



Volunteer Opportunities Guide

2010—2011



Includes:

- Options 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. This is critical to ensure the success of our community for years to come. As we dedicate ourselves to the development of the families and 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 they provided 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 talents and make themselves available to teach our children about the world around them.

We hope this guide will serve as a valuable resource for you, your business and your family. As you look through it, 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. Any time you can dedicate to our students is valuable and appreciated!

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, the Milan Police Department 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 or astrandberg@justkidsinc.org!



Visiting Musicians

Are you a vocalist or musician? Come and share your 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. Our students LOVE to sing and play instruments in their classrooms; join in on the fun! **For more information, contact Amy at 787-6303 or astrandberg@justkidsinc.org.**

Special Guests



We often have special guests come into our classrooms to participate in a variety of activities. Special guests share information on hobbies, crafts, their jobs 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?

Contact Mary at (309) 787-6303 or mgirot@justkidsinc.org.

Special Events



Just Kids holds special events throughout the year. We are always looking for people to lend a helping hand by organizing, planning and interacting with children and families. We also invite organizations and businesses to get involved by setting up booths and information tables at our events.

**Contact Lindsay to find out how you can get involved:
(309) 787-6303 or lbayer@justkidsinc.org.**

Item Donation



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

Please call Carol 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.

Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers



Business Opportunities

Businesses and organizations are welcome to spend time at Just Kids to promote volunteerism among their employees and members. Volunteering with colleagues and superiors has been shown to improve teamwork and boost morale within an organization. Just Kids can also offer strategies to help business leaders retain valuable employees and provide valuable resources for working parents.

Go to www.justkidsinc.org/For-Employers.aspx for more details!

United Way Specific Care



Community Partner

Just Kids is proud to be a United Way partner organization. For those contributing to the United Way through employee campaigns or as individuals, you are able to specifically designate your gift to a specific non-profit group through United Way Specific Care. Just Kids is honored to receive community support during United Way campaigns and we ask that you consider the specific designation option when you give.

Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers

Special Funds

Just Kids Early Care & Education Endowment Fund

In partnership with the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend, the Just Kids Endowment Fund was established to ensure the continued success and growth of our organization in order to sustain a community in which our businesses, schools and families can thrive. Just Kids is seeking donations for this fund, which supports what we do best: investing in young lives. Your participation is crucial in helping us provide essential services to hundreds of children and families.

Contributions for the fund can be sent to:

Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers
Just Kids Endowment Fund
Attn: Lisa Redecker
PO Box 410
Milan, IL 61264

Please make checks payable to Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers

Michael A. Morgan Memorial Fund

The Michael A. Morgan Memorial Fund has been established through the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend to benefit families and children needing financial assistance and support that are enrolled at a Just Kids center.

Michael Morgan, 2, son of Ashley (a Just Kids teacher) and Mike Morgan, passed away on December 24, 2009 while visiting family in Montana. Michael, a student in our Ladybug classroom, was an incredibly loving, happy and funny little boy who touched so many, including the staff and children at Just Kids. He will be dearly missed by his friends, teachers, and everyone in the Just Kids family. Michael's parents established this fund to carry on their son's loving spirit and help those in need that utilize the services of Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers.

Contributions for the fund can be sent to:

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Advocate

You have a say in promoting sound public policies to ensure that young children have access to quality programs, which enhance early development and optimal well-being. Being an early childhood advocate is a way for anyone, regardless of political affiliation, to shine a light on issues concerning young children and families and their importance to parents, teachers and entire communities.

Just Kids will help those interested in advocating for early childhood issues by providing updates, resources and ways to get involved at the community and state levels. Every effort made to promote policies that benefit children and families is a victory.

There are many ways to become involved in Just Kids' advocacy efforts, all of which can be found on our website, www.justkidsinc.org, or by contacting Lindsay at (309) 787-6303 or lbayer@justkidsinc.org.



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Believing in Tomorrow!”**

Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers

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