



**GED Preparation**

We are thrilled to announce that fall 2014 marks the beginning of LIFT's collaboration with **Mountain View College**. Students not prepared for remedial college level or professional certification programs are now able to enroll in LIFT's Building Strategies classes on-site at their campus.



**Adult Basic Literacy**

"This is the most rewarding thing I have ever done." –volunteer teacher **Debbie Epperson**  
 A big thank you to our friends at **Buckner Family Services** at Wynnewood who have put in a lot of time and energy to offer a LIFT Basic Literacy class on-site at their location.



**English as a Second Language**

LIFT is proud to introduce our newest ESL partner, Dallas' largest charter school system, **Uplift Education**. ESL is still LIFT's largest program with 12 locations throughout Dallas-Fort Worth. We envision continued growth for the ESL program in the underserved areas of West Dallas, South Dallas, Oak Cliff and Pleasant Grove. We also plan to start the highly-requested English pronunciation program in the spring of 2015.

**Toast to Literacy 2014**

"Our deepest thanks go out to all of the sponsors, guests, donors and volunteers for your support in creating a memorable LIFT event. It was indeed a privilege!"

-Kathleen Kent & CC Allen  
 Event Co-Chairs



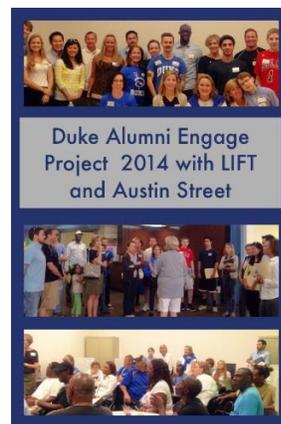
Donations are still coming in, but as of today Toast to Literacy was LIFT's highest grossing event EVER! The **\$209,500** increases our ability to teach more adults to read!!

**Groups – The power of collaboration**

*Dallas Duke alumni sparked a relationship between LIFT and Austin Street Center*

Spearheaded by Duke alum Will Evans, Dallas Duke Alumni, Austin Street Center and LIFT created an ongoing opportunity for Austin Street Center's homeless residents to receive literacy training through LIFT. Last April, more than 20 Duke alumni participated in volunteer training, helped recruit students and conducted assessments for enrollment in LIFT classes. Contact Amber Sims to schedule your group's day of service! [ambersims@lift-texas.org](mailto:ambersims@lift-texas.org)

Many thanks to all group partners: UTD Viva Volunteer, Texas Instruments, VHA and local Boy Scouts



Duke Alumni Engage Project 2014 with LIFT and Austin Street

**LIFT Partners with iGiveHere**

LIFT has partnered with a new fundraising solution that helps increase our donor connections and contributions through mobile apps, online donations and cloud-based giving to provide our donors with new, secure ways to contribute.



No effort is too small to make a difference! Your tax-deductible gift will open doors for those seeking a better life through education. Thank you for supporting LIFT learners and our mission of teaching adults to read.

[www.igivehere.org/LIFTTexas](http://www.igivehere.org/LIFTTexas)

**THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS:**

- Shelton School of Texas, Dallas • Texas Scottish Rite Hospital, Dallas • CitySquare, Dallas • First United Methodist Church, Mansfield • St. Ann Center, Coppell • University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson • Mountain View College, Dallas • Metrocrest Social Services, Farmers Branch • Serve West Dallas, Dallas • St. Luke Catholic Church, Irving • First United Methodist Church, Garland • Uplift Education - Luna, Dallas • St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, Plano • St. Monica Catholic School, Dallas • St. Francis, Frisco • Buckner Family Services at Wynnewood, Dallas • Harrington Plano Public Library, Plano



LIFT is a United Way Service Provider.



## LIFT's *Bend the Trend*

In 2012 LIFT embarked on a campaign to *Bend the Trend* of escalating illiteracy. Our goal is to serve more people in need of LIFT's services by reaching into neighborhoods where they live, work and worship. Thanks to the amazing generosity of **The Moody Foundation**, the **George and Fay Young Foundation**, **The Hillcrest Foundation**, **Texas Capital Bank** and other wonderful foundation, corporate and private donors like you, LIFT's community partnership model now has 14 collaborating institutions that offer LIFT literacy classes including Mountain View College, UpLift Education (Luna campus), the Plano Public Library, and others.

## Upcoming Events

- Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>** - Student Business Fair
- Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>** - Teacher Roundtable
- Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>** - LIFT Open House
- Apr. 18<sup>th</sup>** - Volunteer Brunch
- Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>** - Toast to Literacy

To find out more or to RSVP visit:  
[www.lift-texas.org](http://www.lift-texas.org)



### Student Spotlight - Maria

**"When he's older I will tell him he was my inspiration...the reason I knew I needed an education."** Maria came to LIFT after a very emotional day of caring for her 18 month old grandson. He walked to a shelf and brought her a book but she couldn't read it to him. She joined LIFT classes in 2011. Soon after, her husband Noe, a native Spanish speaker and certified accountant, also enrolled in our basic literacy classes. Maria was determined that she would share the gift of literacy not only with her grandson, but with her entire family. Her sister-in-law Dennise is currently enrolled in our pre-GED classes and said that Maria's constant encouragement to improve her life through education has inspired her to do the same.

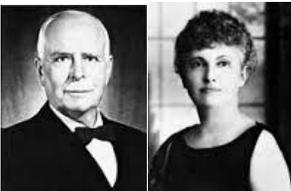


### Volunteer Spotlight - Joy

**"I'm the happiest when I'm teaching. Seeing the students'...progress, it's addicting,"**

Joy Reemtsma began volunteering with LIFT nearly 28 years ago through a suggestion from a co-worker and was with us long before our move to Opportunity Center. She has taught all of LIFT's adult basic education curricula including TSR, Pre-GED and now the Sequential English Education (SEE) class. Even after years of volunteering with LIFT, Joy says she keeps coming back because she finds the work so fulfilling. "Joy never fails to see the potential in our students. She gives them the confidence to know they can learn" said LIFT Daytime Learning Manager, Melissa Gray.

### The Moody Foundation



### Donor Spotlight - The Moody Foundation

**"I think the Declaration of Independence should have said: life, liberty, "literacy," and the pursuit of happiness. In many ways, literacy is the foundation that supports and sustains the other three."**

The Moody Foundation was created for the perpetual benefit of present and future Texans. The Foundation trustees have long had an interest in literacy, and their recent investment to LIFT is a reflection of their desire to help raise literacy levels and their trust in LIFT's extensive experience and outstanding programs. Grants Officer of North Texas for The Moody Foundation, Jamie Williams, considers literacy a fundamental right. "Someone who reads lifts their life's potential exponentially. They have a chance to get a job or a higher position, are better able provide for their family, and are much more apt to make positive contributions to their community," she says. Jamie believes that funds raised to improve the literacy level of an individual have a far-reaching ripple effect for all of us.