

**October 24, 2012**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WHAT:** Colorado tutors commit a year to education

**WHEN:** Wednesday, Oct. 24 at 10:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Patterson International School, 1263 S. Dudley St., Lakewood, 80232

### **READING TUTORS AIM FOR LEAP IN LITERACY**

Twenty [AmeriCorps](#) members with the *Colorado Reading Corps* are fanning out across Jeffco to boost student achievement in literacy.

As part of Colorado Lt. Governor Joe Garcia's *Early Literacy Initiative*, *Mile High United Way* has launched the reading corps program. Trained literacy tutors use research-based strategies to help children who are falling behind get back on track with their reading skills.

Each of 12 Jeffco pilot elementary schools — Stott, Warder, Fremont, Peiffer, Columbine Hills, Dutch Creek, South Lakewood, Patterson, Vanderhoof, Glennon Heights, Green Gables and Peck — has one or two trained tutors working on the building blocks of literacy.

Tutors work with classroom teachers to give extra practice to students who are struggling with various aspects of reading and will reach over 500 kindergarten through third-grade students with 20-minute daily, one-on-one interventions designed to build phonics and fluency.

The program costs the schools nothing—all costs are paid for by *Mile High United Way*, *The Jefferson Foundation*, *Target*, and *Serve Colorado*, the governor's commission on community service.

The *Colorado Reading Corps* is based on the successful [Minnesota Reading Corps](#), a proven model that is an integrated component of Minnesota's solution to childhood illiteracy.

[Read a personal perspective from AmeriCorps member Lindsay](#) helping Jeffco students achieve in reading.