



VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

# Family Engagement & Volunteer Recruitment News

WINTER EDITION 2011

## We could not have done this without your support...

- 🍎 One-on-One Mentoring for 434 students
- 🍎 All 14 Knox County Schools, supported by Project GRAD, provide children kid-friendly food on the weekend through the Second Harvest Kids for Food Backpack program.
- 🍎 Four schools impacted through Team VOLS Community Outreach Day (school ground & beautification, organized clothes closet, assisting teachers with classroom set-up and in the computer lab, stuffed food backpacks, etc.)
- 🍎 Through local support, we had the largest parent and community participation for the 2011 Parent Conference (focusing on increasing student achievement by offering parents the resources and tools to help them become even more effective school-home partners.) The event sponsored by Knox County Schools, Project GRAD & PTA Council had 622 in attendance — 55% increase from last year.
- 🍎 Since 2008, community resources have supported 75 parents/guardians to complete 1,090 hours in the Neighboring Project. This activity is a collaborative effort between Project GRAD & Knoxville's Community Development Corporation. The 5-month program is held in the public housing community and focuses on building confidence and skills to empower parents to positively affect strengthening their family unit, community and school. The ultimate goal is to help parents establish and promote a learning environment that promotes academic achievement for students.
- 🍎 The 5th & 8th grade students from 2 middle & 2 elementary schools and their parents experienced college life for one day at UT Knoxville. This early college awareness activity allowed students to explore the various opportunities to continue their education and provided direction in a young person's life. Parents were provided with the information on how to better prepare their child for rigorous studies.



### *Project GRAD Knoxville Vision*

*We see a world of hope  
Where there are no limits on potential,  
The greatness in every child is inspired and  
celebrated,  
And dreams are realized through  
opportunities and education.*

Thank you for  
your support!



Knoxville, TN



"Lifting As We Climb"



*UT Team VOLS*



## HOW DOES YOUR SUPPORT HELP THE FAMILIES AND STUDENTS WE SERVE?

- Improve student attendance and behavior
- Increase family engagement
- Reduce learning barriers through assistance with students
- Expand academic and cultural enrichment opportunities through volunteers, services & resources

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS FROM YOUR INVOLVEMENT?

- Increase motivation
- Higher student achievement
- Improve classroom behavior & self-concept
- Increase attendance rate
- Increase high school graduation & pursuit of higher education



 Upcoming Volunteer Opportunity



## Calling All Volunteers...

Help us bridge the connection  
between school and home.

Join staff, parents & community friends  
on this door-to-door campaign to  
encourage family engagement and  
student success at Vine Middle School.

Walk for Success  
**Saturday, April 21, 2012**

Breakfast and Lunch Served

TO VOLUNTEER WITH PROJECT GRAD OR BECOME A SUPPORTER,  
CONTACT:

Cornelia Reece at [creece@projectgradknoxville.org](mailto:creece@projectgradknoxville.org) or call 525-3040

See additional volunteer opportunities and Volunteer Interest Form on  
back page. To get started, please complete forms and return to the  
Project GRAD Office or visit the website at  
[www.projectgradknoxville.org](http://www.projectgradknoxville.org).



# Supporting the Dreams...

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



## Family Engagement & Volunteer Recruitment News

Project GRAD Knoxville  
700 East Hill Avenue,  
Suite 100

Knoxville, TN 37921

## Additional Volunteer Opportunities....

### Fulton High School December through April:

- Assist with school events: Deck the Hall, "Be Aware Before You Go There", Spaghetti Dinner, and Falcon Fest Teen Health Fair
- Make phone contacts to parents regarding upcoming events
- Distributing Christmas Cards
- Speakers and mentors for the Boys Leadership Development Group

### Austin-East High School:

- Afterschool tutorial assistance
- Speakers and mentors for the Boys and Girls Leadership Development Group

### College Support for GRAD Scholars:

- Tutorial assistance in English and Mathematics (freshman & sophomores)



*May the spirit of Holidays  
bring you peace,  
The gladness of Holidays give  
you hope,  
The warmth of Holidays grant  
you love.  
~ Author Unknown*



*Become a volunteer and help make a difference...*

1. Which location(s) would you like to volunteer?

(Please check all that apply.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Austin-East High School<br><input type="checkbox"/> Beaumont Honors Academy<br><input type="checkbox"/> Belle Morris Elementary<br><input type="checkbox"/> Christenberry Elementary<br><input type="checkbox"/> Dogwood Elementary<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fulton High School<br><input type="checkbox"/> Green Magnet Math & Science Academy<br><input type="checkbox"/> Lonsdale Elementary | <input type="checkbox"/> Maynard Elementary<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Moore Greene Magnet Technology Academy<br><input type="checkbox"/> South Knoxville Elementary<br><input type="checkbox"/> Spring Hill Elementary<br><input type="checkbox"/> Vine Middle Performing Arts and Sciences Magnet School<br><input type="checkbox"/> Whittle Springs Middle School<br><input type="checkbox"/> PGK Events/Activities<br>(Event Date(s): _____) |
|---|---|

Visit website at [www.projectgradknoxville.org](http://www.projectgradknoxville.org) to find out more about

Project GRAD schools and programs or call 525-4030.

2. Check the day(s) and time(s) you would be available?

|  | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Morning Hours<br>(8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)      | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Mid-Morning Hours<br>(10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Noon<br>(12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.)               | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Mid-Afternoon<br>(1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)       | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| After school                                   | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |

**Check amount of time available to commit.**

- 4 hours per month or more  
 2-3 hours per month  
 1 hour per month

3. What form of communication is best for you to receive information?

- \_\_\_ PGK Campus Manager (volunteer contact person)    \_\_\_ Mail    \_\_\_ Email  
 \_\_\_ School Representative    \_\_\_ Telephone    \_\_\_ Newsletter  
 (Administrative/teacher/PTSO/PTA/PTO)

4. Please check the way you would like to help in the school.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Being a volunteer listener*                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Guest Reader   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Being a tutor*  | <input type="checkbox"/> Walk For Success Campaigns   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Being a mentor*<br><b>*Back Ground Check Required</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Education Celebration Rally  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> Working with Family Support Programs<br>(school store, food backpack, clothing center, student groups, etc.) |

**Volunteer Contact Information:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you find out about Project GRAD Knoxville?**

\_\_\_ Newspaper/ \_\_\_ School \_\_\_ Church \_\_\_ Friend \_\_\_ Agency \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ TV/Radio \_\_\_ PGK's website \_\_\_\_\_ (Name)

Return Interest Form to: Cornelia Reece, Sun Trust Building, 700 E. Hill Ave., Ste. 100 Knoxville, TN 37915 P: (865) 525-4030 F: (865) 934-0194 [creece@projectgradknoxville.org](mailto:creece@projectgradknoxville.org)