



The Mayor's Commission on Literacy - Places to be a Do-gooder in Philadelphia

By: Mahleah Chicetawn | August 1, 2013

Can you read? If so, do you understand what you read? Do you have your high school diploma or GED? If you can say yes to all three of these questions good for you. Too many people can't.

In Philadelphia over 250,000 people can't read or are functionally illiterate. This means that a lot of doors that provide tools to end poverty are closed.

Over 325,000 people don't have a high school diploma or GED. Without the basic education or the ability to read people are more likely to not receive adequate medical care, develop problems with substance abuse or end up in jail. It doesn't have to be that way though.

Philadelphia's Mayor's Commission on Literacy wants to change those numbers and by volunteering you can be a part of that change.

In 1983 the commission was established to make sure that a quality education is available to anyone in Philadelphia. In 2010 Mayor Nutter took things up a notch and appointed a 16-member commission whose job it is to make sure the city helps people who need literacy services.

The commission believes that investing in the community is the best way to help people and it is, but they also need volunteers to make it happen. You can volunteer as a tutor, mentor, or tech tutor.

For more information about The Mayor's Commission on Literacy and to register as a volunteer, please visit their website at: <http://philaliteracy.org/>.



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