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Put us to work.

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A DETAIL FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEX HARRIS ©

**YOU CAN HELP**

Experience Corps members give of their time and from their hearts—and they get results. With your financial support, we can recruit and train more older adults with the time, talent and experience to help more kids. Here's the plan.

TODAY		TOMORROW—WITH YOUR SUPPORT
22,000 hours of tutoring and mentoring for Boston kids	➔	80,000 hours of tutoring and mentoring for Boston kids
769 children	➔	2,600 children
113 volunteers	➔	450 volunteers
Three Boston neighborhoods	➔	More Boston neighborhoods

Please consider supporting this important literacy safety net for thousands of children. You can help in so many ways: Sponsor a team of volunteers, help fund volunteer stipends, help us buy books and materials, or support the recruiting and training of tutors. Contact us to learn more. We look forward to showing you Experience Corps in action!



59 Temple Place  
Suite 200  
Boston, MA 02111

tel 617.423.6633  
fax 617.422.0626  
www.generationsinc.org

Generations Incorporated is

# Putting experience to work for Boston kids



PHOTO: REBECCA ALPERSTEIN

**The story I like to tell** is about my little man, Herbie," says Ellen Kelley, above, a Boston Experience Corps member. "He didn't want to come for tutoring. He was literally on the floor screaming, 'No, no, they think I'm stupid. I don't want to come.' I finally got him to join me, and Herbie turned out to be just wonderful. He accomplished a great deal, did well in school and developed a sense of self that was just marvelous."

In Boston, Generations Incorporated is partnering with Experience Corps to put experience to work. We connect Boston's growing population of people over 55 with children who need one-on-one attention to succeed in school and in life. There are hundreds of Ellen Kelleys already at work in Boston's schools. But there are thousands more who could be mobilized—and tens of thousands of children who need them. You can help.

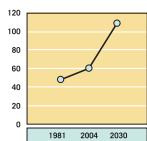


**A unique partnership.  
A powerful solution.  
A case for your support.**

## High stakes, high returns.

### Here comes the future.

The number of Americans over age 55 is skyrocketing—predicted to nearly double from 60 million today to 108 million by 2030.



### The difference.

Our approach sets a new standard by ensuring that members are:

**Capable.** We use careful selection, rigorous training and a proven curriculum.

**Committed.** Most members give more than 70 hours a school year to each student.

**Connected.** Members work in teams and come from the local neighborhood.

### A REAL OPPORTUNITY

**Unmet needs.** The stakes couldn't be higher. In 2003, 73% of fourth graders either failed or needed improvement on state language arts tests (MCAS). Studies show reading ability at an early age is critical—those who aren't reading by third grade are far more likely to eventually drop out of school. Without more help, children in Boston's urban neighborhoods will continue to lag behind in educational achievement. They need more tutoring, mentoring and adult attention.

**Untapped resources.** To meet these needs, we're mobilizing a powerful new workforce for good—adults over 55. The next generation of retirees will be the healthiest, longest lived, best educated, most affluent in history. Indeed, they're our nation's only growing natural resource. Older Americans are looking at retirement as a new chapter in their life—a chance to be active and involved—and nearly half of them volunteered once in the past year. In Boston, such untapped resources are plentiful. According to recent surveys, four out of five people over 60 in Boston are no longer working.

### A POWERFUL SOLUTION

The partnership. Generations Incorporated is a Boston organization that unites older adults and youth in service to strengthen individuals and communities. Founded in 1991, Generations Incorporated brings proven programs, a track record of service and a commitment to revitalizing Boston's schools and communities. Experience Corps helps people over 55 serve America. Launched in 1995, Experience Corps brings a nationwide movement of members, a network of sites and a rigorous research-based approach. In Boston, Generations Incorporated is the host agency for Experience Corps.

**The program.** Mobilizing local members over 55 to boost literacy and learning for Boston children, the partnership combines rigorous training and proven methods with a heavy dose of individual attention. Most members serve at least 12 hours a week in literacy and mentoring programs in selected public schools. With serious preparation, responsibility and commitment, their work goes well beyond typical volunteering.

**The people.** The children are Boston public school students in grades K-5 who read below their grade level. They go to school in three neighborhoods low in income but rich in volunteering resources: Dorchester, Roxbury and South Boston. Most of the Experience Corps members live in the three neighborhoods. They are selected through a rigorous process involving interviews and background checks. They are trained and then observed and re-trained after three months of participation.

## One investment, many outcomes.

### REAL RESULTS



### Powerful connections, powerful benefits.

Experience Corps delivers results to kids, schools and Corps members.

**For kids.** Studies show that our program has a significant impact on student literacy and learning. For example, Boston students who participate in the one-on-one tutoring program progress an average of 2.8 reading levels—nearly three times the improvement of the typical struggling student who didn't have the benefit of a personal reading coach. And University of Virginia researchers found that students tutored in an Experience Corps program were "significantly stronger in beginning reading skills than the closely matched comparison group" and accurately read almost twice as many words per minute, on average, than non-tutored students.

**For schools.** Across the country, three out of four teachers say the presence of Experience Corps members dramatically improves student behavior. And 90% of teachers surveyed report that the presence of Experience Corps members increases their ability to target instruction to specific student needs. In a survey of school principals, most considered Experience Corps better than other school volunteer programs, citing in particular the reliability of members, intergenerational benefits, quality of program design and team approach.

**For members.** The program often has an equally impressive impact on adult participants. Nine out of ten Experience Corps members report an increased sense of usefulness and social connectedness since they joined the program. According to a Johns Hopkins University study, 63% of Experience Corps participants are more physically active as a result of their participation in the program. Participants reported that they are in better health and feel stronger; 100% said they benefited from the program.

*Experience Corps members provided more than 250,000 hours of tutoring and mentoring services to nearly 20,000 students nationwide during the 2002-2003 school year.*



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