

REACH INCORPORATED

Winner of the 2009 Harvard Educational Enterprise Innovation Competition

Objective: Reach, Inc. – a brand new community-based organization – seeks additional members of our Board of Directors to provide strategic guidance and support.

What We Do: Using a three-pronged approach – training, tutoring, and compensation - Reach will improve reading skills, across ages, by hiring and training struggling adolescent readers to tutor in DC elementary schools. Through this innovative approach, we will teach necessary work skills, facilitate literacy instruction in a stigma free environment, and provide a needed service in a resource efficient manner.

Why We Do It: Currently, approximately half of DC's students fail to complete high school. Only 39% of secondary students are labeled proficient in reading and fewer actually read at grade level. Research shows that advanced literacy skills are closely correlated with academic success and high school completion. Only through improved literacy interventions in high schools will we be successful in graduating students who are prepared for success in both college and employment.

What We Need: We are actively seeking individuals with skills and knowledge in law, finance, accounting, public relations, and/or philanthropy. These individuals would be a major driving force in creating a strong and sustainable organization. Board members would be expected to make the following commitments to the organization:

- Support and defend the organization's mission to address the needs – both academic and motivational – of struggling adolescent learners.
- Make an annual financial contribution to support the organization's work.
- Attend Board meetings to contribute to organizational planning efforts.

Reach, Inc. believes in the ability of high school students to achieve success despite previous academic failure. We believe in creating opportunities for adolescents to feel motivated and valued. We believe that every child can contribute to the community. We believe that academic skill development must be coupled with motivational infrastructure. Do you agree?

Joining The Team: If you are interested in joining our efforts to create a pathway to excellence for struggling high school readers, please e-mail a resume and cover letter:

Mark D. Hecker LICSW, Ed.M - Founder and President
mark@reachincorporated.org - www.reachincorporated.org

Upon receipt of your resume and cover letter, we will provide additional information about the next steps in exploring possible Board membership.