# iRead · iCount

### IMPROVING A CHILD'S WORLD ONE-HOUR AT A TIME

### Help Make a Difference in Our Community by Becoming an iRead ● iCount Volunteer!

#### iCount Program Dates: September 30 - December 13, 2024

This program helps kindergarten and first grade students who are struggling with literacy and math competencies in Champaign and Urbana primary schools. We need hundreds of volunteers in the classrooms this fall to work one-on-one with these students to help with math.

### Why is This Volunteer Program so Important?

We have an opportunity gap in our schools that has widened over the past couple of years. If we do not address it now, we will never close this gap.

### **Why This Matters:**

- Reading and math are our most basic workforce skills.
- Workforce development is an economic development tool and an anti-poverty, anti-violence strategy for our community.

### We Can Do Better for Our Community. We Have to Do Better for Our Community.

### **Quick Facts about Volunteering:**

- Volunteers submit applications by September 6, 2024 for processing.
- Approved volunteers will go online and sign up for school choice, day and time preference, and training session.
- Volunteers will attend one training session and one orientation session at their school.
- Volunteers spend one hour a week in the classrooms working one-on-one with early learners, helping build the students' basic reading skills.
- The reward of helping a child build these skills is immeasurable.

We have the responsibility and ability to help the future workforce generation succeed by strengthening the foundation for literacy and math education for our youngest, most vulnerable students now.

For more information and to sign up to volunteer: www.champaigncounty.org/iread-icount

#### **Questions?**

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### Teacher Testimonials

"The students love having a special guest to learn one-on-one with them, and each tutor is so friendly that the students always have a smile on their face when they are working together."

- Sara Abbott, 1st Grade Teacher, Urbana District 116

"Whoever scheduled the iRead tutor group, THANK YOU a million times over!! The volunteers have been so kind, helpful, my students love them, and it is so nice they have a routine that we don't have to prep for. Thank you SOOOOO much, we are beyond grateful:)"

Katelyn Shamhart, 1st
Grade Teacher,
Champaign Unit 4

## Partner Organizations























