

WHAT TO DO FOR SCHOOLS

Every great business plan includes a philanthropic element and every business in this community knows the importance of a strong educational community for the workforce necessary to run a great business. Included, you will find programs and organizations that provide opportunities to support education and workforce development initiatives in Knox County.

Your opportunity to help Knoxville continue to be a community in which to grow a great business is just a phone call or an email away!

"In Tennessee it costs over \$60,000 per year to incarcerate one juvenile but only \$5,975 in Knox County per year to educate one student. It makes economic sense for the Knoxville community to emphasize education over incarceration."

**Rhonda Garren, Community Prosecution Coordinator,
Knox County District Attorney**

Directory/Table of Contents

Adopt a Classroom.....	Page 4
Advanced Placement Classes.....	5
Big Brothers Big Sisters.....	6
Character Counts!.....	7
Compassion Coalition of Knoxville.....	8
Dine Out for Education.....	9
Distinguished Professional Education Institute.....	10
DonorsChoose.org.....	11
El Puente.....	12
Emerald Youth Foundation.....	13
Family Promise of Knoxville.....	14
Friends of Literacy.....	15
Full Service Schools Program.....	16
Imagination Library.....	17
Junior Achievement.....	18
Knox Achieves.....	19
Knox County Career Guide.....	20
Knoxville Leadership Foundation (KLF).....	21
Leaders Across America.....	22
Local Apprenticeship/Internship Program.....	23
Parent Involvement.....	24
Partners in Education.....	25
Project Grad.....	26
Read With Me.....	27
School Coupon Books.....	28
School of Hard Knox.....	29
SOAR.....	30
Spouses To Teachers.....	31
Stand for Children.....	32
Teach Tennessee.....	33
Teacher Advancement Program.....	34

Directory/Table of Contents (page 2)

Teacher Supply Depot.....	35
Tennessee Scholars Program.....	36
Tribe One.....	37
Troops to Teachers.....	38
Vols4STEM.....	39
Weekend Academy.....	40
Workforce Connections.....	41

Adopt a Classroom

Businesses can use Adopt-A-Classroom as a resource to help local classrooms. By providing financial and moral support, businesses can build a partnership with and support teachers and students in specific classrooms. By signing up to "launch a local program," you will have access to Adopt-A-Classroom informational materials and outreach tools. As you promote the program, you will be able to track the progress and success of your efforts.

What you can do:

A donor selects a classroom and makes a contribution for the teacher to use and purchase much needed resources for the classroom. There are currently 79 schools to choose from in Knoxville. Donors may search for classrooms by geography, school name, teacher name or other search criteria. If a donor has no preference, Adopt-A-Classroom partners the donor with an underserved classroom in the community. Donors may choose to support the classroom in ways beyond the financial contribution, such as visiting the classroom, chaperoning field trips and other activities that are coordinated directly between donor and teacher.

Adopt-A-Classroom Contact Information:

Adopt-A-Classroom

1521 Alton Road, #347

Miami, FL 33139

Phone Number: (877) 444-7666 or (305) 674-4470

Email: info@adoptaclassroom.org

Website: www.adoptaclassroom.com

Advance Placement Classes

Advance Placement Classes offer students the opportunity to be challenged in areas they show an increased interest. All high schools in Knox County offer some AP classes.

What you can do:

As a parent or guardian, if a teacher or school counselor recommends your student take an AP class learn as much as possible about the class content. Then encourage your student to consider this option. By taking Advanced Placement courses students are exposed to information and instruction that will better prepare them for post-secondary learning.

Knox County Schools

Contact the school counselor at the local High School

Big Brothers Big Sisters

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters is to help children reach their potential through professionally supported, one-to-one relationships.

The vision of Big Brothers Big Sisters is successful mentoring relationships for all children who need and want them, contributing to brighter futures, better schools, and stronger communities. Big Brothers Big Sisters was founded in 1904 and is the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Tennessee is a proud member agency of the national network. Big Brothers Big Sisters enrolls youth ages 5 to 15 (School Based Program) and 7 to 15 (Community Based Program) in communities across the country through a network of 429 agencies. We have served the community for more than 30 years and offer services in nine East Tennessee counties: Anderson, Blount, Hawkins, Knox, Loudon, Roane, Scott, Sullivan and Washington.

What you can do:

- If you would like to make a financial or in-kind donation please contact Sharon Moore at (865) 523-2179 ext. 21 (or toll-free at 888-523-2179 ext. 21). You can also view donations ideas our website.

For more information:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Tennessee

4928 Homberg Drive Suite B3

Knoxville, TN 37919

T (865) 523-2179

F (865) 524-3466

Email: info@bbbsetn.org

Website: <http://www.bbbstnvalley.org/>

Character Counts

CHARACTER COUNTS! is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nonsectarian coalition. They are the nation's most widely used character-development framework, adopted by schools as well as youth, sports and civic organizations. They want to create a community where the Six Pillars of Character are understood and seen in every segment of the City so that youth and adults in Knoxville will be continually reminded of the importance of good behavior. Their vision is to elevate the quality of character throughout the city to enable Knoxville to become one of the best places in the country in which to live, to raise children, to go to school, and to conduct business.

What you can do:

- Be a leader in bringing CHARACTER COUNTS! To your business and community.
- Organize business based or community training.
- Encourage employees to be CHARACTER COUNTS! Trainers.
- Support CHARACTER COUNTS! activities.

