



Empowered Tutoring

Empowering Kids. Changing Lives.

Our mission is to provide exceptional one-on-one tutoring and life skills development for students from financially challenged families, allowing them to maximize their learning potential and confidently pursue their educational and personal goals.

**SPRING
2026**

CHILDREN ARE GETTING AN EARLY START ON READING

You are giving students with limited means the opportunity to receive one-on-one tutoring, but did you know that you also give hundreds of kids birth to age 5 a head start with reading?

You and our literacy champions in the five communities where Empowered Tutoring sponsors Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL) are putting new, age-appropriate books in the hands of registered children.

Research by the nationwide program shows that children in the program showed stronger foundational literacy skills — including vocabulary, phonological awareness, and concepts about print —

compared to children not in the program. We know that those foundational literacy skills will translate to greater proficiency in their school years.

Our program manager, Connie Chynoweth, reports a week doesn't go by that she doesn't see new registrants and loves to watch the programs grow. In fact, programs in two of the communities — Wrightstown and Seymour — grew so much in their inaugural year, they far outpaced expectations. Fortunately, funders believed in the mission and stepped up to cover the next year as well.

Thank you!



Our Imagination Library Community Patrons:

Seymour
Community First Credit Union
JJ's Auto Clinic

Greenleaf
One Wrightstown

Wrightstown
Redefining Futures

Kimberly and Kaukauna
Anonymous Donor

If you are interested in sponsoring Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in your area, contact us!

In the U.S., children in the DPIL program were:

11X

more likely to be interested in books

15X

more likely to join in shared reading

compared to non-participants

YOU'RE MAKING A MEASURABLE DIFFERENCE IN STUDENTS' PROFICIENCY

Bridging the Gap, the elementary school tutoring program you enable at six Appleton elementary schools, has a new progress report, and it shows student gains so far this year.

With a goal to elevate students' reading and math proficiency, we look at the participating students' i-Ready scores at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year. The i-Ready evaluations provide diagnostic scores that show how a student is performing relative to peers in the same grade.

Our school year-end goal is to see scores raised by 30-40 in reading and 20-25 in math. With 97 students served to date, in a population that comes with significant academic challenges, we saw encouraging results. Average point increases at midyear in reading were 26 and in math were 18.5!



Number of children served: 97

26 Average increase in reading

18.5 Average increase in math

Tutor Spotlight

Kristin Killian brings warmth, insight, and a passion for education to her roles as tutor and board member at Empowered Tutoring. Currently part of the Library Learning program, she grounds her teaching in relationship-building and a commitment to seeing each student as a whole person.

"I respect the person where they're at and try to build a relationship first," Kristin says. "Without a relationship, it doesn't matter what you teach. I push people to their potential in a loving way."

That philosophy shapes how she approaches everything from middle school reading and writing to high school chemistry and math. Rather than chasing enthusiasm for a subject, she focuses on building lasting skills.

"My goal is not necessarily to make you love this subject," she tells her students. "But I do hope to teach you how to study, learn, and understand it."

"Everyone's sweet spot could be a different area. I'm a big proponent of holistic teaching, so students can see where their true passions lie, whether it's in the math or sciences or arts or literature."

Alongside academic support, Kristin weaves character development into her work, fostering humility, perseverance, and interpersonal skills — believing that who a student becomes and the work ethic they employ matter as much as what they learn.



Kristin Killian
Tutor and Board Member

"I'm a big proponent of holistic teaching, so students can see where their true passions lie..."

MENTORING CAN BE THE DIFFERENCE MAKER

Our young people are struggling. Mental health challenges, social isolation, anxiety, and traumatic home situations leave many students feeling trapped — with nowhere to turn but social media, which often makes things worse.

