdf>

352-568-5843

Web: www.tutorsforkidsinc.org

Email: tutorsforkids@att.net

2017 and 2018 Book Grant for Lake and Sumter Counties from:



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