

## Literacy Council of North Central Arkansas

Want to make a significant difference in someone's life? Consider becoming a volunteer with the Literacy Council of North Central Arkansas.

Did you know:

- Arkansas has the fourth highest illiteracy rate in the United States.
- One in four adults in Arkansas cannot read.
- 43% of people with the lowest literacy skills live in poverty, 17% receive food stamps and 70% have no or only part-time employment.
- One out of every ten drivers on Arkansas' highways cannot read road signs.
- One out of every four students who enter 1st grade will not graduate.
- 45% of Arkansas' total population does not have a high school diploma.
- The Governor's Commission on Adult Literacy reports that adult illiteracy costs Arkansas 23 million dollars annually in public assistance, crime, unrealized tax revenues, and remedial reading programs.

Individual literacy needs are very personal. Can you imagine living life without the ability to balance a checkbook, fill out a job application, help a child or grandchild with homework, read the directions on a prescription, read a food label or a road map, or read how to install an appliance? Functional literacy is, by definition, what we use every day to meet our basic needs.

How you can help:

- Investigate starting a workplace education program.
- Be a volunteer tutor for LCNCA.
- Recruit and refer students to LCNCA.
- Make a tax deductible financial contribution to LCNCA.
- Provide in-kind services to LCNCA.
- Donate office products to LCNCA.

The Literacy Council of North Central Arkansas serves Searcy, Stone, Boone and Newton counties. Literacy tutors are a mainstay of their services. Volunteer tutors are trained and matched with students to work one-on-one at various sites in the community. For more information on how you can help combat illiteracy close to home, please contact:

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