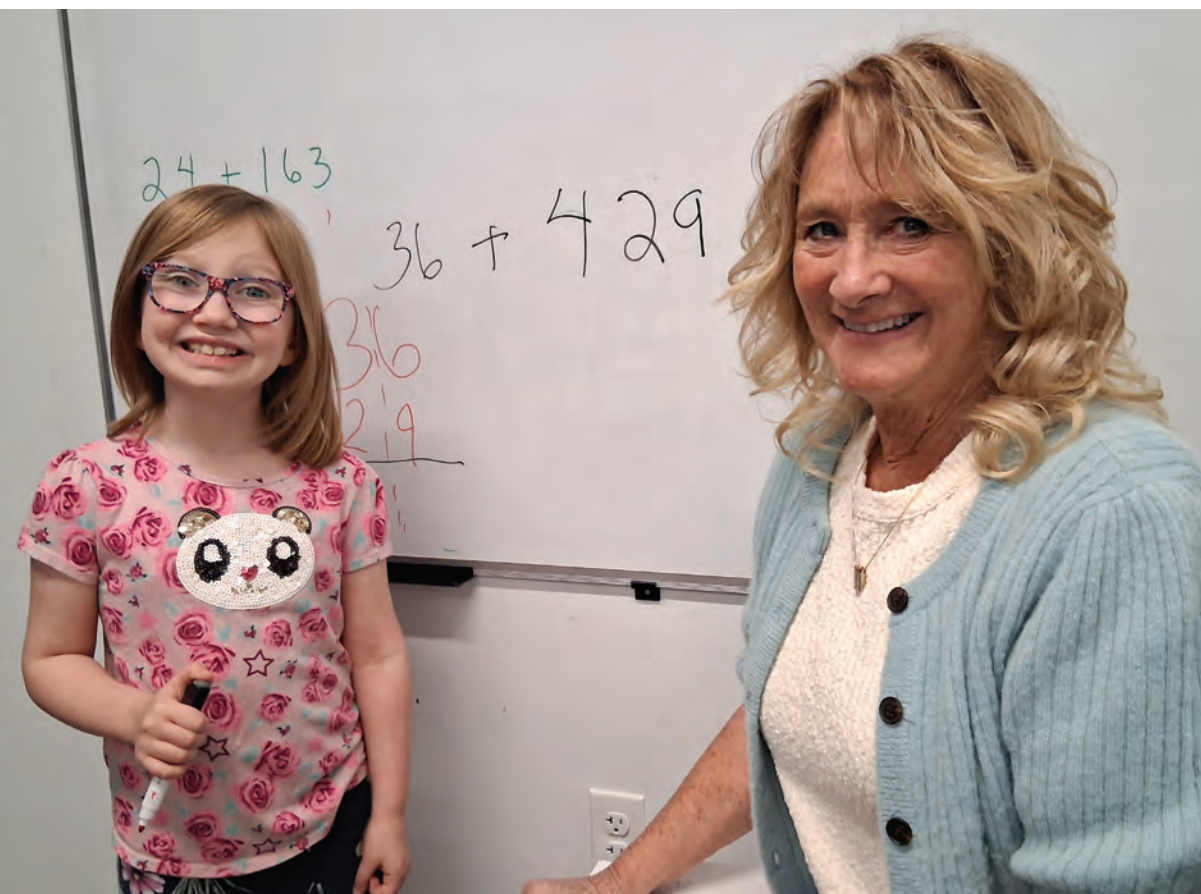
One-on-one mentoring can be a lifeline. It starts with a caring adult willing to listen — someone who has navigated their own share of life's difficulties and can offer presence without judgment. The best mentors resist

the urge to fix or rescue. Instead, they build trust slowly, lead with patience, and hold students gently accountable as the relationship deepens. Most kids need to feel heard before they accept guidance.

The results speak for themselves. As Jessica Knapp, President and CEO of Communities in Schools of Pennsylvania, puts it: students need to feel “truly seen and supported” before academic gains follow — and mentored youth

attend school 52% more regularly and pursue college 55% more often.

You can be that difference maker. Whether you tutor at a local school, mentor through Big Brothers Big Sisters, or simply invest time in a struggling kid in your neighborhood, you give them something no program alone can provide — the belief that their future is worth showing up for.



Jill serves as a Library Learning tutor and enjoys being Ariya's mentor.

If you have a teaching and mentoring background, reach out to us to become a tutor today!

(920) 422-2402

More kids need mentors

40%

of young people grow up without ever having had a mentor

67%

of all young people can remember a time growing up when they needed a mentor but didn't have one

1.8

million young adults said they had virtually no adult support growing up

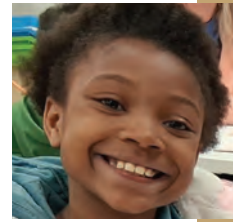
PROGRAMS LAUNCH IN BRILLION, WRIGHTSTOWN, AND APPLETON

Your support this spring made it possible to expand into new communities. Students in Brillion and Wrightstown now have access to one-on-one tutoring, and at Appleton's Edison Elementary, which welcomed students from the recently closed Columbus Elementary, we're providing in-school tutoring during the school day.

These relationships matter. When a child has someone outside their home and classroom who takes a genuine interest in them, shows up consistently, and helps them grow —

academically and personally — it changes their trajectory. That kind of caring presence is often critical to a student's success.

None of this continues without you. Your generosity and your willingness to spread the word are what allow these programs to take root and last. We're grateful for your trust in Empowered Tutoring, and we'd love to hear from you — reach out anytime and follow us on social media.



GIVE NOW ONLINE!

You can help create confident, successful students.

DONOR CIRCLE

Empowered Tutoring exists because of people who believe every child deserves a chance to thrive. With heartfelt gratitude, we recognize the following donors whose generosity turns that belief into reality.

SCHOLAR (\$10,000 and above)



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Kristin Killian

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Thank you to all our other supporters who give less than our circle members, and to those who tutor or volunteer for us. You make a difference for our students every day.