

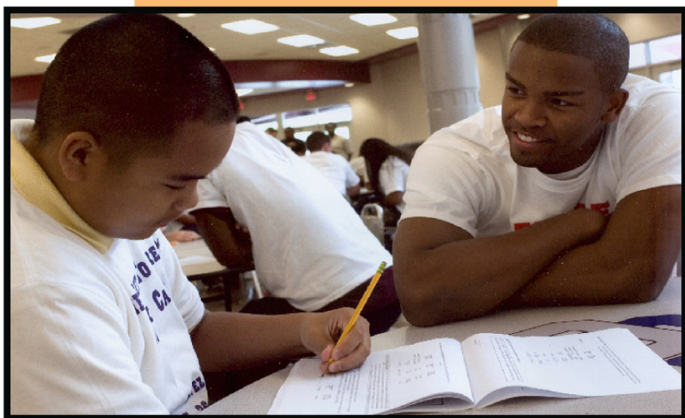
EMPOWERMENT



**Make a Difference
Foundation™**

Working to Create a World
Where No One is Left Out

SERVICE



LEADERSHIP

Coaching Literacy

Being a Champion for Students

Make a Difference Foundation is a non-profit corporation with this promise: All high school students receive tutoring in reading and writing, and by being tutored, all high school students have the training to tutor other students.

Last year Make a Difference Foundation funded the “Wright to Dream Literacy Camp,” which provided reading and writing tutoring for 480 out of approximately 600 entering freshmen students at Cesar Chavez High School prior to the start of the school. Some of these tutors were students who went through the program the previous year. The Arizona Republic featured this program in articles in 2007 and 2008. Television newscasts on Channels 3 and 15 provided stories about the program in 2007.



Coaching Literacy

Problems Helping Lower Achieving Students

Under-prepared high school students and English Language Learners who are reading at the second or third grade level can find that succeeding in high school is extremely difficult. During the year, these students who get frustrated with high school may hide out, act out, or drop out.

Many schools try to fix this problem by having tutoring programs after school. Unfortunately, these programs can have some of the following limitations:

- ✦ Students cannot stay after school for tutoring because of transportation issues.
- ✦ Budget restrictions make it impossible for every student needing help to work with a teacher.
- ✦ There are not enough trained tutors for every student.
- ✦ Tutoring can have a stigma because it is for students with problems. As a result, under-prepared students may be reluctant to get tutoring.

Coaching Literacy

A Story of Hope for Lower Achieving Students

“The Wright to Dream Literacy Camp” provided a new opportunity by emphasizing the following:

- ✦ Having a tutoring program for all students before the school year starts to help everyone get ready for high school. Since the program is for all students, there is no stigma attached to being tutored.
- ✦ Individualized instruction can make a big difference for students.



- ✦ Providing opportunities for students to tutor after being tutored means that students can learn at a higher level and do community service.
- ✦ The process of tutoring other students can empower tutors and transform them into leaders and contributors.

Coaching Literacy

- ✦ Many educational programs focus on higher achieving students, lower achieving students, or middle level students. One or two groups are usually left out. In this program all ability groups of students benefit.
- ✦ By having students tutor other students, schools can transform into communities where people pull for each other and work together to create a world where no one is left out.

This program is about providing benefits for all students, and making it possible for all students to have the opportunity to live out their dreams.

Our Community's Need for New Educational Programs

- ✦ On October 18, 2006, headlines in The Arizona Republic declared, "Arizona Ranked Dumbest in U.S." Morgan Quitno Press, which compiled state rankings, used a variety of measurements to rank states. These included standardized test scores, graduation rates, and teacher/student ratios.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

While many people are familiar with Arizona tax credit for public schools, there are a total of three tax credit programs, and donations from taxpayers can qualify for all of the tax credits at the same time.

1. A Tax Credit for Public School Donations.
2. A Tax Credit for Private School Donations.
3. A Tax Credit for the Working Poor.

Make a Difference Foundation, which is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit, trains students from Title One schools to be tutors. As a result, Make a Difference Foundation is certified with the Arizona Department of Revenue as a charity for the working poor. This means that a couple donating \$400 can receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit of \$400 off their 2008 state taxes and also receive a \$400 tax deduction for their donation on their federal taxes. Check with your tax preparer.

To make a donation, make your check to "Make a Difference Foundation" and mail to the following address:

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE
FOUNDATION**
P.O. Box 10364
Scottsdale, AZ 85257-9985

If you have any questions call 480-510-2335.