Contact:

CHARACTER COUNTS! of Knoxville and Knox County

Cansler Family YMCA

c/o Phyllis Lockwood

616 Jessamine Street

Knoxville, TN 37917

Phone: 865-524-2122

Fax: 865-525-3170

Email: charactercounts@ymcaknoxville.org

Website: <http://www.discoveret.org/ccknox/index.html>

Compassion Coalition of Knoxville

The Compassion Coalition's basic premise is that Christians are called to be "Salt and Light" (Matthew 5:13-16) in the communities in which we live. Those of us who love Jesus must enter into direct "hands on" contact with suffering and injustice in our community. Why? Because Jesus commanded it (Luke 10:37), modeled it (Matthew 8:3), and says that it characterizes those who would live with Him forever (Matthew 25:34-46). The best proof of Christ's presence in our lives is the costly love flowing out of us (Galatians 5:14). Our dream is to see several hundred churches striving together to be "God with skin on" to people struggling to find hope in our community. If enough of us walk together, Christ's Kingdom will become as real in Knoxville as the air we breathe.

What you can do:

*Pray for Our Schools. This is the number-one need. Make a prayer commitment to pray for the staff and students of a particular school and then simply follow God's leading. Need help getting started? Call the Compassion Coalition office.

*Extend a Hand. Call your nearest school, meet with the principal or guidance counselor, offer to be on call as they serve children and families with complex needs.

*Kingdom Perspective. An army of people of faith are already serving in our schools, making brownies, assisting teachers, going on field trips, and more through their children's classrooms. Without any additional volunteer hours, we can reveal their efforts as "kingdom work". Churches can serve their members by caring for their schools around the corner.

*Offer to support Attendance/Social Worker at any school as they recognize excellent attendance and serve families of children with low attendance. Lack of Attendance may be an indicator of other issues.

*Strengthen the Youth Programs. Help them expand their after-school and weekend opportunities.

*"Partner with" one of the Eight Nontraditional Schools. These schools offer hope to youth that often feel a lack of hope. You and your family can change a child's life forever. For a free video and updated needs list, contact the Compassion Coalition office.

Contact Information:

Compassion Coalition

Telephone: 865-251-1591

Email: info@compassioncoalition.org.

Dine Out for Education

Dine Out for Education is an annual event during which local restaurants in the Knoxville and Knox County areas donate a percentage of the day's gross sales to fund selected projects in Knox County Schools.

What you can do:

- If you own or manage a local restaurant, join the program and donate an agreed percentage of the events' days' sales to the cause.
- If you are not in the restaurant business, encourage your employees to dine out of the given day at any of the participating restaurants by advertising the event throughout the company.

Dine Out for Education Contact:
Knox County Schools Public Affairs
Scott Bacon
Phone Number: (865) 594-1909
Email: bacons@k12tn.net

Distinguished Professionals Education Institute

The Distinguished Professionals Education Institute is designed to address the growing need for course matter experts with expertise in math, science, foreign languages, and other areas of current shortage. Distinguished Professionals Education Institute will mesh teacher education, mentoring, induction, and professional development to enable schools and districts to leverage resources of personnel, equipment, and dollars.

What you can do:

- Professional scientists, linguists and mathematicians holding alternative licenses issued by the state will teach on a “course by course” basis in hard-to-staff and critical shortage areas.
- Allows professionals in math, science, engineering and other careers to teach up to three courses a year - without having to follow the traditional route to becoming a teacher.

Contact Information:

Betty Sue Sparks, Executive Director

Distinguished Professionals Education Institute:

Phone Number: (865) 687-2757

5300 Tazewell Point Way

Knoxville, Tennessee 37918

Website: www.dpoteach.com

DonorsChoose.org

DonorsChoose.org is a simple way to provide students in need with resources that public schools often lack. At this not-for-profit web site, teachers submit project proposals for materials or experiences their students need to learn. These ideas become classroom reality when concerned individuals, whom we call Citizen Philanthropists, choose projects to fund. Proposals range from "Magical Math Centers" (\$200) to "Big Book Bonanza" (\$320), to "Cooking Across the Curriculum" (\$1,100).

What you can do:

- You can search such proposals submitted by Knox County schoolteachers and learn about classroom needs and choose to fund the project(s) they find most compelling.
- Upon completion of a project, donors receive a feedback package of student photos and thank-you notes, and a teacher impact letter.

Contact Information:

DonorsChoose.org

347 West 36th Street, Suite 503

New York, NY 10018

Phone Number: (212) 239-3615

Email: national@DonorsChoose.org

Website: DonorsChoose.org

El Puente

¡Bienvenido!

Our Mission: Bridging the gap toward sustainable spiritual and economic health for the Latino immigrants in East Tennessee. We are a non-profit organization supported by families, foundations and local churches. Areas of focus include: healthcare, literacy, sustainable development, and job assistance. We minister to the needs of the “stranger in our land” in the name of Jesus, and to the city of Knoxville as an agent of blessing and change.

What you can do:

- Mentor or tutor Hispanic students.
- sponsor projects to promote literacy for adults and/or children

Contact Information:

El Puente

1300 N. Central Avenue

Knoxville, TN 37917

Telephone: 865.591.8677

Email: elpuenteknoxville@mac.com

Emerald Youth Foundation

Emerald Youth Foundation (EYF) is a faith-based, urban children and youth ministry in the heart of Knoxville. EYF was incorporated in 1991 as a 501 (c) (3) organization and expanded in 1996 to establish programs in the East and West parts of our city as well serving the Magnolia Avenue and Beaumont/Western Heights communities. EYF's mission is to raise a large number of just leaders who love Jesus Christ and others, maintain good health, and use their knowledge, skills, and gifts to renew their neighborhoods. The mission is accomplished through the JustLead™ ministry, a Christian youth development strategy that builds internal (personal growth) and external (community) assets among youth by integrating evangelism, discipleship, life skills, education and community transformation.

