

Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers

Volunteer Opportunities Guide

2008—2009



Includes:

- Opportunities for parents, individuals and businesses
- Information on how to sign-up
- Easy ways to help, that require little time

Investing In a Child is Believing in Tomorrow!

At Just Kids, we invest in the lives of children each day. Our investment in these young citizens is vital for the success of our community for years to come. As we dedicate ourselves to the development of the children we serve, we continue to have hope for tomorrow.



I constantly ask my staff how we can involve others in the process of investing in young lives. The answers I received are found in the contents of this Volunteer Guide. We need more families, neighbors and local business leaders to get to know our youth, share their gifts and make themselves available to teach our children.

We hope this guide will serve as a valuable resource for you, your business and your family to serve the youth in our community. As you look through this guide, please remember that there are no limits to what you can teach our students. Feel free to call our Administrative Office at (309) 787-6303 or email us at staff@justkidsinc.org with your suggestions. Also, be sure to check our website (www.justkidsinc.org) and look through the Volunteer Action section.

We are counting on you, and remember...*Investing in a Child is Believing in Tomorrow!*

Vera Hinrichsen - Just Kids Executive Director

Visiting Readers



James Zahara from News Channel 8, as well as many others, have participated in our Visiting Reader Program!

This program is a perfect way for individuals to instill a love of reading and stress the importance of literacy for the children we serve. As a Just Kids Visiting Reader you will be invited to share a story with our preschool classrooms. We can provide the book or you can suggest a personal favorite!

Employees from organizations such as Blackhawk State Bank, Walman Optical, and American Bank and Trust have already shared a story and spent time with our preschool classrooms through the Visiting Reader program. **To sign up or receive more information, call Amy at 787-6303!**



Visiting Musicians

Are you a vocalist or do you play an instrument? Come and share your musical abilities with the preschool students at Just Kids. The Visiting Musician program is a great way to expose children to the arts, while promoting the importance of music for people of all ages. **For more information, contact Lindsay at 787-6303.**

Special Guests



We often have special guests come into our classrooms to participate in a variety of activities. Special guests share hobbies, crafts and/or cultural and family traditions to give our students a better understanding of the world around them.

What could you show our students as a special guest? **Call the Main Building at 787-6303 and let us know!**

Special Events



Just Kids holds special events throughout the year. We are always looking for people to lend a helping hand. If you are good at organizing, planning parties and interacting with children and families, then this is the perfect opportunity for you!

Contact Lindsay to find out how you can help Just Kids by volunteering at a special event—787-6303!



Item Donation

Because of the non-profit status of our organization, we accepts certain donations throughout the year. Items that may be donated include clothing, disposable diapers, arts and crafts items, scratch paper, office supplies and books.

Please contact the Main Building at 787-6303 if you have items to donate. If you have numerous items, please provide an itemized list when dropping off your donation so we may provide you with a receipt.

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Adopt a Classroom Program

Just Kids offers a great opportunity for area businesses to strengthen their local community and invest in young lives. Just Kids has started the "Adopt a Classroom" program to connect businesses to our students and our educational programs.



When a business "adopts" a classroom, a partnership is made. Employees will visit their adopted classroom to assist with projects, crafts or lessons, help with special events or share a skill or talent. The students will also make occasional visits to the business to sing songs and deliver artwork to the employees. Employers benefit through this program by advocating the importance of education, families and community-building to those within their organization. To become an "Adopt a Classroom" participant, or to receive more information, call Vera at 787-6303.



Community Partner

The "Adopt a Classroom" Program promotes United Way's 40 Developmental Assets. Be an asset-builder by participating!

#3—Young person receives support from 3 or more non-parent adults

#7—Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth

Just Kids Endowment Fund

Just Kids has established the Just Kids Early Care & Education Endowment Fund with the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend to ensure our continued success and growth. Our programs are an essential component in sustaining an environment in which our businesses, schools and families can thrive.

Just Kids is seeking donations for the fund. All gifts will be invested and the invested returns will be distributed to Just Kids in accordance with the Community Foundation's policies.

Your participation in this fundraiser is **crucial in helping Just Kids continue to provide essential services to hundreds of children**. Because of the high-quality educational programs we provide, the children we serve are prepared for school and success throughout their lives. Just Kids is the only not-for-profit early education and care facility serving Milan/Southwest Rock Island that can provide quality, affordable services to all families, regardless of income.

Your donation today will help Just Kids expand, improve and maintain the quality of the essential programs we provide, and make our community an even better place to live and work. All gifts made to Just Kids are tax deductible.

Please call 787-6303 for more information or visit www.justkidsinc.org to print off a donation form.

Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers

www.justkidstravel.org

Turn Your Vacations Into Donations!

Now supporters of Just Kids can book personal vacations and business trips on our new travel website, www.justkidstravel.org!

Every time you do, Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers will receive a portion of the travel commissions as fundraising dollars. **You get the same low rates offered by other travel websites while helping to raise funds for Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers!**

It's that simple! Log on to www.justkidstravel.org!

To receive email updates with special travel deals and discounts, email lbayer@justkidsinc.org!



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