

Meet Our Student, “Daniel”



Photo by Peter Willott, St. Augustine Record

Daniel, now 43, dropped out of High School the first week of his freshman year due to his limited reading and writing abilities, and immediately began working

construction. Daniel became disabled from a workrelated injury and consequently gained a lot of weight from inactivity over a five-year period. Having heard about Learn to Read’s tutoring services and desire to find meaningful employment, Daniel began his studies at Learn to Read in February 2015 with LTR’s trained volunteer tutor, Lisa Montgomery. Daniel is now reading novels regularly and has filled two composition books with 150 personal essays.

Daniel received the prestigious Flight for Freedom Award, sponsored by Southwest Airlines at the Florida Literacy Coalition’s Annual Awards Luncheon in May 2016. Daniel, 200 lbs. lighter, exercises to keep the weight off and is training for the October 2016 Marine Corp Marathon, Washington, DC. Daniel also has his sights set on a career in the medical field after having volunteered at Flagler Hospital, St. Augustine.

“To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark.”

~ Victor Hugo



“The journey of a lifetime begins with the turning of a page.”

~ Rachel Anders

“It is as important to teach adults to read as it is to teach children to read.”

~ John Corcoran, John Corcoran Foundation

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Opening Doors Of Opportunity



LEARN to READ

of St. Johns County, Inc.

www.LearntoReadStJohns.org

An American Dream...

Education

...of socio-economic advancement frequently includes personal goals such as starting a small business, owning a home, and sending children to college. These dreams are often unattainable for individuals struggling with their inability to read and write, perform basic arithmetic or comprehend the English language.

Knowledge

Confidence

Doors that are open wide to the literate in society are effectively closed to workers who are unable to read labels, understand written instructions, write reports, use a computer or perform inventory counts.

Hope

In addition to limited job opportunities, individuals with literacy challenges can experience depression and a diminished sense of self-worth.

Employment

Learn to Read of St. Johns County, Inc. was founded in 1986 to change the lives of St. Johns County residents struggling with literacy challenges.

Citizenship

We hope that you enjoy learning more about the mission and achievements of Learn to Read and if you share our vision for changing lives through basic literacy education, we welcome your involvement and support as we celebrate our 30th Anniversary!

Edward George
Board President

Ann Breidenstein
Executive Director

www.LearntoReadStJohns.org

Life-Changing Programs



Photo by Peter Willott, St. Augustine Record

Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Free one-on-one tutoring with trained volunteers in reading, math, writing and language arts to individuals 16 years of age and older using the Laubach method. Learn to Read bases instruction on the student's goals such as getting a job, going to college or technical school or reading for enjoyment or to their children/grandchildren.

GED Test Prep

Free one-on-one tutoring with trained volunteers in the four subject areas of the revised GED using the most updated materials to prepare students to take and pass the High School equivalency exam.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and US Citizenship

Free adult conversation classes in English and one-on-one tutoring to improve the English speaking, hearing, reading and writing skills of non-English speaking citizens. US Citizenship tutoring is also offered at no charge. Learn to Read has 100% success in students passing the US Citizenship Exam.

Job Readiness Skills

Whether it is learning how to write a report, improve reading comprehension skills, or how to make change at the register, Learn to Read works to reduce barriers that prevent individuals from accepting a job promotion or being eligible for hire because they do not have required skills.

Health Literacy

Learn to Read has implemented the "Staying Healthy" curriculum in tutoring sessions with ABE students and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) students to raise awareness of health care and healthy living.

Introducing "Lisa"



Lisa exemplifies how far a truly motivated student can progress with help from Learn to Read.

Lisa was a single mother of five children whose ages ranged from 15 months to 11 years when she first came to LTR. She was referred to LTR by the Northeast Community Action Agency in St. Augustine. She had passed various sections of the GED at First Coast Technical College and came to LTR for the last section, math. She

was tutored weekly for the TABE tests and the GED. Her plans included becoming a CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) and eventually a registered nurse.

"Lisa was very goal oriented and determined," said her tutor. "If she couldn't make it to a class, she drove to the office and let the staff know beforehand as she couldn't afford a phone. If she couldn't find a sitter, she would bring her 4-year-old and the baby to class. (We had books and toys for the 4-year-old and I bounced the baby on my knee or gave him a bottle.) Lisa's determination and passion about what she wanted shone through every day. She was an inspiration to all of us with her drive and dedication to her studies."

Lisa passed the Adult Basic Education Test (TABE) and GED, and was named LTR Student of the Year in 2010. She earned her CNA and is currently working at a local hospital. She is trying to decide whether to pursue a career in physical therapy or become an RN.

Our Mission Statement

"To be the area's principal organization for providing individualized education in fundamental verbal, written, mathematical and technological skills for persons 16 years and older to decrease barriers to employment and higher education, improve quality of life, and prepare for community and civic participation."