What you can do:

Our vision is to raise a large number of Just (Righteous) Leaders through the following areas:

Relational

Contact time – providing one-on-one or small group time with a positive adult role model
Family visits – ministering with the family support and communication

Recreation

Games and free play

Spiritual Growth

Bible Study and Worship

Service

Service-learning – opportunities to be in service to the community

Academic

Tutoring – homework help

Math and Reading – reinforcing concepts and teaching methods used by Project Grad

Health – promoting a lifestyle of nutrition and fitness

Enrichment – exposing a child to music, art, etc...

Sports

Coach and keep score

Office

Mailers and filing

Maintenance

Clean and maintain vehicles and facilities

Contact Information:

Telephone: 865-637-3227

Email: rbenway@emeraldyouthfoundation.org

Website: <http://www.emeraldyouth.org/>

Family Promise

Family Promise of Knoxville is an affiliate of the national Family Promise organization. Family Promise of Knoxville unites the Knoxville community and local resources to do what individuals alone cannot do. The cornerstone of Family Promise of Knoxville is our Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). We have united 12 "host" congregations and 17 "support" congregations in the Knoxville area, numerous volunteers, our core staff, and local social services agencies into a synergistic team that provides temporary housing, meals, and assistance to families without homes to help them become self sufficient. Family Promise of Knoxville has established the Family Promise Academy that provides classes on nutrition, parenting, household finances, and budgeting to current IHN guests, former guests, and families in the community that need assistance. We believe that teaching life skills and parenting skills strengthens these families and the community overall. Family Promise of Knoxville is establishing a Family Mentoring Program that pairs volunteers with families that have graduated from our IHN program.

What you can do:

- Harley House support or maintenance (contact Anne O'Connor); spreading the word about Family Promise and asking others to consider a donation of time, goods and services, or money to keep our programs going
- Grant writing and fund raising activities (contact Connie Umbach)
- Family mentoring (contact Joyce Shoudy or Nicole Craig)
- Any talent you can share or gift you make makes a difference in changing the lives of our guests, and helping them become self-sufficient.
- Save your Kroger Receipts and mail them to the Harley House - we can use these for bus passes for our guests.
- Tell others about the Family Promise IHN Program and offer them opportunities to serve.
- Volunteer - please fill out the volunteer resource form and see opportunities to the left. We have every need imaginable for all types of people and would like to start a resource directory. ***Send your name, email address, and phone number to Karen Billingsley if you would like to be a part of the resource directory. Please indicate how you would like to help out.
- We need a storage area for items that are donated and guest belongings.
- We need toiletry bags for men and women, healthy snacks, craft boxes for children.
- At times we need clothing for guests.
- When guests find housing, sometimes we need beds, cribs, high chairs, sheets, towels, etc. Please contact Joyce Shoudy about your donations so that we can best target your gifts to those who need it most.

Contact Information:

Family Promise of Knoxville

P.O. Box 10184 · Knoxville, TN. 37939-0184

Phone: (865) 584-2822

Email: ncraig@familypromiseknoxville.org

Friends of Literacy

Since 1991, Friends of Literacy has been the voice of the illiterate, giving students the basic tools they need to become better workers, parents and citizens. Most students initially read and write below a sixth-grade level. This fiscal year, Friends of Literacy hopes to provide financial and material support for ELL (English Language Learners) classes, as well as initiate Family Literacy classes. A third area of development is the design and development of Recruitment and Retention programs.

What you can do:

- You and your business can make a general monetary donation by simply choosing a level of giving and donating online.
- A second area is through item donations, including old magazines for their library (McCall's, Ladies Home Journal, Good Housekeeping, Woman's Day, Family Circle, Sports Illustrated, etc.); donating cleaning supplies and personal hygiene products to students to reward them for good attendance; donate classroom supplies-paper, pencils, folders, etc.; bring old books.
- Your business can also raise funds in order to purchase workbooks and testing materials for students; typically, \$125 supplies several students for one year.
- Friends of Literacy also has a “wish list,” from which businesses can purchase and donate supplies. This list includes: teacher Lectern, an electric 3-hole punch, Wal-Mart gift cards, white board easels, laptop computers, electric pencil sharpeners, bus tickets, overhead projector and rolling cart, CD players, manual 3-hole punch, phonics cards and nonfiction soft cover books.

Contact Information:

Friends of Literacy

Melissa Nance

101 East Fifth Avenue, Room 217

Knoxville, TN 37917

Phone Number: (865) 594-1507

Email: Melissa@friendsofliteracy.org

Website: www.friendsofliteracy.org

Full Service Schools Program

The Full Service Schools Program is designed to meet the basic needs of “at-risk” students in an effort to allow students to focus on school and learning. Part of the implementation of this program involves both resources and time from community members.

This program includes:

- Meeting basic needs such as making sure students have food to eat and clean clothes to wear.
- Providing students with experiences with extra curricular activities
- Providing structured mentoring opportunities for students

What you can do:

- A business could provide both time and resources to support the implementation of this program.

Contact Information:

Dr. Robert Kronick
University of Tennessee
College of Education, Health and Human Services
(865) 974-8799
rkronick@utk.edu

Imagination Library

Started by Dolly Parton in 1996, this organization serves to foster a love of reading to preschool children. Dolly decided to mail a brand new, age appropriate book each month to every child under 5 in Sevier County. With the arrival of every child's first book, the classic The Little Engine That Could™, every child could now experience the joy of finding their very own book in their mail box. These moments continue each month until the child turns 5—and in their very last month in the program they receive Look Out Kindergarten Here I Come.

