

VOLUNTEER TO READ WITH CEDAR RAPIDS' STUDENTS!

In partnership with Cedar Rapids Community Schools and College Community Schools, United Way is starting the second year of Volunteers in Proficiency (VIP). VIP is a literacy program that pairs volunteers with elementary school students to read together once per week during the school day. The program's goal is to increase students' reading success. Initially starting at Garfield Elementary last spring, VIP is now involved in 10 schools in the Cedar Rapids/Marion Metro area.

If a child is not reading proficiently by the time they finish third grade and comes from a low-income family, they are 13 times more likely not to graduate high school. In the Cedar Rapids/Marion Metro area, more than one in four students do not read proficiently at the end of third grade. [Reading mentors make a difference for all students.](#)

VIP positively impact a child's life. Each week, volunteers meet with students in the classroom and spend 40 minutes reading and practicing literacy skills. School based reading experts provide training and books.

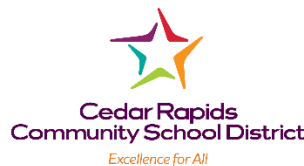
Pick the school and time you want to volunteer! VIP volunteers read at CRCSD and College Community Schools.

At CRCSD: Arthur, Garfield, Grant, Harrison, Kenwood, Taylor, and Wright

At College Community: Prairie Crest, Prairie Heights, and Prairie Crest

Click here to [learn more and sign up for VIP!](#)

If you have any additional questions, contact the volunteer coordinator, Tommy Govert, at Tommy.Govert@uweci.org.



Tommy Govert

IACC-AmeriCorps VISTA Member

Reading into Success

United Way of East Central Iowa

319-398-5372 ext. 842

Tommy.Govert@uweci.org

