OCECD’s “Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement”

The Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement (M4RA) Program is a coming together of parents, schools and volunteers to support the reading achievement of Ohio’s students reading below grade level. The intent of M4RA & OCECD is to engage families in the reading achievement of their students. This will be accomplished by schools/organizations providing 1:1 reading mentoring for students needing supplemental reading intervention.

Read more

OCECD’s Partnership with Allen County Juvenile Detention Center, and Bluffton University

For the first time, OCECD is working with a university to provide 1:1 reading mentoring (and other mentoring) for youth that are incarcerated in a county juvenile detention center. OCECD was instrumental in establishing a partnership with Bluffton University (BU), Allen County Juvenile Court and M4RA, our 1:1 reading program. Dr. James Harder, BU President; and Allen County Juvenile Judge Glenn Derryberry have pledged their support for this work. The goal of M4RA specifically for Allen County is to reduce recidivism of incarcerated youth by increasing their reading skills, which in turn improves their self-esteem.

Read more

NEWSLETTER SPOTLIGHT

M4RA.org website

M4RA Training Registration

M4RA Success Stories

Building Bridges Training Information
**OCECD’s All About Reading-1**

*All About Reading-1* is an OCECD 2 hour training to develop an understanding and functional knowledge of the foundation of literacy skills. Attendees will learn that reading is a complex process, with many skills needing to be developed at the same time. Everyone will participate in rhyme and rhythm activities to learn the importance of the rhythm of language. Many children’s books will be shown, and attendees will receive a few books to use with children after the training. The importance of Phoneme Awareness and Phonics will be discussed. Attendees will see and participate in story telling techniques and dramatic play. How to recognize a child having difficulty with pre-reading and reading skills; and ideas on how to help will also be discussed.

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**OCECD’s All About Reading-2**

*All About Reading-2* is an OCECD 2 hour training to gain an understanding and functional knowledge of the foundation of literacy skills. Attendees will be trained on how to use evidence-based reading mentoring materials to mentor their student.

The website, [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com), and its available contents will be shown. How to use the Tutoring and Mentoring Packs including Alphabet, Phonological Awareness, Phonics, High Frequency Words, Comprehension and Fluency/Comprehension Packs will be discussed. How to use the M4RA.org website will also be demonstrated. Further discussions include: how to find the correct Pack Level to work with their student, how to organize the materials, and how to use the Tutoring & Mentoring Packs that correlate to the needs and pace of their student. Everyone will participate in a 30 minute Role Play of a mentoring session.

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*To schedule an “All About Reading” training in your area, call us at 844-382-5452.*
**OCECD’s Partnership with “The Reading Zone” in the Buckeye United Schools**

M4RA shares one of Ohio’s Community Connectors grants with Tri-State Easter Seals, Easter Seals Ohio, Messer Construction and the Department of Youth Service’s Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility to provide 1:1 reading mentoring for incarcerated youth. Circleville staff were trained to use M4RA. The incarcerated youth will receive reading mentoring prior to reentering their home community. Upon reentry, M4RA will work with designated coaches in the community to support youth both educationally and in their personal lives. M4RA provides training, monitoring and support for all three schools located in the Department of Youth Services (DYS) prisons (Circleville, Cuyahoga Hills, and Indian River). DYS’s reading mentoring program is called “The Reading Zone”.

Some research studies discuss the importance of working on reading with incarcerated youth as it specifically correlates to reduced recidivism for these youth.

There are many incarcerated, male youth asking for 1:1 reading mentoring and there are not enough mentors. Contact amy.freeman@m4ra.org if you have ideas to help.

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**“Building Bridges Out of Poverty” trainings: at Hope House, Findlay, OH**

Attending this training opened our eyes and minds to the steps/hoops a person has to address to move on and out of poverty. We recognize that many families we work with are directly affected by poverty. The Bridges Out of Poverty Training is a 6 hour class that will dive directly into the world of those who are in poverty touching on many topics. Topics include the mental models of different classes, causes of poverty, hidden rules of economic classes, language barriers, and resources needed for success. [Read more](#)

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**Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities**

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To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#)

Questions? Please contact [leeannd@ocecd.org](mailto:leeannd@ocecd.org) or call 844-382-5452.