What you can do:

- Imagination Library accepts donations of all amounts--and now with online giving, supporting early literacy in our community is even easier. Visit [The Governor's Books from Birth Foundation](#) to donate directly to Knox County's Imagination Library (just be sure to select Knox County from the menu).
- Employees can also volunteer at a registration booth, children's festivals, special events, and a host of other Imagination Library-sponsored activities. Most volunteer opportunities can be completed in a few hours and can be done on your own or with a friend. To volunteer, call or email Amy at 215-8784 or anachtrab@knoxlib.org

Contact Information:

Imagination Library

Knox County Imagination Library Fund

500 West Church Avenue

Knoxville TN 37902

Phone Number: (865) 215-8784.

Website: www.imaginationlibrary.com and

www.knoxrooms.sirsi.net/rooms/portal/page/21519 Imagination Library

Junior Achievement

Founded locally in 1969, Junior Achievement of East Tennessee serves students by providing a series of in-school, sequential economic, business, and free enterprise educational programs for grades K-12. JA enables caring adults to share their experience with students to show them what it takes to be successful. The dynamic interaction between the volunteer and the students promotes active learning and brings theory to life.

JA's unique approach integrates program materials, trainings, and support. JA is the successful bridge between education and business.

Students -- JA students demonstrated a significant understanding of economics and business concepts -- particularly those who participated in programs at consecutive grade levels, as determined by independent evaluators.

What you can do:

- Mentors -- Volunteers serve as role models to help young people better understand economic concepts in order to become successful in the workplace and in life.
- Investors -- Business, foundations, and individuals support JA because it teaches students about economic and business and because JA's positive impact is measurable.
- Educators -- Teachers welcome Junior Achievement's resources because they enhance the learning environment and reinforce the classroom curricula.

Contact information:

Phone: (865) 584-4359

Email: jainfo@comcast.net

Website: <http://easttennessee.ja.org/>

KnoxAchieves

KnoxAchieves provides an opportunity for 500 Knox County high school seniors (including adults from the adult high school) from the Class of 2009 to receive up to \$2,000 annual for community college tuition at Pellissippi State Community College, Roane State Community College, or Walters State Community College. Preference is given to low-income, first generation college applicants.

What you can do:

- Philanthropic dollars are funding a college education for high school seniors in Knox County who would otherwise lack the opportunity.
- Volunteers serve as mentors to the high school students to eliminate barriers and challenges in the application process. Mentors are not asked to act as “social workers” or tutors, but rather to guide and motivate the student through the college process.

Contact Information:

Krissy Gladders
KnoxAchieves Executive Director
400 Main Street, Suite 615
Knoxville, TN 37902
phone: 865.215.4754
email: krissy.gladders@knoxcounty.org

Knox County Career Guide

Objectives:

- To enable students to access their strengths, interests and aptitudes as they begin to focus on career options.
- To introduce students to the variety of jobs available in East TN in order to keep them in the community workforce.
- To expand knowledge about career options – education, requirements, works environments, skills, aptitudes, and compensation.
- To foster better school performance—grades, attendance, graduation through students' focus on careers.

What you can do:

- A business could choose to sponsor the production of career guides for a particular school community or classroom.

Contact Information:

Alice Dollar

NIE Manager

Knoxville News Sentinel

Phone: (865) 342-6113

Email: dollara@knews.com

Knoxville Leadership Foundation

The Knoxville Leadership Foundation brings together people from all walks of life to address the needs of our city. We target five specific areas of need: homes for the working poor, home repair for those who can't afford it, help for non-profit groups, mentoring for children with parents in prison (Amachi), and an abstinence program (Silver Ring Thing) to help prevent teenage pregnancy.

What you can do:

- Amachi Program – Amachi is a Nigerian word meaning “Who knows but what God has brought us through this child?” There are over 800 children in Knox County with one or both parents in prison. Statistically, without intervention these children have a 70% chance of becoming incarcerated as adults. This program matches a mentor with a child who has one of both parents in prison. The volunteer must commit to one hour per week for one year. A background check is required for this program. The mentor and child are matched based on common interests. The other way you can help is to provide them with information if you know of a child who is in need of this type of program. Statistics show that 70% of the children who have a child in prison will end up in prison themselves without some type of intervention.

- The Silver Ring Thing – Following a dynamic, faith-based multi-media presentation, students participating in the Silver Ring Thing are challenged to make the right choice, pledge to remain abstinent until marriage and to wear the Silver Ring as a symbol of their commitment. It is a national movement and a local success. This program is faith-based and contains a faith message. It is funded privately and no federal grants are used for any part of the program. Volunteers are needed to assist at the events. Also, it is privately funded so monetary donations are needed.

Contact Information:

Knoxville Leadership Foundation
901 East Summit Hill Drive
Suite 300
Knoxville, Tennessee 37915

Telephone: 865/524-2774

Email: questions@klf.org

Website: <http://www.klf.org>

Leaders Across America

Leaders Across America is an organization that in addition to bringing together students from across the country to leadership conferences also brings any of these elements directly to the students in their own schools, churches, or civic clubs.

What you can do:

- A business can choose to sponsor an event at a local middle or high school
- A business can choose to sponsor a certain number of students to attend a workshop/seminar.

Contact Information:

Trent Sanders

President/CEO

(865) 250-6636

tsanders@leadersacrossamerica.com

Local Apprenticeship/Internship Programs

These programs are examples of existing partnerships between industry and education. While most programs are not one-size-fits-all, good ideas and practices may be extracted from these to develop a program that works for each business and fits each company's particular needs.

- **KUB's Teen Work Program**
TeenWork is a partnership between KUB and Austin East Magnet High School. The program assists high school juniors in learning the necessary skills to function in the work environment. TeenWork teaches students how to obtain employment, learn employer expectations, gain on-the-job skills, and acquire the confidence necessary to succeed.
- **Schooled For Success**
Available to students in middle schools, this business-education partnership program provides training for students in career education and culminates with a one-week summer internship with work-site mentoring by employees of participating businesses.

