

Augustine Literacy Project | Ready to read

The **Rise and Read Breakfast** hosted by the **Augustine Literacy Project (ALP)** on March 26 marked 10 years of the nonprofit's presence in Charlotte. The event, which drew about 240 guests to Myers Park Country Club, was ALP's first fundraising event supporting its mission of offering one-on-one tutoring to low-income students who struggle with reading.

ALP, which also trains volunteers to become tutors, mobilized 80 active tutors this school year, serving about 85 students in Charlotte. On the number of tutors, Executive Director Alison Houser said, "That is an increase of 63 percent

over this time last year, so we're growing."

They are also becoming more strategic. This year, ALP served about 20 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, while focusing a larger concentration of tutors at six partner schools: Bruns Academy, Montclair Elementary, Sedgefield Elementary, Huntingtowne Farms Elementary, Rama Road Elementary and Elizabeth Traditional Elementary. Houser said this strategy is in place "so we can maximize our impact and work more closely with school administrators."

ALP tutors target first and second graders

to establish a proficient reading level by the time they reach third grade. "Before third grade," Houser explained, "they are learning to read, and after third grade, they are reading to learn."

Dr. Ron Carter, President of Johnson C. Smith University, stressed to guests that ALP tutors make a significant commitment to strengthening children's reading skills, while also providing emotional support and a consistent presence in those students' lives.

For aspiring tutors, two ALP training classes are coming up this fall.



Ollie Rencher and Ron Carter



Ginny Shaw and Linde Mullis



Alison Houser, Ann Temple and Laura Freeman



Peter Buck and Alice Herald



Marion Idol and Karen Mackenzie

Get Involved: Augustine Literacy Project

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