What you can do:

Contact Scott Bacon for current needs:

Knox County Schools Public Affairs

Scott Bacon

Phone Number: (865) 594-1909

Email: bacons@k12tn.net

Parent Involvement

The National Parent Teacher Association instituted a Parent Involvement Schools of Excellence Certification program in an effort to increase and enhance parent involvement in schools nationwide. The program provides schools with information to assess the parent involvement in their institution based on the PTA's National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement programs. The Certification program then awards schools whose standards meet the PTA's with certification.

What you can do:

- Contact the Parent Involvement Certification Program to find out if your school is certified, if not campaign for the certification.

Contact Information:

PTA Office of Programs

Phone: (202) 289-6790

1400 L Street, NW Suite 300

Washington, DC 20005

PICertification@pta.org

Partners in Education

The Partners in Education (PIE) program is designed to build relationships between the Knox County School System and community organizations to improve the educational opportunities of the approximately 54,000 students across the county. Individual school partnerships allow community groups to impact public education in a targeted location.

What you can do:

- This program is flexible enough for the business to partner with a school in whatever way makes sense for that individual school or class.
- Your business can involve employees in activities at school or host students for career day.
- You can provide incentives to recognize student achievement or provide professional expertise to the school.
- Your business could also invite the team to visit your organization to see where the school can impact your operations. The program also encourages having students out in the community providing entertainment, art work, or other exhibits of their talents and skills.
- You can sponsor elementary, middle or high schools, or participate in curriculum or special areas, sponsor a system-wide program or non-traditional schools.

Contact Information:

Partners in Education

Scott Bacon

Phone Number: (865) 594-1909

Email: bacons@k12tn.net

Website: www.kcs.k12tn.net/public_affairs/PIE/partners-what-is.htm

Project Grad

The objective is to work in partnership with Knox County Schools to increase high school graduation and college attendance rates for students of 14 urban schools. The program also provides college/technical school scholarships to qualifying students.

(Project GRAD=Graduation Really Achieves Dreams)

What you can do:

- Volunteer time as tutors or listeners (listening to a child's reading)
- Provide financial support for ongoing academic programs as well as scholarship funds

Contact Information:

Jerry Hodges

Executive Director

(865) 525-4030

Suntrust Bank Building

700 East Hill Avenue

jhodges@projectgradknoxville.org

Read With Me

Advocating support of President Bush's No Child Left Behind Act-Reading First Program, Mayor Ragsdale made it a top priority of his administration to provide a program for recruitment and placement of volunteers in 1st grade classrooms in the county. The Read with Me program allows the Knox County community to participate in improving its children's success by building a firm reading background. This program is a partnership of schools, businesses, parents, and volunteers working together to improve and enhance the reading skills of children.

What you can do:

- We are still seeking support from our local businesses in making this program an even greater success. Mayor Ragsdale is challenging local businesses to encourage their employees to volunteer.
- One hour a week is a small commitment that can produce large benefits.
- Classroom and school sponsors will be mentioned in all media.

Contact Information:

Read With Me

Sandy Garber

Phone Number: (865) 215-4770

Email: readwithme@knoxcounty.org.

Website: www.knoxcounty.org/rwm/corporate.php

School Coupon Books

School coupon books are sold annually through Knox County. In 2006, students sold 180,435 coupon books during the campaign. Since 1989, a total of 2,248,735 coupon books have been sold to raise \$19,253,364.50 for public schools in Knox County.

What you can do:

- You could become involved in the school coupon book annual campaign through sponsorship. Corporate sponsors play a major role in making the School Coupons Book Campaign an annual success.
- Promote the program with family and friends.

Contact Information:

Mary Kerr

Program Facilitator

Phone Number: (865) 594-1928

Email: kerrm@k12tn.net

Website: <http://www.kcs.k12tn.net/schoolcoupons/sc-index.htm>

School of Hard Knox

School of Hard Knox is a new non-profit organization that serves as an “Urban Resource Center.” Their three main programs are:

- 1) Caddy Academy - a program that trains young people to be golf caddies as well as instilling other valuable life skills
- 2) Not Another Statistic – a college counseling program that trains high school students to take the ACT and/or SAT, pays for the exam up to 5 times, helps fill out college applications, pays for up to 7 college application fees and provides scholarship and other opportunities valuable to the college experience
- 3) Young Politics Club - raises awareness among young people about community issues and helps them find their voices

What you can do:

- Donation of new and used golf clubs, golf bags and golf balls
- Donation of new or used golf apparel (i.e. shoes, khakis, collared shirts, etc.).
- Donation of SAT, ACT or any other college preparation materials.
- Donation of new or used computers for students.
- Use of facilities (needed to host college counseling session on a weekly basis).
- Willingness to let participants learn more about your business through a tour of your facility or special presentation about your field of work.
- Volunteers for Caddy Academy (golf instruction – avid experience not necessary, criminal background checks required).
- Volunteers for Not Another Statistic (college counseling – experience needed with standardized testing, college applications and essay editing).
- Volunteer opportunities for our participants (community service, cleaning, etc).

Co-founders: Tyrone Fine, Edward Harrison and Mickeya Harrison

Contact Information:

Mickeya Harrison

Office Phone Number: 865-558-9883

E-mail: keeya_harrison@yahoo.com

SOAR

SOAR Youth Ministries magnifies the inherent potential in urban youth by enabling them to have the highest regard for themselves and others. SOAR creatively connects and bridges the gap between community resources focused on addressing local needs and giving back through faith-based service. As a ministry, it models obedience to God's good, pleasing and perfect will.

SOAR's mission is to challenge inner-city youth with the love of Jesus Christ, to serve others and reconcile by creatively meeting their spiritual, educational and recreational needs.

What you can do:

- We have various needs for which volunteers are needed in the program. These needs range from teaching an elective class in our after-school program (PREP), helping with community service projects, food preparation for the evening meal, to developing a one-on-one mentoring relationship with a young person (LAMP).

Contact Information:

SOAR Youth Ministries
1319 Connecticut Ave
PO Box 51611
Knoxville, TN 37950-1611
Executive Director
Steve Ritter
Phone: (865) 544-5881 ext 25
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Spouses To Teachers

The Spouses to Teachers Program is a Department of Defense initiative of the Office of the Deputy under Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy. It is managed and operated by the Defense Activity for Non Traditional Education Support (DANTES). Spouses to Teachers provides support to spouses interested in teaching K-12 students in public, private, charter, Department of Defense Dependent School (DoDDS), or high school at a community college.

BENEFITS OF A TEACHING CAREER

- A professional and portable career which is marketable in most locales
- The spouse's teaching profession is established prior to separation or retirement from the military
- Military spouses can easily identify with children of deployed parents
- Family finances supplemented

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

- Spouses of active duty personnel
- Spouses of members of Selected Reserve and National Guard
- Spouses of members of Individual Ready Reserve recalled to active duty

AUDIENCE SUPPORTED

- Spouses with little or no college seeking guidance on starting or completing a college degree
- Spouses with a bachelors degree or higher and seeking certification
- Spouses that are certified and seeking additional state certification

COUNSELING / INFORMATION PROVIDED

- Guidance towards starting or completing a degree
- Certification requirements for the 50 states to include reciprocity agreements
- Different routes to certification
- Reimbursement of state certification examinations, GRE (if in the education field), and the ABCTE Program up to \$600
- Scholarships and financial aid resources available to assist with tuition expenses
- Study references for state certification examinations
- Networking resources available in each state for teaching opportunities and application process

What you can do:

- For spouses seeking guidance on teacher certification in the Continental United States contact the representative in the Troops to Teachers/Spouses to Teachers State Office for registration

Contact Information:

DANTES Email: stt@navy.mil

Spouses to Teachers Toll Free: 800-231-6242

6490 Saufley Field Road Commercial: 850-452-1166 ext 3224

Pensacola, Florida 32509-5243 Fax: 850-452-1194/1096

Stand for Children

Founded in 1999, Tennessee Stand for Children brings together people from all walks of life – parents, grandparents, people who work with children, and others who care about the next generation – in order to make children a top political priority.

Tennessee Stand for Children members believe we need to invest in our children now – particularly in their education and enrichment from pre-school through high school – to ensure they have a fair chance in life and to create a better future for Tennessee.

Through effective advocacy, Tennessee Stand for Children Chapters have won 15 victories that have directly improved the lives of more than 300,000 children in the state and leveraged more than \$149 million in public funding for children's programs. With Chapters currently in Memphis, Nashville, and Hamilton County/Chattanooga, Stand for Children is fast becoming a strong, statewide citizen voice that Tennessee's children urgently need.

Contact Information:

Website: <http://www.stand.org/Page.aspx?pid=1410&chid=39>

Tennessee State Organization

tninfo@stand.org

209 10th Avenue South, #300

Nashville, TN 37203

ph. 615.726.1414

fax. 615.254.3766

Knoxville local chapter contact:

Meg Ansara: mansara@stand.org

Teach Tennessee

Governor Phil Bredesen is leading an initiative called **Teach Tennessee**. The goal is to create a statewide program that challenges mid-career professionals, retirees and others to teach. It is designed for those who already have a bachelor's degree, 24 semester college hours in some field and would like to teach in that same content area for grades 7-12. The Department of Education is seeking those who demonstrate high achievement in their careers and possess the character and motivation needed to be a quality teacher. Priority is given to those wishing to teach in Tennessee's highest need areas- math, science and foreign languages. Selected candidates are required to attend an intensive Teach Tennessee Institute to learn teaching methods to be eligible to teach, accompanied by an intensive mentoring program once they enter the classroom. These potential educators are most needed in the hardest-to-staff districts and in high-need subject areas, such as math, science and foreign languages.

What you can do:

To meet the minimum eligibility requirements for Teach Tennessee, content knowledge is measured by one of two ways:

- 1) by having 24 semester college credit hours or 36 quarter hours in the content area you are wishing to teach with a 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) GPA.
- 2) By passing the Praxis II (content) exam in the area you wish to teach.

If you do not have the 24 hours in the content area you are wishing to teach (with a 3.0 GPA) and are interested in taking the Praxis II to meet the minimum eligibility requirements for the next round of Teach Tennessee selections, you will need to register for the exam using the schedule found on the website.

Contact Information:

Tennessee Department of Education
Andrew Johnson Tower-6th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243-0375
Telephone: 615/741-2731

Teacher Advancement Program

The Teacher Advancement Program is a new program, under the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching, that is dedicated to hiring, retaining, training and motivating talented teachers into the profession. TAP was developed to improve the profession as a whole by offering incentives to good teachers, such as higher salaries and opportunities for advancement in the hopes of attracting the most talented individuals to the field. TAP also provides mentoring and professional development opportunities to the teachers, and promotes accountability by holding teachers responsible for their work with performance-based compensation.

What you can do:

- Provide funds to support training sessions, celebrations, materials educational opportunities, laptop computers or other special opportunities for master and mentor teachers.

Contact Information:

Monty Howell

Knox County Schools

Phone: 865-594-1697

Andrew Johnson Building, 16th Floor

912 S. Gay Street, Knoxville, TN 37902

Mailing Address: PO BOX 2188, Knoxville, TN 37901-2188

And

Cheryl Kershaw, Ed.D.

Executive Director, Great Schools Partnership

Ph: 865-215-4505

Fax: 865-215-4254

www.greatschools.us

Teacher Supply Depot

Often times, teachers must spend their own money to purchase learning and classroom materials. Paired with the other reality that discarded items are costly to businesses and fill our landfills needlessly, the Teacher Supply Depot is a unique way for the community and local businesses to partner with the school system to provide material support to the classroom teacher. The **Depot** is a clearinghouse for donated surplus materials that can be used in classrooms. Knox County Schools, Knox County Council PTA, KCEA, Goodwill, the Knoxville Chamber, and Knox County Solid Waste are pleased to announce the operation of this project to support the creative efforts of our teachers throughout the school system.

Since its inception, many businesses and community members have stepped forward to donate materials, money and time to the depot. These educators have taken more than \$1,000,000 worth of classroom materials and equipment back to their schools since the Depot opened in January 2001.

The Depot accepts tax-deductible donations, and is in continual need of supplies.

What you can do:

- The Depot is open four times each school year to give teachers an opportunity to replenish supplies they need for the classroom. Donations can be delivered to the Depot Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
- You can participate through item donation: Art Supplies, Art Tissue Paper, Board erasers - dry erase & chalk, Bulletin Board materials, Calculators, Chalk, Children's music - tapes, records & books, Clear tape for dispensers, Clip boards, Colored pencils, Coloring markers - all sizes, Compasses, Composition Books, Construction paper, Copy Paper, Crayons, Dividers, D'Nealian ABC Desk Tapes, Dry erase boards - all sizes, Dry erase markers and board cleaner, Erasable pens, Erasers for pencils, Erasers - large pink, First start writing paper, Games for all skills, Glue - assorted size bottle, Glue sticks, Highlighters - all colors and sizes, Hole punches, Holiday decorations, Incentive Items, Index cards, Ink pens, Labels - all sizes, Large writing tablets, Left-hand scissors, Manilla file folders - letter size, Masking Tape, Modeling clay, Note pads, Notebook paper, Number line desk tapes, Overhead markers, Paper clips - all sizes, Pencils - Number 2, Permanent markers, Play-dough, Poster board, Post-it notes - all kinds, Protractors, Push pins/Thumb tacks, Red pencils and pens, Reward/Incentive items, Rubber bands, Rug samples, Rugs, Rulers, School/Pencil boxes, Scissors - round and pointed, Scotch tape, Scotch tape and dispensers, Sharpie pens, Staple removers, Staples, Staplers, Stickers, Tape Dispensers, Tempera paint, Theme/Composition books, Wallpaper books, Water color paint sets, White-out, Work books

Contact Information:

Teacher Depot

232 East Churchwell

Knoxville, TN 37917

Phone: (865)-594-1221

Website: <http://www.kcs.k12tn.net/tchr-supply-depot/tsd-index.htm>.

Tennessee Scholars Program

Tennessee Scholars is an education initiative sponsored by the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry, business and industry of Tennessee, policy makers, educators, and parents. It is part of the National State Scholars Initiative. It is endorsed by the Governor of the State of Tennessee, the United States Department of Vocational and Adult Education, and many other educational, workforce development, and economic development entities as an exemplary educational and workforce development initiative that has proven to be successful.

The purpose of Tennessee Scholars is to increase the percentage of students graduating from high school with a rigorous, defined academic course of study sufficient to prepare them for higher education, the workforce, or the military. In addition to a rigorous course of study, Knox County Schools require students to have a GPA of 2.5, 95% attendance, and passage of all exit exams, have no out-of-school suspensions and 40 hours of community service. 2007 was Knox County's inaugural graduating class of 260 students from 12 public and private high schools. These students were recognized at an awards ceremony where Knox County Mayor Mike Ragsdale congratulated them and awarded door prizes from local businesses. We hope to make 2008 an even better year and are working with the State Legislature to pass legislation that would grant additional scholarships to students graduating as Tennessee Scholars.

What you can do:

- Contribute to scholarship and incentive opportunities for graduating Tennessee Scholars.
- Encourage your business leaders to enter high school classrooms before students select classes and present the students with information on the importance of completing a rigorous, defined course of study.

Contact Information:

Knoxville contact – Ahnna Estes

Knoxville Chamber

TNScholars@knoxvillechamber.com

Phone: (865) 246-2658

State representative – Ruth Woodall

Tennessee Chamber, TN Scholars Director

TNScholars@knoxvillechamber.com

611 Commerce St., Suite 3030

Nashville, TN 37203-3742

ruth.woodall@tnchamber.org

(615) 256-5141

Tribe One

Chris Woodhull and the late Danny Mayfield founded Tribe One in 1993 to reach out to inner-city youth. In the early years, they tested a variety of different approaches. They tried scaring their charges into sobriety and offering mentors who would testify to a different way of life. Today, they start with prayer, a simple plea for God's presence, for safety and patience and love and a measure of joy. Then everyone gets to work, whether it's working individually on a journal, learning new skills, or helping hang sheetrock in the recording studio. From there, the Tribe One program helps the youth understand the pain, fear, and anger that drives them to violence. They may write about it, discuss it, or share strategies for resolving it. Eliminating Risk Factors, at Tribe One, it's the first step to keeping Knoxville's youth out of jail and preventing them from being murdered on the street. Each of our young people has a choice between being alive and free, or dead...or incarcerated. By addressing the anger, fear, and pain of our young people, and looking at the choices and risk factors that lead to premature death or incarceration, it is our hope that they will transform themselves from the inside out and become successful leaders in our community. We use business as a platform for the spiritual and economic growth of the young people we serve. By serving as role models, introducing them to business and community leaders, by teaching them how business is done in Knoxville, we hope to cultivate a new generation of enterprising leaders. To do this, we operated social purpose business enterprises: a screen printer, an interactive computer studio, and a recording studio. It is through these professional practices that our young people can learn by doing. The young people we work with are typically urban minorities in Knoxville ages 16-28.

What you can do:

- Make a monetary donation.
- Use their businesses to fulfill needs you may have:
 - Boom Boom Industries – Custom Screen Printing Company
Tribeone.com or 865/546-4131
 - Magnolia Sound – Recording Studio
Tribeone.com
 - Bounce Interactive Studios –web site design, development, and hosting content management, flash animated web sites, e-commerce sites, online marketing and online product promotion, business card CD-ROMs, interactive CDs.
Tribeone.com or Call Doug McDaniel at 865-455-9946

Contact Information:

Tribeone

Chris Woodhull

223 Deadrick Avenue

Knoxville, TN 37921

865-661-4131

chriswoodhull@bellsouth.net

<http://www.tribeone.com/tribeone>

Troops to Teachers

Troops to Teachers is a U.S. Department of Education and Department of Defense program that helps eligible military personnel begin a new career as teachers in public schools where their skills, knowledge and experience are most needed.

Incentives are offered:

(A) Stipends of up to \$5K are available to reimburse costs associated with becoming certified to teach. Recipients of these stipends must agree to teach for three years in a school located in a “high-need” district.

(B) Bonuses of \$10K are available to those who agree to teach for three years in a school that serves a high percentage of students from low-income families.

What you can do:

Those interested in Troops to Teachers program should view this website, <http://www.proudtoserveagain.com/>; follow the guide to check the eligibility.

Contact Information:

Tennessee Contact Person

Mike Schroeder, Director

Phone: 1-800-286-5301

Fax: (615) 532-1448

E-Mail: Mike.Schroeder@state.tn.us

Website: <http://tennessee.gov/education/troop.shtml>

Vols4Stem

Vols4Stem is an online clearinghouse of opportunities and resources for educators, students and volunteers to learn about and participate in past, present, and upcoming K-12 STEM programs and projects. STEM careers include the science, technology, engineering and math field. This site provides opportunities for volunteers to partner with individual teachers or schools, or to get involved with existing programs related to STEM fields. This site is a work in process but will ultimately allow prospective volunteers to sign up via the website and be connected with teachers in need of their expertise.

What you can do:

- Encourage your employees to check out the site and volunteer their time to projects and teachers that may be of interest to them.
- Support a STEM program that exists in a nearby school and provide mentoring to students in competitions and projects.
- Host STEM activities that might not be possible in a classroom.
- Commit to making employees available for career day presentations and activities.

Contact Information:

Joe Carson

Phone: 865-300-5831

jpcarson@tds.net

Website: www.vols4stem.org

Weekend Academy

Weekend Academy is a Saturday enrichment program whereby elementary school grades 3-5 from low-income families learn in fun and different ways. Goals include increasing self-esteem and zest for learning, empowering parents with resources for present and future educational support, and equipping students to take advantage of future career and life opportunities. Weekend Academy is a non-profit organization that raises its money through grants, donations and fundraisers. TVA is a partner who donates office and classroom space. Partner schools nominate the students to the program and there is no charge to the child to enroll in the program.

What you can do:

- Volunteer one Saturday morning to spend some time with students about a topic or profession of interest to you.
- Host a “world of work” field trip for students to your place of business one Saturday morning.
- Sponsor a particular month’s activities by donating the food for healthy session meals or books to be given away for Book of the Month.
- Make a cash donation.
- Participate in the golf tournament fundraiser held traditionally in October by registering to play or volunteering as part of the event staff.

Contact Information:

Lisa McClain

400 W. Summit Hill Dr., WT-9C

Knoxville, TN 37902

Phone: (865) 632-3113

mcclainrussell@aol.com

Phone: (865) 246-2641

Workforce Connections

Workforce Connections is responsible for the development and operation of a variety of programs focused on employment assistance and related training and support services. One of the programs they offer is designed to educate students at a high risk of dropping out, as well as students that are out-of-school and in GED classes, about businesses, career opportunities and job training. The program strives to expose students to the world of work through guest speakers, shadow days and hands-on training. Workforce Connections also provides resources and incentives to businesses who wish to implement internship and apprenticeship programs.

What you can do:

- Workforce Connections invites Human Resources staff to educate the students on the availability of jobs as well as job opportunities that the students may not be familiar with, or aware of. The speakers can give the students relevant information about the trends in the workforce as far as what jobs are and will be most in demand and what the hiring and training processes are like. Workforce Connections also always welcomes information about the skills and education that applicants need, what traits they look for in a candidate, how to get promoted, and what will get an employee fired.
- Provide incentive rewards for academic achievement, attendance, and successful completion of activities related to entering the workforce, including resume and cover letter writing.
- Host Job Shadowing - 1 day to 1 week periods where students can shadow employees to learn about their jobs, and internships - 1 week to 1 month periods where Workforce Connections would pay students minimum wage to assist with tasks in a hands-on experience to learn about working.
- Offer on-the-job training for older youth looking to re-enter the work force. Training would last 1- 6 months and Workforce Connections would pay the trainee while the company taught the student the skills needed for a specific job, before hiring them for the job after successful training completion.

Contact Information:

Lynn Moore

Program Manager

Lynn.moore@knoxcac.org

Phone: (865) 544- 5200 ext. 1235

Stephanie Jones

Case Manager

Stephanie.jones@knoxcac.org

Phone: (865) 544-5200 ext. 1244